#### MY FUTURE. MY CAREER. MY RE.

### Studying RE at GCSE and A Level can provide invaluable life skills, offer opportunities to further education and enhance careers.

## **RE Department and Results 2023**

GCSE

84% received Grade 4+ vs 76% National

36% received Grade 7+

Top Ten in the Diocese

A LEVEL – 100% pass rate 90% Grade C+ and 25% A/A\*

Mrs Siddons: Head of RE Mrs Ward: 2<sup>nd</sup> in RE Mr Barnett: RE teacher/HAL year 7 Mr Ridgway: RE teacher/HAL year 8 Miss Masters: RE teacher/HAL year 11 Mr Singh: RE teacher Mrs Ferris: Lay Chaplain

### **St Francis of Assisi** CATHOLIC COLLEGE



### ----- SHERMEEN PPE STUDENT ------"Through Religious Studies, I learned to build and interrogate arguments and how to question and evaluate narratives"

#### My Future. My Story



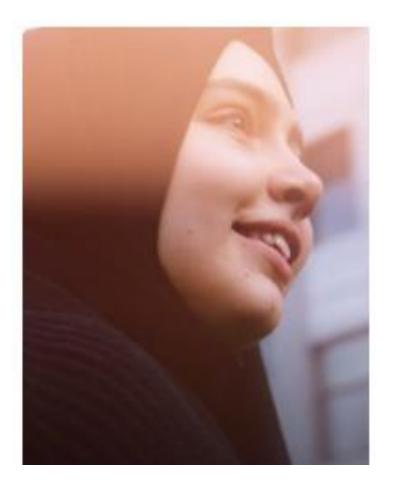
19 year old Shermeen is a 2nd year Philosophy, Politics and Economics student at Warwick University. She loves this stage of her education; her first taste of independence; the informality of university study; and making friends from around the world.

It's hard to believe that astute, driven and self possessed Shermeen was shy growing up. She disliked speaking up in class but through her academic pursuits she really began to come out of her shell.

One of Shermeen's favourite subjects at school was Religious Studies. She took it at GCSE and A Level as she was really interested in learning more about religion and loved the myth busting element of the syllabus.

"I enjoyed my time studying RS and it's been invaluable as a tool! Though Religious Studies, I learned to build and interrogate arguments and how to question and evaluate narratives and theories". MY FUTURE. MY CAREER. MY RE.

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Studying RE at school has helped Sena in so many other ways. It taught her to think about both sides of an argument before arguing for or against a viewpoint. She found it particularly interesting and helpful to learn to argue against her own beliefs. It taught her to think about other perspectives – to think about the counterargument – so she can argue well, articulately and concisely.

These are skills she uses every day studying law: "To be like a successful lawyer, barrister or solicitor, you have to know what you are arguing, but more importantly you have to think about the arguments that will be used against you. That's what makes someone successful in law."

Sena is the first person in her family to go to university. She feels really proud of what she's achieved – especially as her parents are so proud of her.

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# SCULLY RADIO DJ — "To understand the world, you need to understand religion. Religion is so intertwined in our history, society and culture"

Scully is truly passionate about his job. He loves music, having a platform to speak to people from all walks of life and thinking creatively about exciting new content for his shows. Scully talks to a large audience everyday and interviews a number of new artists. One of the many things that helps Scully to be so good at his job is that he studied RE at school. "Studying RE has allowed me to become a better radio presenter and build interesting and inspiring content from a range of perspectives".

Aside from playing great tunes, Scully also presents a weekly current affairs slot called Politically Peak, where he breaks down all the political news, what's going on in the world and how it affects young people. Scully enjoys this part of the job because he has a platform to spark an interest in Politics amongst young people and maybe even inspire the next future Prime Minister!



#### MY FUTURE. MY CAREER. MY RE.

# ----- OLLIE SPORTS REPORTER ------"Studying RE helps me understand how religious beliefs affect different countries"



Ollie's job has taken him to some of the world's biggest sporting events including the 2016 Rio Olympic Games, Euro 2016, and Super Bowl. He's been to Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong, Canada, Brazil, USA, Portugal, South Africa, Turkey, and France.

Growing up, Ollie didn't realise RE would be useful for a career in the sports media. It's only now that he realises that it's taught him the softer, personal skills that helps him every day at work and when he's abroad.

Each country he goes to, he meets and interviews people from different backgrounds, religions and cultures. Studying RE at school has helped him understand the people he meets and how different religions impact their views and different cultures.

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MY FUTURE. MY CAREER. MY RE.

