

Religious Studies

GCSE AQA

Course Outline for Y10:

Religious Studies B: Full and Short Courses (4055)

In Year 10 students study two units from AQA Specification B: Unit 2 and Unit 3.

Unit 2 enables students to examine issues about the following; Religion and Early Life, Religion, Peace and Conflict and Religion and Prejudice.

These three topics are taught once a week during their core lesson.

The GCSE students examine **Unit 3** topics in a session that runs Thursday after school.

These students examine units on Religious attitudes to Crime and Punishment, Religious attitudes to Matters of Life and Death and Religious attitudes to Drugs.

Weightings:

- To gain a Full Course students will examine two units and will be examined by two exam papers to be taken at the end of Year 11.
- Each unit accounts for 50% of the total Full Course marks.
- Written papers – 2 x 1 hour 30 minutes
- Candidates answer four structured essay questions from the choice of six given.
- Each question is worth 18 marks.
- There are four additional marks on the paper for SPaG. (spelling, punctuation and grammar)
- The question paper is worth 76 marks in total

What students should be doing to achieve:

- It is important that students have up-to-date, complete and detailed notes. Students must keep *all* notes/handouts and folders from the start of the GCSE course, as these will be their main resource for revision in Year 11.
- Full attendance to all lessons is vital. There is a large amount of content to cover, and missing even one lesson can have an impact.
- We always encourage students to do extra reading and research around the topics they are studying.
- Students should treat every homework, and every practice question (including Mock exams) as if they were part of a real exam. Little or no effort benefits no-one.

How parents / carers can help students achieve:

- Ask your child to tell you what they are studying. Encourage them to explain the topics – get them to teach you, in other words.
- Ask your child what his/her Minimum Expected and Target Grades are – can they demonstrate to you that they are on track to meet these grades? (For example, marks for practice questions, Mock Exam results.)
- Encourage your child to attend revision sessions when they become available, and emphasise their benefits.
- Help with revision for tests. Borrow your child's book or folder and ask them questions to test their knowledge.
- Attend the Year 10 Subject Evening with your child, so that we can discuss his/her progress.

Support and Interventions available at school:

- Each student has been provided with a specialised revision booklet, which he/she can keep.
- We provide various materials to aid revision for the Mock exams, and can advise the students on different ways to revise.
- We do our best to make ourselves available to students who seek our help.

Who I can contact for further advice / help:

Please do not hesitate to contact Ms Bradshaw or Mrs Jones if you have any questions, or for further information and advice.

