



OPTION SUBJECT GCSE RELIGIOUS STUDIES

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Examination Board	WJEC - Graded 1 – 9

Aims of GCSE Religious Studies

- To develop pupils' knowledge and understanding of religious and non-religious beliefs, such as atheism and humanism
- To develop learners' ability to construct well-argued, well-informed, balanced and structured written arguments
- To provide opportunities for learners to engage with questions of belief, value, meaning, purpose, truth, and their influence on human life
- To challenge pupils' to reflect on and develop their own values, beliefs and attitudes in the light of what they have learnt and contribute to their preparation for adult life

Course Content and Assessment

Religious Studies GCSE is divided into 3 different modules. There is no coursework module, which allows pupils to fully explore the course without the extra pressure of completing coursework. Therefore, as shown below, pupils will be fully assessed by 3 written examinations at the end of year 11.

Modules Studied	Module Content	Assessment
<u>Component 1</u> Study of Philosophical & Ethical issues in the world	A philosophical and ethical investigation of issues concerning relationships, life after death, good and evil and human rights.	2 hour written exam (50% of final grade)
<u>Component 2</u> Study of Christianity	An in-depth study of the beliefs, teachings and practices of Christianity	1 hour written exam (25% of final grade)
<u>Component 3</u> Study of Islam	An in depth study of the beliefs, teachings and practices of Islam	1 hour written exam (25% of final grade)

Careers

Religious Studies is beneficial to pupils who wish to have a firm humanities base to their qualifications, a wider understanding of what issues are important to people today and an opportunity to develop their skills of evaluation and analysis, which are of great importance for further education. Religious Studies is a popular subject with many employers and is highly recommended for any job which involves working with people; such as journalism, business, tourism, social work, law, teaching and nursing.

Visits

A visit to places of worship in the locality is linked to the course in year 11 and speakers are invited to lessons for some topics e.g. abortion, war and peace, poverty and environmental issues. Further, year 11 pupils meet with a Prison Chaplain, to learn about the significance of reformation and rehabilitation work in society today. Where possible trips abroad are offered; in the past we have visited Israel, Morocco, Florence, Rome and Auschwitz in Poland. In July 2020, we are running a trip to Krakow in Poland.