

St. Nathy's College

Subject Department Plan

For:

Religious Education

Year:

2010 / 2011

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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: Kathrina Staunton

Subject Teachers: (Junior)

Ruthanne Cawley
Martin Daly
Fr. Andrew Finan
Bernie Jordan
Billi McGhee
Paddy Mulligan
Kathryn O'Dowd
Kathrina Staunton

Subject Teachers: (Senior)

Ronan Brett
Ruthanne Cawley
Martin Daly
Fr. Andrew Finan
Billi McGhee
Paddy Mulligan
Kathryn O'Dowd
Kathrina Staunton

TY Karina Staunton
(L.C.A.) Ronan Brett

(L.C. Exam) Billi McGhee

Special Needs:

Bernie Jordan

Time Allocation:

First Second and Third year
Three class periods per week

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

TY
Two 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.
Fourth year students can opt for Religious Education as an examination subject.

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, Second and Third years.
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 participate in religious education. All Junior students complete the Religious Education examination syllabus. All Senior students participate in formation classes, both examination students and non-exam students.

Class Organisation

All students have access to at least two class periods in Rel. Ed. 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 2 students have three class periods per week.

Textbooks and Course Materials:

Year	Textbooks	Course Materials
First	One Volume Edition All About Faith Anne & Niall Boyle 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)
Second Year	One Volume Edition All About Faith Anne & Niall Boyle Religion Good News Bible The New Religion for Living Series Connie Duffy	
Third Year	One Volume Edition All About Faith Anne & Niall Boyle Good News Bible The New Religion for Living Series Connie Duffy Junior Certificate Examination Papers	
TY	The Search for Meaning & Values (Paul Goggin & Colette McCarthy) Mass Leaflets	Gattacca (DVD)
LCA 1 & LCA 2	Gate Youth Magazine Mass Leaflets Good News Bible Searching Orla Walsh	
5th Year	The Challenge of God Revised Edition (Second and Third) Niall Boyle Gate Youth Magazine Mass Leaflets Good News Bible The Inner Truth Tom Gunning	An Inconvenient Truth (DVD) Lord of The Rings (DVD) Life is Beautiful (DVD) The Fighting Temptations (DVD) The Color Purple (DVD)
Leaving Cert.	The Challenge of God Revised Edition (Third) Niall Boyle Gate Youth Magazine Mass Leaflets Good News Bible The Inner Truth Tom Gunning	The Passion of The Christ (DVD) Jesus of Montreal (DVD) Shadowlands (DVD) Gattaca (DVD) Crash (DVD)

Planning for Students with Special Needs:

Junior Certificate students

Bernie Jordan is available to teachers in Room 15C to advise concerning students with special needs.

Cross-Curricular Planning:

- In house retreats organised by Chaplain to begin in late January.
- Retreats to Knock organised by Chaplain and LCA co-ordinator.
- Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, one class period each week for Leaving Certs, also available throughout the year for any class.
- Morning Masses
- Sacrament of Penance available during Lent
- Two oratories available for Stations of the Cross / Reflection/ Prayer Service.
- First Year Masses in Cathedral with local community of faith.
- Leaving Certificate Mass

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:

- Team Teaching
- 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
- Chalk and Talk
- Working towards a prayer book to celebrate 200 years of St. Nathy's 2010. This will include I.T. Methodologies and Art as well as student research.

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
 Teacher own revision notes
 Credit available to Rel. Ed. Teachers for photo copying.

Availability / Use of ICT Facilities:

Laptops and overhead projectors in all classrooms.
 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

RESOURCES FOR CATHOLIC RELIGIOUS EDUCATORS

<http://www.silk.net/RelEd.index.htm> This is a very useful website which provides a wealth of resources such as clipart, lesson plans, puzzles, Mass readings, posters, articles on faith, morality, Church, etc.

<http://www.catholiccatechis.org/> This site provides a link to some free resources for teachers and there is also the possibility of membership to access the fuller resource bank. Well worth taking a look at.

<http://www.cfalive.org/LEAFLETS.HTM> This link provides a list of leaflets which deal with topics such as Why Sunday Mass?; A Guide A Spiritual Reading for Youth; The DaVinci Code: A Critique; Why Not Divorce? Why Confession?; Must Religion Be Boring? These leaflets are available to order on-line. I have not read them so cannot vouch for the content But, it might be worth checking out.

<http://www.cor-on-net.com/book.htm> This site is also worth taking a look at. If nothing else, it gives an idea of teaching approaches that are available. Again this is an order on line site.

<http://www.veraprise.com/catechism/index.htm> A programme prepared by a catechist in the US based on the Catechism of the Catholic Church. It is possible to order a text and an interactive CD-Rom on line. Again it probably worth a look.

<http://www.catholicity.com/> Offers a wide range of resources and links concentration on presenting the truths of the Catholic faith in a simplified and engaging fashion. Free downloads available via this website. Certainly worth taking a look at.

<http://www.smp.org/> St. Mary's Press is one of the premier publishing houses for Catechetical Resources. Over the years I have found some very useful texts here. Very well written texts, plus good workbooks, etc available here. Must see!

<http://www.youturns.org/> This is an American site(aren't they all?!) which specialises in Catholic Youth Ministry Support. There seem to be some interesting resources and links a available. Can't hurt to take a look!

<http://www.roman-catholic-catechism.com/catholic-religious-education.html> Provides e-books, information on faith, sacraments, saints, holy days, Church seasons, Catholic prayers, worksheets, etc. Plenty of resources offered.

<http://www.catholiceducation.orgt/directory/Teaching-Resources/index.html> A List of resources available for purchase on current challenging issues in the life of the Catholic Church. Worth a look.

<http://www.twb.catholic.edu.au/reled/informative-web-sites.html> This site provides, as it says itself, "practical resources and effective teaching strategies for Religious Educators." It has a comprehensive list of links for all aspects of R.E.

<http://www.catholicnetlinks.com/Links%20for%20Catholic%20Clipart.htm>
Catholic Clipart

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

Year 3

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

TY

- The Search for Meaning
- Becoming Moral
- The Liturgical Year
- Justice and Social Awareness

LCA 2

- 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
- Images of God
- Cults
- Christology
- The Mystery of God
- The Mystery of Evil
- Stewardship and The Environment
- 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

SUBJECT TITLE / MODULE TITLE

A Search for Meaning and Values

APPROXIMATE DURATION

Two class periods per week

AIMS

To encourage reflection, meaningful religious participation and social awareness.

OBJECTIVES/DESIRED LEARNING OUTCOMES

That the students will have:

Participated in religious services

Undertaken work for social justice

Had opportunities to reflect on contemporary life and values.

TEACHING AND LEARNING STRATEGIES

Activity based learning

CONTENT

“ The Search for Meaning and Values” (P.Goggin and C. McCarthy)

Gattaca” (A Niccol)

ASSESSMENT

In house exams

Practical tasks

Oral presentation

RESOURCES

Local community

School oratory

Aine Stanton, contact in Tanzania

CROS CURRICULAR LINKS

English “Frankenstein” (religious themes)

Gaisce: Sponsored trek

EVALUATION

Teacher's own assessment

Student feedback

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
- TY Journal

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.
- In house examinations 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 classes.

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

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)

4th 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 4th 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 4th year.

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

'Faith Seeking Understanding'

Textbook – as listed for 4th year.

Unit 3

One of the following sections are 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 published books dealing with each of the sections above