# — MO FIREFIGHTER — "Studying RE gave me a good understanding of different religions and cultures, making me a better firefighter"

Being a fire fighter is Mo's dream job. He loves it because every day is different. On one day he can be called to put out a fire, the next he can be attending a road accident, another he could be giving a fire safety talk in schools.

Mo believes that one of the many things that make him good at his job is because he studied religious education at school. When he enters homes – of any faith or none – Mo can quickly understand "where they are coming from". This is essential in order to help people who are in a crisis. "I know their religious heritage so I can respect their customs and know what's important to them. This allows me to communicate with them quickly and give them the help they need"



#### MY FUTURE. MY CAREER. MY RE.

# ----- ARUN JUNIOR DOCTOR "Understanding people's faiths and lifestyles is so important for my job as a junior doctor"

Arun is glad he studied RE at school. It has given him an understanding of what is important to people in regard to their cultural and religious beliefs.

A specific example of how RE has helped Arun be a good Junior Doctor was when he first started at Whipps Cross hospital. Arun was working in the surgery department and it was Ramadan so many Muslim patients were fasting during the day. Arun knew they would feel emotionally stronger if they could continue their daytime fast. Arun and his colleagues did their best to ensure the patients' operations were scheduled at a time the patients could eat in the evening.

"Having that background of religious education really allowed us to make a management plan where we treat their medical problem but also respect their faith which is so important to so many patients".





For Arun, the best thing about his job is the diversity of people who he works and interacts with on a daily basis. Arun is really pleased he studied RE at school. "The patients I treat are not "textbook patients", they are human beings. They don't always fit the mould you've studied for years. To treat them as best I can, I need to think about all sorts of things, including their lifestyle, background and religious and cultural views."

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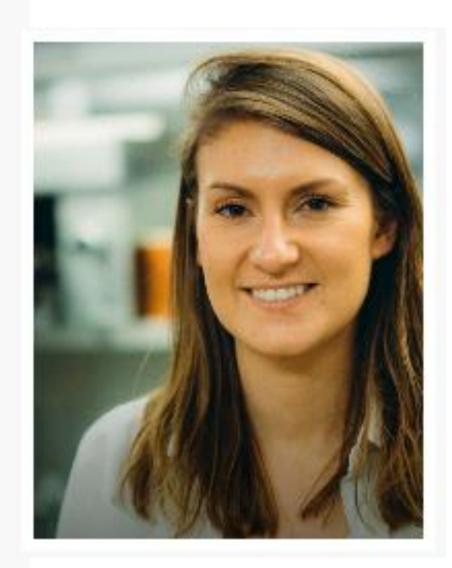
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# ----- LILLIE RECIPE DEVELOPER "RE helped me learn to question things. It makes you think about what's right for you and it helps give you a voice"

Lillie believes learning RE at school instilled the confidence and ability to make decisions. It taught her to question things and to understand that not one person or way of life is always right – she could have a voice and an opinion on her own.

She is now a talented chef, recipe developer and entrepreneur. As well as coming up with new recipes every day for a well-known food company, she has just launched a company aimed to give talented amateur chefs a helping hand into the food industry by showcasing their talents through a series of London based supper clubs.

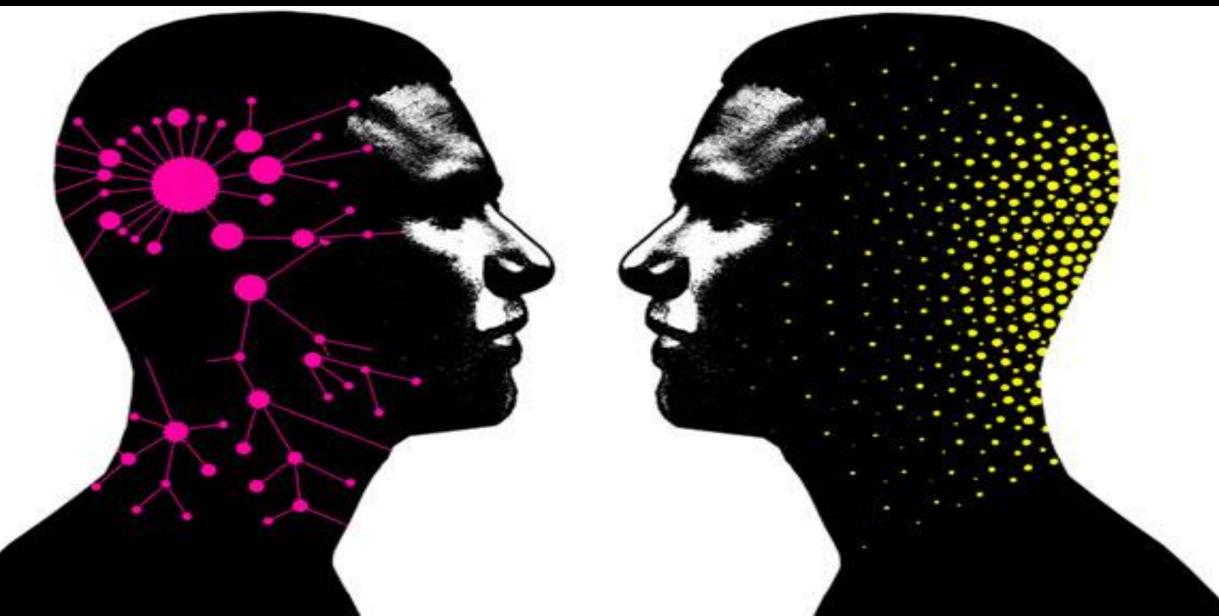
"I think RE has helped me get where I am today. It helped me think about what I want and what's best for me, rather than going along with what I've been told or feel I 'should' do".















