

**St. Nathy's College**

**Subject Department Plan**

**For:**

**Religious Education**

**Year:**

**2007 / 2008**

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## **1. Subject Aims:**

- To contribute to the religious development of our students
- To develop care for the weak, co-operation between pupils justice and fair play towards all respect for truth a passion for the environment and a love for learning.
- To provide opportunities to deepen sacramental awareness.
- To encourage our students to ask and seek answers to important questions.
- To prepare students for Religious Education state examination.

## **2. Subject Objectives:**

- To ensure the status of R.E. in the school
- To promote the religious and overall development of the students.
- To appreciate the richness of religious traditions and to provide a framework to encounter these traditions.
- To lead to a greater degree of clarity in respect of aims procedures and roles for R.E. in the school.

## **Subject Co-ordinator:**

### **Subject Teachers: (Junior Cert)**

Katrina Staunton  
Kathryn O'Dowd  
Ronan Brett  
Billi McGhee  
Ruthanne Cawley  
Fr. Andrew Finan  
Alex McDonnell  
Teresa Flatley  
Paddy Mulligan  
Bernie Jordan  
Tom Fahy  
(L.C.A.) Alex McDonnell

### **Subject Teachers: (Leaving Cert)**

Katrina Staunton  
Kathryn O'Dowd  
Billi McGhee  
Ruthanne Cawley  
Ronan Brett  
Fr. Andrew Finan  
Paddy Mulligan  
Martin Daly  
  
(L.C. Exam) Billi McGhee

Special Needs: Tommy Ronayne  
Breda Johnston  
Elizabeth Conway

**Time Allocation:**

First Second and Third year  
Three class periods per week

Fourth and Leaving Cert years (non exam)  
Three class periods per week

LCA 1 and LCA 2  
Three class periods per week

Fourth and Leaving Cert. years (exam)  
Five class periods per week.

**Options Structure:**

All students of St. Nathy's College must participate in Religious Education. The option of opting for Religion Education as an examination subject is available in fourth year.

**Timetabling:**

Classes between 9.15am – 12.55pm forty minutes.

Classes between 1.30pm – 3.50pm Thirty five minutes long.

**Grouping of Pupils (Mixed ability, Streaming):**

Mixed ability groups in First year  
“Loose streaming in Second and Third year  
Mixed ability groups in Fourth and Leaving Cert years (non-exam)  
Mixed ability Leaving Certificate examination class.

**Student Access to Subject / Level**

All Junior Certificate and Leaving Certificate Examination students are potentially honours students.

All students have access to religious education all Junior Certificate and Leaving Cert students can choose between examination or formation classes, all students participate in the latter whether examination students or not.

**Class Organisation**

All students have access to at least three class periods in Re. Educ. each week. The class periods range from thirty five to forty minutes in length. Leaving Cert. Exam students have five class periods per week. LCA 1 and LCA2 students have three class periods per week.

**Textbooks and Course Materials:**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Textbooks</b>	<b>Course Materials</b>
<b>First</b>	One Volume Edition All About Faith Complete Junior Certificate Religion Good News Bible The New Religion for Living Series Connie Duffy	Jesus of Nazareth (D.V.D) A selection of Old Testament (D.V.D)
<b>Second Year</b>	One Volume Edition All About Faith Complete Junior Certificate Religion  Good News Bible The New Religion for Living Series Connie Duffy	
<b>Third Year</b>	All About Faith 2 & 3 Good News Bible The New Religion for Living Series Connie Duffy Junior Certificate Examination Papers	
<b>LCA 1 &amp; LCA 2</b>	Gate Youth Magazine Mass Leaflets Good News Bible Searching Orla Walsh	
<b>5<sup>th</sup> Year</b>	The Challenge of God Revised Edition (Second and Third) Gate Youth Magazine Mass Leaflets Good News Bible The Inner Place Tom Gunning	
<b>Leaving Cert.</b>	The Challenge of God Revised Edition (Third) Gate Youth Magazine Mass Leaflets Good News Bible The Inner Place Tom Gunning	

## **Planning for Students with Special Needs:**

### **Junior Certificate students**

Bernie Jordan is available to teachers in Room 15C on Wednesday and Thursday 2.45 – 3.50pm to advise concerning students with special needs.

