**Please see the ‘Interview Days – general instructions for candidates’ document for details on the structure of the interview day.**

# Information for PGCE Secondary RE interviewees

As part of the interview, applicants will be asked to write on a given topic.

Additionally, applicants will be interviewed on an individual basis by a member of the subject team with local teachers sometimes assisting at interviews.

Applicants will be asked to do a short presentation during the interview.

Formal interview:

In the one-to-one interview (approximately 20 minutes), we will be looking to explore your reasons for wanting to teach RE and the relevance of your previous experience. In your preparation for the interview, you should take careful note of the selection criteria which are listed below.

Selection criteria:

Interviewers will be hoping to offer places on the Secondary PGCE RE course to those applicants who demonstrate:

* a clear interest in Religious Education (RE)
* some understanding of the place and purpose of RE in the curriculum
* an enthusiasm for the teaching of RE in schools
* a vision for what RE should or could be
* some awareness of current issues/debates in RE or of relevance to RE
* some previous experience of working with children (in schools/youth clubs/religious community etc) and/or willingness to gain such experience
* a basic relevant subject knowledge with a willingness to develop their subject knowledge further, for instance, completion of a subject knowledge enhancement course or further academic study in world religions as appropriate
* a genuine interest in the education and well-being of young people
* a professional approach and commitment to the course
* an ability to communicate effectively and work as a member of a team

Before the Interview:
Before the interview day, please complete the **initial subject knowledge** **audit** which you will find on the interview information webpage and **email it to your interviewer on the day, when prompted**. It is not necessary to give details of your subject knowledge in the areas highlighted, but simply to record the level at which you have studied each aspects of the RE curriculum to date. It is usual to have many gaps at this stage. The course is designed to help you fill the subject knowledge gaps, and this initial subject knowledge audit helps us to do this more effectively.

If you have any additional needs that we should be aware of, please do let us know before the interview. We look forward to meeting you.

Karen Walshe

Secondary PGCE RE Course Leader