

Religious Studies

GCSE Qualification - AQA

Course Leader: Mr Cade

Successful learner profile

- Has considered a 'people-focussed' career
- Has an interest in learning about other cultures
- Has the ability to see an issue from several perspectives
- Has the ability to work independently
- Has good time-management skills

Why choose this course?

Most people on this planet are religious in some way; even those who are not are often driven by deeply held beliefs. RS looks at what makes people tick...it examines what it is to be human and how people from different cultures make sense of the world around them.

What will you study?

Students will study the two largest of the world's religion – Christianity and Islam, as well as aspects of a non-religious world view. In particular, they will study:

- Beliefs and Practices of both Christianity and Islam.
- Contemporary Themes:
 1. Relationships and Families – looking at contraception, gender issues, homosexuality, marriage & divorce, etc.
 2. Religion and life – which looks at euthanasia, abortion, animal rights issues, etc.
 3. Crime and Punishment – why do people commit crimes, why do we punish them, corporal and capital punishment and the role of forgiveness.
 4. Religion, peace and conflict – looking at violence and violent protest, peace and justice, Just/Holy war, Pacifism, WMDs etc .

How will you be assessed?

This qualification is linear. Linear means that students will sit all their exams at the end of the course. There is no coursework element to this course.

- Written exam Paper 1: Christianity and Islam: Belief and Practices - 1 hour 45 mins - 50% of GCSE.
- Written exam Paper 2: Contemporary Themes - 1 hour 45 mins - 90 marks - 50% of GCSE.

Possible progression post 16

You will have a greater skill set to enable you to progress to academic, people-focussed subjects.

Weblinks

www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/religious-studies/gcse/religious-studies-a-8062