

Religious Studies

GCSE AQA

Current Curriculum

Year 9 students are studying themes from AQA specification A. This is delivered as two components.

Subject content

Component 1: The study of religions: beliefs, teachings and practices
Component 2: Thematic studies

What's assessed?

For component 1 we will be teaching beliefs, teachings and practices from Christianity and Buddhism.

For component 2 we are studying:

- Theme A: Relationships and families
- Theme B: Religion and life.
- Theme D: Religion, peace and conflict.
- Theme E: Religion, crime and punishment.
- Theme F: Religion, human rights and social justice

How it's assessed?

2 X Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes

96 marks (plus 5 marks for Spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPaG))

50% of GCSE per component.

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, which is now year 9, 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. The news, newspapers and our twitter page are recommended resources.
- Students should treat every homework, and every practice question (including end of year 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.
- 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 9 Subject Evening with your child, so that we can discuss his/her progress.

