



Arrangements for the Delivery of RE and Collective Worship in the College

1. RE provision in Knock is skills-based and in a unique position to add significant value to the following:

Communication	... through class debates, structured dialogues and essay writing
Teamwork	... through group research and presentation tasks, class debates and discussions
Analytical Thinking	... through moral dilemmas, interpretation of a range of ancient and modern texts and application of belief systems to modern society
Critical thinking	... through argument deconstruction, synoptic writing and application of 'other aspects of human experience'
Conflict Resolution	... through interfaith studies, restorative dialogues and class debates
Resilience	... through retrieval practice, reflective journaling and the discipline of essay writing

2. Provision of Religious Education in Our Lady and St Patrick's College, Knock

Year 8 Junior School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to the Bible • Parables, Narrative Ethics and the World of Jesus • Introduction to Judaism - including visit to Belfast Synagogue • Mentor Programme
Year 9 Junior School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation and Environmental Ethics • Morality and Conscience • Introduction to Hinduism
Year 10 Junior School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Values, Prejudice and Discrimination • Religion: Conflict and Peace - including visits to Gilnahirk Presbyterian Church, Gilnahirk Baptist Church and St Dorothea's Church of Ireland • Introduction to Islam - including visit from the Belfast Islamic Centre
Year 11 - 12 Senior School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCEA GCSE specification • Unit 2a - The Christian Church - The Catholic Church (Year 11) • Unit 6 - Christian Ethics (Year 12)
Year 13 - 14 Upper School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCEA GCE specification (if chosen for Advanced Level) • Unit 5 - The Celtic Church (AS) • Unit 7 - Foundation of Ethics with a Focus on Medical and Global Ethics (A2)

3. Collective Worship in Our Lady and St Patrick's College, Knock

Details of the arrangements for Collective Worship in the school are as follows:

- Mass in honour of Our Lady, patron of the College, at the start of the academic year
- Year 8 Mass of Welcome for Year 8 students and their parents
- Distribution of Ashes on Ash Wednesday
- Mass to honour St Patrick, patron of the College, close to St Patrick's Day
- Year 14 Leavers' Mass
- Mass for Year 12 students
- Retreats with tutor group
- Assembly for Christian Unity Week
- Assembly for Catholic Schools' Week
- Prayer Service in the event of a Critical Incident (involving a student or a member of staff)

5. Right of Withdrawal from RE and Collective Worship

Parents have an unqualified right to withdraw their children wholly or partially from RE and Collective Worship, without delay or the need to explain or justify their reasons. Partial withdrawal (for example, from a specified unit or activity) is permitted.

6. Arrangements to Facilitate Withdrawal from RE and Collective Worship in the College

The College has clear arrangements in place so that withdrawal from RE and Collective Worship can be facilitated simply and confidentially.

The Named Contact for any queries is Ms M Collins (Vice Principal).

A copy of the DE Standard Withdrawal Proforma is provided on the College website (www.knock.co.uk - Parents). When completed, it should be sent to Ms Collins (Vice Principal) via info@knock.co.uk or Reception.

7. Alternative Arrangements for Students who are Withdrawn from RE/Collective Worship

As directed by Ms Collins (Vice Principal), students will either be supervised in the classroom or report promptly to Mrs McCorry/Mrs O'Hare in the Library or Sixth Form Study at the start of each period, sign the Register and follow their direction. Alternatively, students will report to the classroom of an identified Head of Year. Suitable arrangements include supervised reading or quiet study. Students are not permitted to go to other departments during this time. One-to-one tuition is not permitted.

Department of Education Standard Withdrawal Proforma

Section 1: Pupil Details

Name of pupil: _____

Year group/class: _____

Section 2: Parent/Carer Details

Name of parent/carers submitting this request:

Relationship to pupil: _____

Preferred contact email: _____

Preferred contact phone number: _____

Section 3: Request for Withdrawal

(Please tick all that apply)

I request that my child be withdrawn from:

Religious Education

- All RE
- Specific RE topics/units (please specify):

Collective Worship

- All collective worship
- Specific elements of collective worship (please specify e.g. prayers, hymns, liturgical acts, assembly, particular speakers):

Section 4: Start Date

I request that withdrawal arrangements begin:

Immediately

or

From (date): ____/____/____

Section 5: Confirmation

By signing below, I confirm that I am exercising my statutory right to withdraw my child from Religious Education and/or collective worship (delete as appropriate) understand that:

- I do not need to give reasons for this request;
- The school must implement this request promptly and without negotiation;
- This request will remain in place until I submit a written request to end or amend it.

Signature of parent/carer: _____

Date: ____ / ____ / ____

Section 6: School Use Only (to be completed by the school)

Date received: ____ / ____ / ____

Acknowledgement issued:

Yes – date: ____ / ____ / ____

Arrangements begin: ____ / ____ / ____

Alternative arrangements provided:

Recorded in confidential register:

Yes – date: ____ / ____ / ____

Name of staff member processing request: _____

When completed, this DE Standard Withdrawal Proforma should be sent to Ms Collins (Vice Principal) via info@knock.co.uk or Reception.