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## QUEEN ELIZABETH'S SCHOOL

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### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

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To be meaningful for pupils, Religious Education and Collective Worship enables them to reflect on: what it means to be a human being; questions of meaning, purpose and value; their personal beliefs and values as well as those of others. Care is taken to ensure that the cultural and religious diversity of our School is recognised and celebrated.

All pupils in Key Stage 3 follow our 'Religion and Society' course; this is a programme of study that addresses the Barnet Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education as well as providing for pupils' entitlement to Citizenship Education. At Key Stage 4, boys follow the AQA GCSE (Short Course) in Religious Studies, which allows for detailed study of the six major world religions and contemporary moral issues. In the 6<sup>th</sup> form, Religious Education is embedded into the curriculum enrichment programmes.

The Statutory Act of Worship takes place every day in the form of a recitation of the QE prayer, which is taken from the Founder's Day Service and provides an opportunity for reflection for all boys. In assemblies, boys, staff and visitors from our local faith communities, raise a wide range of spiritual and moral issues for consideration.

A fundamental purpose of the School is to train boys in the virtues of our community. We seek to train them to perform good actions consistently by showing our approval of good actions and by rewarding good behaviour. When we acknowledge good action we specify the action and affirm that it is good. With that approval and praise we accord respect. The performance of House duties, the additional responsibilities of Form Captains and School Prefects provide a practical context for the exercise of responsibility and choices of consequence. In addition, involvement with fundraising provides an opportunity for boys to focus their community concerns in a practical manner. That training is the foundation for the development of the boys' judgements to discern right actions. As boys progress through the School there are increasing opportunities for discussion and debate of moral issues.

The Governors acknowledge that parents have the right to withdraw their children from collective worship and all or part of the Religious Education offered by the School.