Breda Johnson, Ruthanne Cawley and Tommy Ronayne are working with special needs and are referring to religious department regarding topics to be covered and the third year journal work..

## **Cross-Curricular Planning:**

- In house retreats organised by Chaplain
- Retreats to Knock organised by Chaplain and LCA co-ordinator.
- Lunch time exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
- Morning Masses
- Carol Service
- Sacrament of Penance available during Lent
- Two oratories available for Stations of the Cross / Reflection.

## **Subject Planning for a Culturally Diverse Society:**

- Create an atmosphere which respects cultural diversity
- Project work to be included for Junior and Leaving Certificate exams to include titles under the headings of Major World Religions.
- Inclusion of Major World Religions as part of subject content at all levels.
- Key Assignment to be completed on a Major World Religion by LCA 1

## **Effective Teaching Methodologies:**

- Concept Formation
- Case study Methodologies
- Problem Solving
- Decision Making Exercises
- Simulation Games
- Role Play
- Modelling
- Presentation and Interpretation of Data
- Self Assessment Activities
- Discussion
- Group Work
- Activity Based Learning

- Journal Work
- Use of I.C.T. Facilities
- Options to Participate in liturgies Mass and Carol Service
- Options to Participate in retreats
- Periods of reflection made available
- Experience and Tradition
- and Talk

**Range / Variety of Resources:**

Personnel: Experienced and motivated staff  
 A chaplain  
 Priests both within the staff and from the local parish (Mass / sacrament of Penance)

Textbooks  
 Videos / DVD's (available in chaplain's office)  
 School oratory  
 Room for in house retreats  
 An Tobar (resources available on line to staff)  
 Teacher own revision notes

**Availability / Use of ICT Facilities:**

Televisions video recorders and DVD players available in each block of classrooms.

Language Laboratory

Computers available – staffroom with access to internet.

**Provision for Health and Safety Requirements:**

- Health, and safety legislation and procedures governing good safety practices in school
  - Regular fire safety drills
  - Superintending and visibility of management and personnel on corridors
  - Chaplain
  - Mentors
  - Liaison Officer
  - Pastoral care team
  - Caring and approachable staff
  - Phone numbers of agencies in journals and on display on noticeboards.
- } Ensuring pupils well being

# **Curriculum Content- Long Term Planning**

## **Content to be covered in each Year of Programme**

### **Year 1**

- The Elements of Religion
- Communities of Faith
- Faith and Prayer
- Judaism
- The Origins of Christianity
- An introduction to Major World Religions

### **Year 2**

- Christianity: Beliefs and Worship
- Communities of Faith in Ireland Today
- Islam
- Hinduism
- Buddhism

# **Curriculum Content- Long Term Planning**

## **Content to be covered in each Year of Programme**

### **Year 3**

- Challenges to Faith
- Morality
- Life after Death
- Project for Examination

### **Year 4 (Transition Year)**

#### **LCA 1**

- Major World Religion
- Islam/ Judaism
- Symbol
- Parables
- Teenagers and the Kingdom

#### **LCA2**

- \* Theology of the Body
- \* Relationships
- \* Becoming Moral
- \* Religion and Morality
- \* Abortion
- \* Euthanasia

# **Curriculum Content- Long Term Planning**

## **Content to be covered in each Year of Programme**

### **Year 5 – Leaving Cert Year 1**

#### **Non – Exam**

- The Search for Meaning
- Religion as a Response to the Search for Meaning
- Cults
- New Religious Movements
- The Historical Jesus
- The Parable Maker Disturbing the Peace
- Teenagers and the Kingdom
- Death and Resurrection
- The Early Christian Movement
- The Liturgical year

