

## Professor Mona Siddiqui OBE

Knowing and caring – The Purpose of Education

Education is mostly understood in terms of information and knowledge to help realise one's potential in the workplace. But education is incomplete if it doesn't address the formation of character in which the development of empathy is crucial. It is empathy which draws us to one another and inspires us to imagine new justices and new worlds.

**Speaker Bio:** Professor of Islamic and Interreligious Studies and Assistant Principal for Religion and Society at the University of Edinburgh. Her research lies in the field of Islamic law and ethics and Christian-Muslim relations. Amongst her most recent publications are *Human Struggle: Christian and Muslim Perspectives*, (CUP 2021), based on her 2016 Gifford lectures. She is known internationally as a public intellectual and is a regular commentator in the media, known for her appearances on BBC Radio 4 and BBC Radio Scotland's *Thought for the Day* and *The Moral Maze*. In 2011, she was awarded an OBE for her interreligious work. In 2021, she was elected VP International for the Royal Society of Edinburgh.

