

# RELIGIOUS STUDIES

## INTRODUCTION

*Should we allow abortion? Whose duty is it to look after the environment?  
Does God even exist?*

These are just a few of the many debates we evaluate and explore in GCSE Religious Studies!

Religious Studies provides you with a greater understanding of British heritage, plurality and values. Furthermore, it's an excellent opportunity to engage with contemporary contentious issues and develop critical thinking. A GCSE in Religious Studies is intellectually stimulating and develops a religious, cultural, political, philosophical and historical awareness of the world. Religious Studies is analytical and because of the skills and content covered, it pairs perfectly with History and/or Geography GCSE. Furthermore, it also provides a great foundation for History, Politics, Sociology and English Language A Level.

This course involves the study of two world religions: Christianity and Buddhism. The first part of the course entails studying these two religions in depth, including their practices and beliefs. The second part of the course involves evaluating and discussing topical world issues. Such issues range from the function of families, abortion, crime and punishment, euthanasia and the environment. These issues are explored not just through religion, but how contemporary Britain views them today. If you have an interest in religion, people and by extension, the world, then this GCSE is for you!



## THE COURSE

Paper 1 - 50% Buddhist and Christian Practices and Beliefs

Paper 2A – 50% Thematic Studies

- Theme A – Relationships and Family
- Theme B – Religion and Life
- Theme C – God and Revelation
- Theme D – Crime and Punishment

To select Religious Education, you do not have to be religious. This subject is not about learning how to be a Buddhist or a Christian. In a world which is becoming increasingly fragmented, this GCSE provides you the knowledge of world issues and be more interculturally aware of the diverse world we live in through the lens of religion!

For more information about the course, click [here](#).

## NEEDED SKILLS

To be successful in Religious Studies, you will need to be **critical** of other points of view and be willing to **articulate** your arguments both orally and in writing. Like any GCSE course, being **resilient** and **independent** are essential learning habits to be successful in this course. Fundamentally, you need to be **hard working**. Success comes through drive and determination!

## THE FUTURE

Religious Studies is a GCSE which is flexible and lends itself to many careers, especially those which involve working with people. Careers linked to Religious Studies includes: social work, education, law, police, governance and healthcare.

For further information on Religious Education, please contact the Lead Teacher of Philosophy and Religious Studies, Ms Belch or Head of History and Philosophy, Ms Connolly.



Scan the QR code to watch a video with more information