### **Year 6 – Leaving Cert Year 2**

#### **Non – Exam**

- Spirituality and the Spiritual Body
- Becoming Moral
- Religion and Morality
- Infertility and Reproductive Technologies
- The Genetics Debate
- Abortion
- Euthanasia
- Relationships / Marriage/ Sexuality
- The Liturgical year
- Preparation of the Leaving Certificate Mass

### **Homework Procedures:**

- Recording of homework in school diary
- Copies taken up by relevant teachers to facilitate assessment of student progress and to identify any particular special needs
- Project work
- Presentation and display of students' work posters etc
- L.C.A. survey and key assignments

### **Assessments/Examinations Procedures:**

- Faith formation cannot be examined simply encouraged. Knowledge of subject examined in the case of Religious Examination students
- First year examination students complete a common paper at the end of first year to facilitate "loose" streaming
- In house exams four times a year for first and second year students
- In house examinations three times a year for third and Leaving Certificate students.
- Mock examinations to be completed by Junior Cert. and Leaving Cert. Examination class

### **Record Keeping Procedures:**

- Diary System
- Home School Liaison Officer
- Guidance Counsellor
- Effort grades recorded for non-exam students at end of each term
- Examination results recorded for all exam students at end of each term (Grades are kept on file in the school and sent to the student's home twice a year)

### **Reporting Procedures:**

- Class teacher – Tutor – Year Head – Deputy Principal – Principal.
- Year Head Meetings
- Pastoral Care Team – Principal Deputy Principal Chaplain, Home School Liaison Officer, Year Heads, Special Needs Teacher, Guidance Counsellor
- Annual Parent / Teacher Meetings

## Teacher in-Career Development

<b>NAME</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>TOPIC</b>

<b>NAME</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>TOPIC</b>

<b>NAME</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>TOPIC</b>



## **Coursework**

In each year of the Leaving Cert. examination, two sections from unit 3 of the syllabus will be designated for coursework. The same sections are designated for both Ordinary and Higher level. A list of titles for coursework from each section will be made available.

Students must submit one piece of coursework, 20% of the total mark for this subject will be awarded on the basis of coursework.

Teacher Resources – Apart from the subject teachers own individual resources, they can be supplemented with some very relevant resources on each section of the course that are provided by the Religious Education Support Service in Galway.

Resource Materials may be downloaded from their website which are extremely useful. They also suggest many other resources that may be used by the Teacher.

## **Leaving Cert Religious Education (Exam)**

### **4<sup>th</sup> Year**

#### **Content Section A**

#### **Unit 1**

The search of Meaning and Values (This section is compulsory)

#### Textbook

#### Section A

The search of Meaning and Values  
Writers Paula Goggin and Colegge McCarthy  
Dineen Publishers – Veritas.

#### **Unit 2**

Students must do two of the following three  
Section B Christianity: Origins and contemporary expressions  
Section C: World Religions  
Section D Moral Decision – Making

N.B. which two sections are covered one at the discretion of the subject teacher.

Unit 2 is covered in 4<sup>th</sup> and Leaving Cert year

Textbook – ‘Faith Seeking Understanding’

Comprising      Section B  
                         Section C  
                         Section D

Series editor Micheál de Barra Publishers Veritas

## **Leaving Cert**

### **Content**

### **Unit 2**

Students continue with and complete two of three sections that was started in 4<sup>th</sup> year.

The choice is from section B,C,D as already listed.

‘Faith Seeking Understanding’

Textbook – as listed for 4<sup>th</sup> year.

### **Unit 3**

One of the following sections is covered but the choice must exclude the two sections that are designated for coursework for that particular L.Cert year.

Section E	Religion and Gender
Section F	Issues of Justice and Peace
Section G	Worship, Prayer and Ritual
Section H	The Bible: Literature and Sacred Text
Section I	Religion: The Irish Experience
Section J	Religion and Science

Textbooks: Veritas have just published books dealing with each of the sections above