



## Religious Education Quality Mark

### Award Details

|   |  |
|---|--|
| School name   | Venerable Bede CE Academy  |
| School Address  | Tunstall Bank Road, Ryhope, Sunderland, SR2 0SX  |
| School Tel No   | 01915239745  |
| Headteacher email/SLT line manager  | <a href="mailto:david.airey@venerablebede.co.uk">david.airey@venerablebede.co.uk</a> (Head of School)<br><a href="mailto:richardgoodman@venerablebede.co.uk">richardgoodman@venerablebede.co.uk</a> (SLT line manager)   |
| RE subject leader email   | <a href="mailto:david.johnson@venerablebede.co.uk">david.johnson@venerablebede.co.uk</a>   |
| Award given   | Gold   |
| Date of Award   | 18/07/2016   |
| Name and number of Assessor   | Anne Carter 163  |
| Quotes from pupils (lease let us know anything interesting, surprising or wonderful which came out of the interviews with pupils) | <p>"I used to hate RE in primary school but now I love it" (Pupil questionnaire)</p> <p>In answer to my question "What would you miss most if RE was taken off the timetable?" "The chance to discuss important issues that matter in real life. We don't get a chance to do this in any other subject"</p> <p>When asked about 'Big Questions' they had discussed in RE lessons, every student could tell me about a 'big question' that had meant something to them and explained how they had found 'an answer' , explaining that certain topics had made an impact on their lives and made them think about things differently.</p> <p>The students were 'experts' at P4C and valued the opportunities they were given to use it as a teaching method.</p> <p>They loved the variety of ways they were taught, appreciated the innovative methods they experienced e.g. using IT, meeting visitors from other faiths, using an app called Minecraft to design all kinds of things, going on visits to local places of worship.</p> <p>They appreciated being involved in suggesting things they would like to take further in future lessons.</p> <p>They liked being involved in their own learning and being</p> |

|   |  |
|---|--|
|   | <p>helped by teacher assessment and guidance to move their work on.</p> <p>In answer to the question on the Pupil Questionnaire about 'What could be better in RE?' the answer given was 'I couldn't make it better.'</p>  |
| <p>Please make a summative comment about RE in the school which may be used for publicity</p> | <p>This is an impressive RE department in a school with a strong Christian Ethos. The subject is supported well in all areas by the SMT in terms of allocated time, funding, resourcing, staff development and training. The strengths of the department are highlighted in several places in OFSTED and SIAMs reports, which show the valuable contribution the subject brings to the school community. The department plays a valuable part in sharing good practice with other departments in the school. E.g. P4C training. The subject leader is enthusiastic, organized and committed. He shares his expertise both within the local area (partner schools, networks, local SACRE and beyond (conferences). Members of the school are Young Ambassadors for RE and have won several awards from The Bible Society and RE Council. They have featured in the local press. Academic achievement at GCSE is well above national average. A summative publicity comment from me would be that 'Venerable Bede is a beacon of light in the RE world and would make a very good, regional, outstanding centre of excellence'</p> |
| <p>Any other comments about the school or the process?</p>                                    | <p>I had a very pleasurable visit to the school and am so impressed by what is taking place in RE classrooms at Venerable Bede.</p> <p>Suggestions which would have been useful to me as an assessor are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It would have been useful to see the evidence file before the visit. ( 2 hours is not enough time to have a good look at everything and do everything else that need to be done)</li> <li>• These forms do not allow me to do justice to what I saw!</li> <li>• It would have been good to see some RE teaching, without putting the teachers and students under pressure. (They invited us into the school)</li> </ul>   |