

<b>Religious Studies - Key Stage 4 - GCSE Curriculum</b>	
<b>Overview</b>	<p>Religious Education is compulsory for all Year 10 and Year 11 students and all students study the AQA GCSE Religious Studies qualification.</p> <p>Students will be challenged with questions about belief, values, meaning, purpose and truth, enabling them to develop their own attitudes towards ethical and religious issues. Students will learn how philosophy, ethics and religion form the basis of our culture, and develop valuable skills, such as reasoning, evaluation, critical thinking, analytical skills, the ability to work with abstract ideas, leadership, research and enquiry skills. All these skills will help prepare them for further study. The course is fully inclusive and is suitable for candidates of any religious or cultural or non-religious background.</p> <p>Students should consider different beliefs and attitudes to religious and non-religious issues in contemporary British society. They should be aware that the religious traditions of Great Britain are, in the main, Christian, and that religious traditions in Great Britain are diverse. They include the major world religions, as well as other religious and non-religious beliefs such as atheism and humanism.</p> <p>Students will learn about Beliefs and Practices for two religions: Christianity and Islam. Students will apply these religious teachings to four themes: Relationships and Families, Religion and Life, Crime and Punishment, Human Rights and Social Justice. Students begin GCSE content in the Spring Term in Year 9.</p>
<b>Examination Board and Specification</b>	<p>AQA Route A Specification GCSE Religious Studies</p>
<b>Assessment</b>	<p>Students will sit two exam papers at the end of Year 11:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paper 1: The Study of Religions</li> <li>• Paper 2: Thematic Studies</li> </ul> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; width: 45%;"> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Paper 1: The Study of Religions</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">1 hour 45 minutes 50% of GCSE 96 marks (plus 5 marks for SPaG) 4 sections (24 marks each)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><i>Christian Beliefs</i></b> <b><i>Christian Practices</i></b> <b><i>Islamic Beliefs</i></b> <b><i>Islamic Practices</i></b></p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; width: 45%;"> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Paper 2: Thematic Studies</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">1 hour 45 minutes 50% of GCSE 96 marks (plus 5 marks for SPaG) 4 sections (24 marks each)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><i>Relationships and Families</i></b> <b><i>Religion and Life</i></b> <b><i>Crime and Punishment</i></b> <b><i>Human Rights and Social Justice</i></b></p> </div> </div> <p>Each exam paper has 4 sections, worth 24 marks each. Each section has a common structure of one five-part question of 1, 2, 4, 5 and 12 marks.</p> <p>Students complete half-termly assessments in class in the GCSE style sections, after each topic is studied. Year 10 complete a mock exam in the Spring Term, whereby they sit one exam paper covering all content in paper 1. Year 11 complete a mock exam at the end of the Autumn term, whereby they sit two exam papers exactly as they would in their GCSE exams in the summer term.</p>
<b>Year Group</b>	<b>GCSE Topics</b>
<b>Year 9</b>	<p><b><u>Christian Beliefs</u></b> <i>Students start the GCSE content and spend a whole term on beliefs about God, the Trinity, the Story of Creation, Holy Pilgrimages and the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus.</i></p> <p><b><u>Islamic Beliefs</u></b> <i>Students continue learning GCSE content and spend a whole term on beliefs about the Oneness of God, Angels in Islam, Sunni and Shia Muslims, Predestination and the Prophethood of Muhammad.</i></p>

<p><b>Year 10</b></p>	<p><b><u>Christian Practices</u></b>  <i>The application of Christian beliefs and teachings to the lives of modern believers including the study of the importance of prayer, infant and adult baptism, pilgrimage and festivals, street pastors, evangelism and responses to world poverty.</i></p> <p><b><u>Islamic Practices</u></b>  <i>The application of Islamic beliefs and teachings to the lives of modern believers including the study of the five pillars in Islam, the role of the Mosque, Ten Obligatory Acts of Shia Islam, Donations and Charity, the festival of Eid and the festival of Ashura.</i></p> <p><b><u>Relationships and Families</u></b>  <i>Religious and non-religious attitudes toward sex, marriage and divorce. The changing nature and trends in types of families and relationships in British society. Gender roles, gender equality and examples of gender prejudice and discrimination.</i></p>
<p><b>Year 11</b></p>	<p><b><u>Religion and Life</u></b>  <i>Religious views of the world, including their relationship to scientific views; beliefs about death and an afterlife; explanations of the origins and value of the universe and of human life. Includes topics such as animal experimentation and abortion.</i></p> <p><b><u>Crime and Punishment</u></b>  <i>Includes religious and ethical views on causes of crime, aims of punishment, the concepts of forgiveness, retribution, deterrence, reformation; the death penalty, treatment of criminals; good, evil and suffering. Includes case studies and examples.</i></p> <p><b><u>Human Rights and Social Justice</u></b>  <i>Includes issues of equality and freedom of religion or belief; prejudice and discrimination in religion and belief; human rights; wealth and poverty; racial prejudice and discrimination.</i></p> <p><b><u>GCSE Revision</u></b>  <i>A range of lessons in Year 11 are dedicated to revising prior content from Year 9 and Year 10.</i></p>
<p><b>Homework</b></p>	<p>Homework often consists of exam style questions to aid revision and a response or review of assessments completed in class. Homework is set and published on Show My Homework.</p>
<p><b>Revision and Intervention</b></p>	<p>Students should allocate and manage their time to revise topics throughout the year in Year 10 and 11. This can include reading over class notes, responding to teacher marking, creating revision cards, drawing mind maps, practising exam questions and producing visual aids for each topic or concept. Saturday revision classes are organised in the Spring and Summer term closer to the GCSE exams. Revision takes place after school on set days as organised by staff and students will be notified in school of these dates. Morning revision takes place during the GCSE exam time period. Targeted intervention is set for during registration and this commences in the Autumn term.</p>
<p><b>Useful Resources</b></p>	<p>Useful resources and websites are listed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exam Board and Example Exam Questions: <a href="http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/religious-studies/gcse/religious-studies-a-8062">www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/religious-studies/gcse/religious-studies-a-8062</a></li> <li>• BBC Bitesize Religious Studies: <a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zb48q6f">www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zb48q6f</a></li> <li>• YouTube Channel and Videos – MrMcMillanREvis</li> <li>• Book (Revision Guide): Grade 9-1 GCSE Religious Studies: AQA A Revision Guide with Online Edition - published by CGP Books</li> <li>• Textbook: AQA GCSE (9-1) Religious Studies Specification A – published by Hodder Education</li> </ul>