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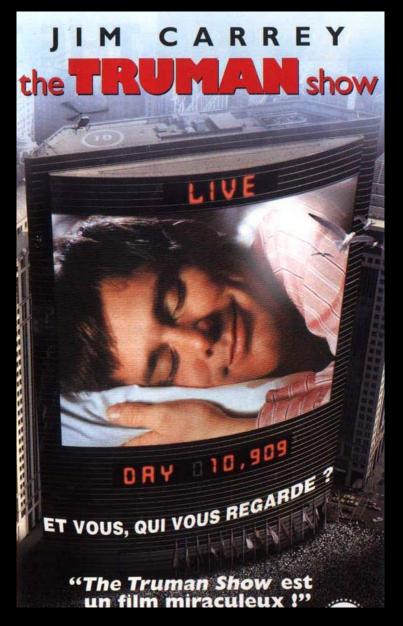


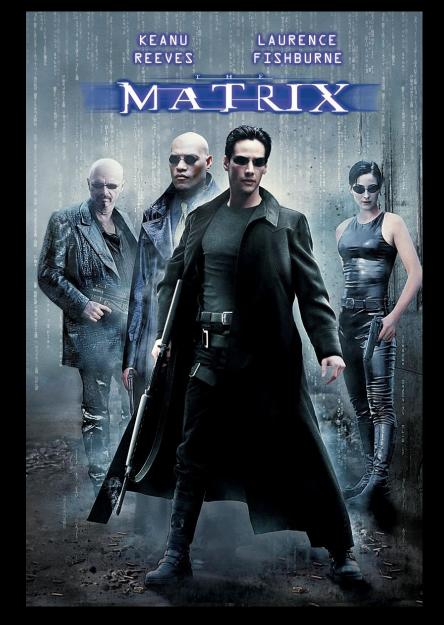


Free Will? I think they need more structure than that!























