

# QUEEN ELIZABETH'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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September 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

## Faith Trail Trip

Through their time at QEGS, students have been learning about major global faiths, including Islam and Christianity which eventually becomes a focus for the GCSE exam at KS4.

As part of our learning we have arranged a trip to the Open Centre, in Derby. Whilst the students are at the Open Centre they will have the opportunity to visit some local places of worship such as the Jamia Mosque (Islam), the Guru Arjan Dev Gurdwara (Sikhism) and Derby Cathedral (Christianity). We believe it is increasingly important that pupils have an understanding of the diversity of religious traditions, practices and forms of worship found in our country.

**Please be assured that under no circumstances will any child be asked to participate in any aspect of worship or be required to compromise their own faith or beliefs during this study visit.**

As well as supporting them ahead of their GCSE exams, the trip will also support the children's learning on 'Promoting British Values' through showing tolerance and mutual respect.

Whilst there, the students will listen to a brief talk centred around their learning and take part in some interactive activities. This will help the students to learn about different faiths and cultures through a personal experience, which we feel as a school is a necessity in today's modern society. If you have any questions about the trip, please contact Mr McGarrigle or you can visit the Open Centre's website for more details at <http://www.derbyopencentre.org/>.

The trip will take place on different dates according to their RS groups:

- **Monday 1<sup>st</sup> October: 9x/ReH (Mr Wyke) & 9y/ReT (Mr Wyke)**
- **Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October: 9y/ReI (Mr Wyke/Ms Pettingale) & 9y/ReE (Mr Bawden/Ms Wilband)**
- **Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October: 9x/ReR (Mr Flynn) & 9x/ReS (Mr McGarrigle)**
- **Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> October: 9y/ReD (Mr Bawden) & 9x/ReV (Mr Bawden)**

**The cost of this trip will be £12.00 per student** (to cover the cost of transport and activities) which can be paid on parentpay. The law does not allow us to make a charge for this type of activity, though we may ask for voluntary contributions. No student may be excluded from the activity because of a parent's unwillingness or inability to make a financial contribution, but - unless the voluntary contributions cover the cost of the activity - it cannot go ahead.

Students will depart from the bus bay at 8.50am on the morning of their trip, and will be back at school by 3.55pm. Students must bring a packed lunch, unless they receive Free School Meals, in which case a lunch will be provided.

Again, if you have any questions about the trip, please contact Mr McGarrigle or you can visit the Open Centre's website for more details at <http://www.derbyopencentre.org/>.

Yours faithfully,

**Mr McGarrigle**  
**Head of Religious Studies**