

Year 10 Religious Studies GCSE



Religious Studies GCSE covers beliefs and practices within Christianity and Islam as well as five contemporary ethical themes such as war and peace, crime and punishment, euthanasia and abortion. Students will be challenged with questions about belief, values, meaning, purpose and truth, enabling them to develop their own attitudes towards religious and moral issues. Students will also gain an appreciation of how religion, philosophy and ethics form the basis of our culture. Students will develop analytical and critical thinking skills, the ability to work with abstract ideas, leadership and research skills. All these skills will help prepare students for further study.

Methods of deepening and securing knowledge:

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| Knowledge testing | We have carefully selected the information that students should remember in the long term and is key knowledge required to achieve a good grade at GCSE. Regular knowledge tests in lessons will allow students to practise remembering and using this knowledge, this is continued from Key Stage 3. |
| Knowledge organisers | Each unit has a knowledge organiser which tells students the key information for each unit. This will be the focus of the knowledge tests and highlights what students need to remember long term. |
| Revisiting prior learning | Our religious studies curriculum is designed to ensure that students regularly revisit themes and knowledge which they have studied before. In Key Stage 3 students studied Christian beliefs and practices as well as Islamic beliefs and practices. These will be built on throughout their GCSE. |

| | Autumn term 1 | Autumn term 2 | Spring term 1 |
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| Topic(s) | <p>Christian Beliefs In this unit students will study the key beliefs within Christianity, including beliefs about the nature of God, death and the afterlife, the Trinity and Jesus.</p> | <p>Crime and Punishment In this unit students will study the aims of punishment, corporal punishment, causes of crime and arguments for and against the death penalty.</p> | <p>Christian Practices In this unit students will study the key practices within Christianity including prayer, worship, the worldwide Church, festivals and pilgrimages.</p> |

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| Assessment | Cumulative knowledge test. GCSE style 1, 2, 4, 5 and 12 mark questions. | Cumulative knowledge test. GCSE style 1, 2, 4, 5 and 12 mark questions. | Cumulative knowledge test. GCSE style 1, 2, 4, 5 and 12 mark questions. |
| CEIAG <i>(Careers that are linked to that topic)</i> | | Ethical issues relevant to medical and law professions explored. | |

| | Spring term 2 | Summer term 1 | Summer term 2 |
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| Topic(s) | War and Peace In this unit students will study weapons of mass destruction, violent protest, Just War Theory, pacifism and victims of war. | Social Justice In this unit students will study prejudice and discrimination such as racism, sexism and disability discrimination, as well as the use of wealth and duties to help those living in poverty. | Islam Introduction In this unit students will review and recap the Islamic beliefs and practices studied in Key Stage 3 to prepare for the Islam units in the exam. |
| Assessment | Cumulative knowledge test. GCSE style 1, 2, 4, 5 and 12 mark questions. | Cumulative knowledge test. GCSE style 1, 2, 4, 5 and 12 mark questions. | Cumulative knowledge test. GCSE style 1, 2, 4, 5 and 12 mark questions. |
| CEIAG <i>(Careers that are linked to that topic)</i> | Ethical issues relevant to medical and law professions explored. | Ethical issues relevant to medical and law professions explored. | |

Independent Study

Most of students' independent study in Year 10 will be one of the following:

- Learning independent study, in which students will spend time committing important information to memory.
- Revision for end of unit assessments.
- Practice exam questions.