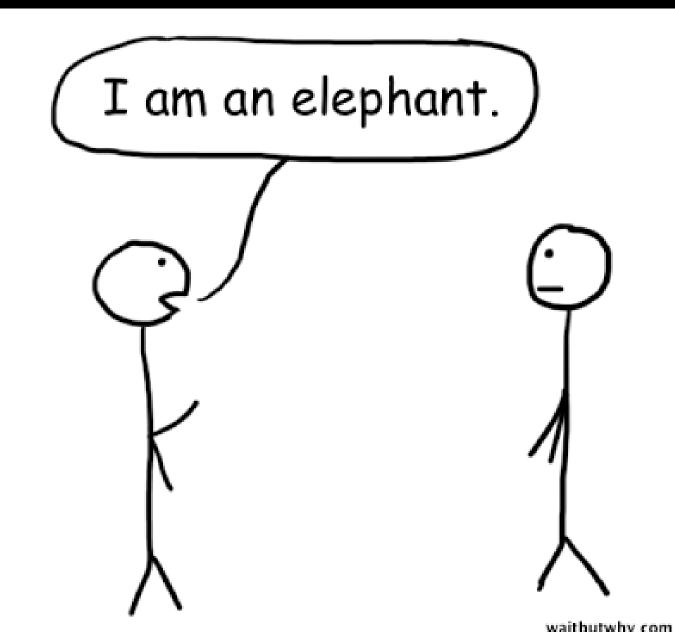












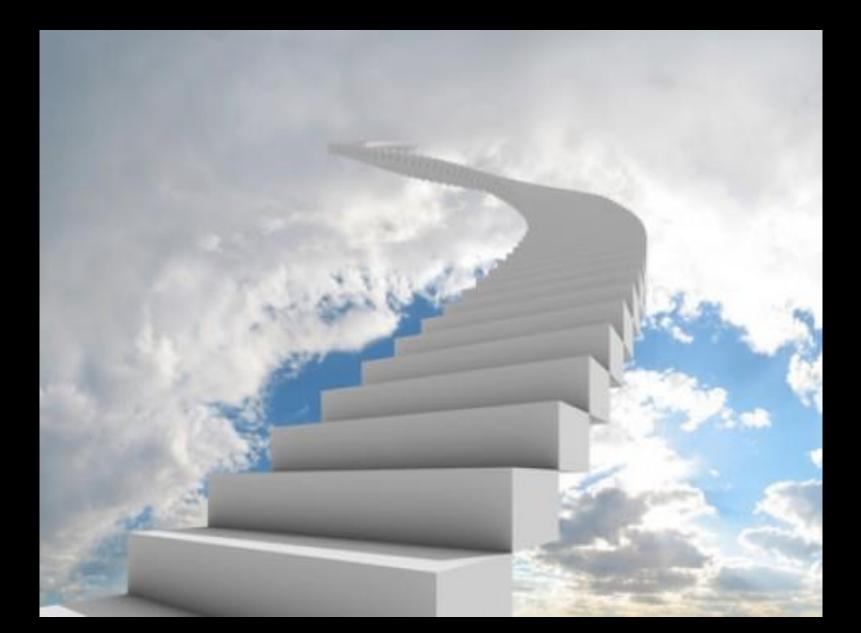




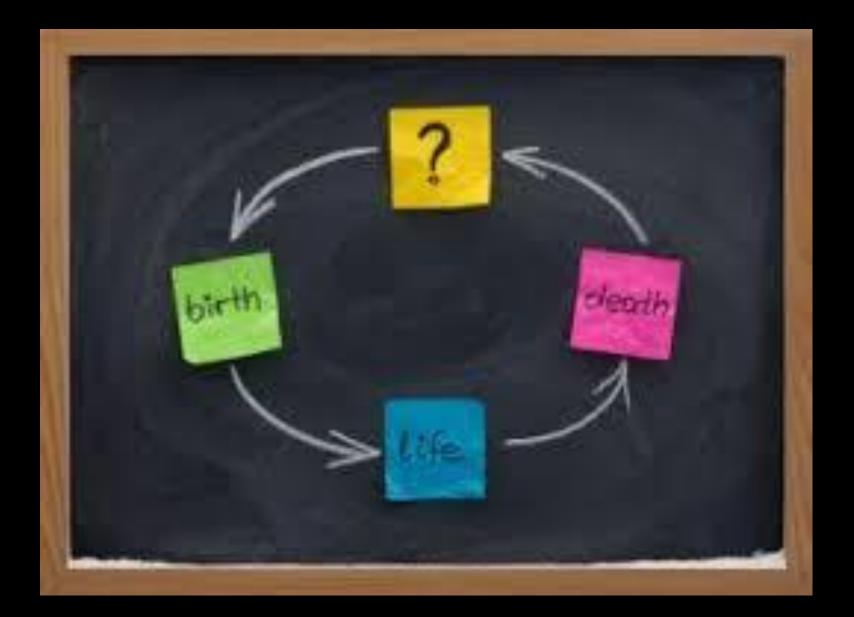


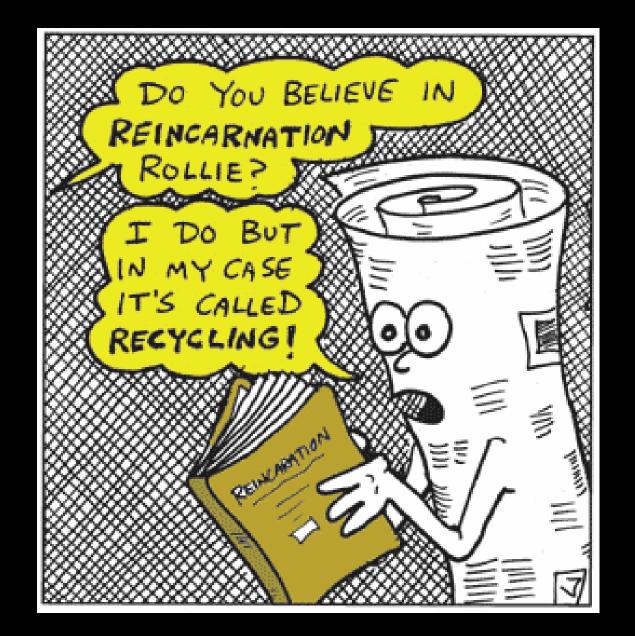








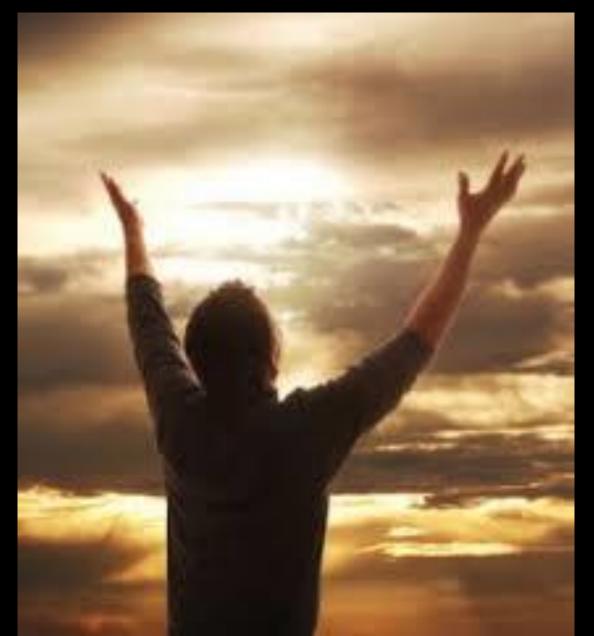








## Is all life worth the same?













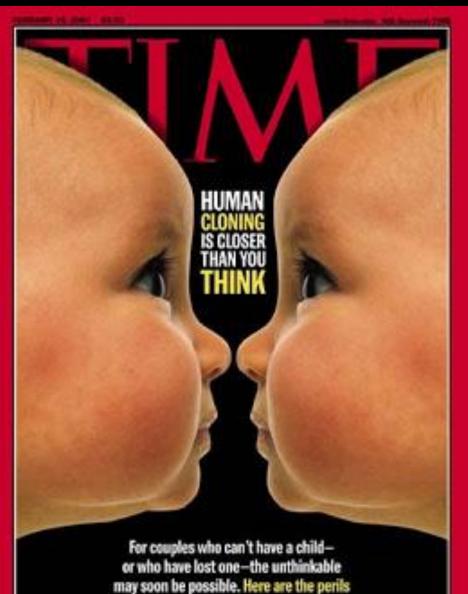














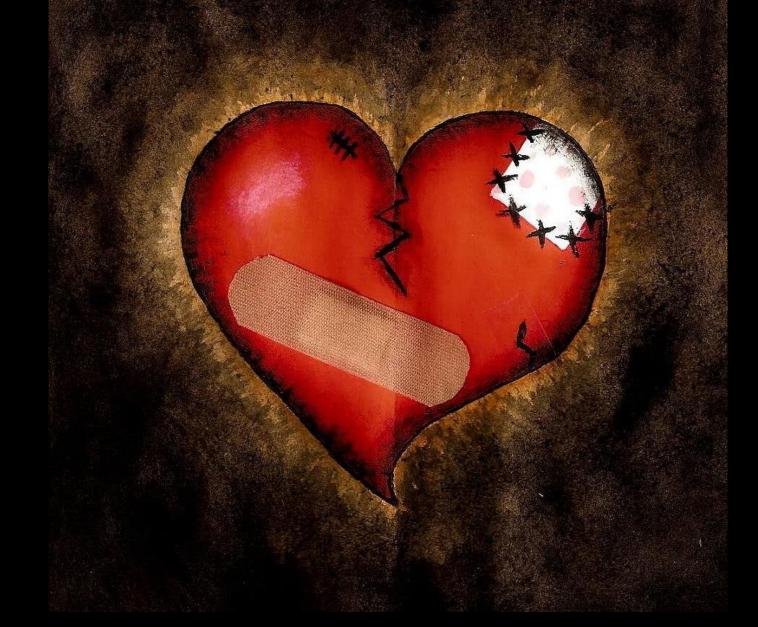






# Is it always possible to forgive? Forgiveness is the best form of love .. It takes a strong person to say sorry and an ever stronger person to forgive...





"The weak can never forgive. Forgiveness is the attribute of the strong." -Mahatma Gandhi



















The poem, even a short time after being written, seems no miracle; unwritten, it seems something beyond the capacity of the gods.

(Theodore Roethke)