



CHRIST'S COLLEGE
Emmanuel Schools Foundation

RS COURSE OVERVIEW

KEY STAGE 4 COURSE GUIDE

COURSE OVERVIEW

- Prior Learning Required
- As RS is a core subject in all of our ESF schools our KS3 curriculum is designed to build a strong foundational knowledge of religious beliefs, practices, and philosophical ideas. Students will be familiar with core concepts like sources of wisdom and authority within religions, how religious beliefs influence individuals and communities, and will be able to discuss common and divergent views within and between religions as well non-religious beliefs like atheism and humanism.
- Complimentary Subjects of Study
- Religious studies compliments core subjects such as English Language and Literature as well as other humanities subjects like History and Geography. It is a subject which, at GCSE level, will improve how you critically think about the world around you, as you consider your own worldview alongside that of others
- Further Education Pathways
- Students who perform well in GCSE Religious Studies have several pathways open to them, including further academic study, vocational options, and careers in various sectors. They can pursue A-levels in Religious Studies, Philosophy, or Theology, which can lead to university degrees in related fields. Additionally, the skills developed in RS, such as critical thinking and communication, are valuable for careers in law, healthcare, social work, education, and the media.

Course Summary

This page outlines the course summary...

Course title:	Religious Studies
Exam board:	AQA
Specification code:	8062MA
Qualification number:	

Course Overview

Component 1	Component 2
The study of religions: beliefs, teachings and practices Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes 96 marks, plus 3 marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPaG)	Thematic studies Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes 96 marks, plus 3 marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPaG)

Component Overview

Component 1	Component 2
Christianity- Beliefs Christianity- Practices Islam- Beliefs Islam – Practices	Thematic studies - Religion and the Family - Religion and Life - Religion, Peace and Conflict - Religion, Crime and Punishment



KEY STAFF

Introduction

Welcome to GCSE Religious studies! This course offers you the unique opportunity to think critically about the world around you. As we study the diverse world of Religion we are given the unique opportunity to see the world from a different perspective. You will develop your knowledge, skills and understanding of religion by exploring the significance and impact of beliefs, teachings, sources, practices and ways of life. It will help develop your key skills in communication, working with others, problem solving and improving your own learning. It will also give you skills in making decisions about moral problems, as we tackle issues such as abortion and euthanasia or whether to bring back the death penalty, whilst at the same time considering your own beliefs and explaining them clearly to others. It is not about making you religious, it is about enabling you to think for yourself about religious and moral issues. You do not need a 'faith' to enjoy this course - atheists are just as welcome as curious believers.

Mrs S Prest

AVP Ethos and Enrichment / Head of Religious Studies

Department Teachers

The GCSE Computer Science course is delivered by one teacher over three periods a week and you will most likely have the same teacher throughout year 10 and year 11. These are split into one single lesson and one double lesson.

Mrs Prest AVP Ethos and Enrichment	Mrs Prest has been Lead Teacher of RS and EBACC faculty lead for the past four years in Christ's College and AVP Ethos and Enrichment for the last two. Prior to this she taught in two of our other schools, Emmanuel College and Bede Academy. Teaches GCSE Religious Studies
Mr Aspin EBACC Faculty Lead	Mr Aspin is Lead Teacher of History and has recently taken over as EBACC Faculty Lead Teaches GCSE History and Religious Studies AQA Examiner (History)
Mr Carter Teacher of Humanities	Mr Carter joined Christ's College two years ago after a career in the armed forces and teaches GCSE Religious Studies and History



KNOWLEDGE CHECKLIST

Personal Learning Checklist

Paper 1- The Study of Religion

Christian Beliefs

The Nature of God

God as omnipotent, loving and just

The oneness of God and the Trinity

Christian beliefs about Creation

The incarnation and Jesus, the Son of God

The Crucifixion

The Resurrection and Ascension

The resurrection and life after death

The afterlife and judgement

Heaven and Hell

Sin and Salvation

The role of Christ in Salvation

Christian Practices

Worship-including liturgical, non-liturgical, informal and private

Prayer-including corporate and private

The sacraments: Baptism

The sacraments: Holy Communion/ Eucharist

Ways of understanding and celebrating Holy Communion

Pilgrimage (Lourdes and Iona)

Celebrating festivals (Christmas and Easter)

The role of the Church in the local community- Discipleship and charity

The place of mission and evangelism

Church growth

The importance of the worldwide Church

The persecuted Church

The Church's response to worldwide poverty

Islam Practices

The Oneness of God and the supremacy of Allah's will

Key beliefs of Sunni and Shi'a Muslims

The Imamate

The nature of God (Transcendence and Immanence)

Angels

Predestination

Life after death

Prophethood and Adam

Prophethood and Ibrahim

Prophethood and Muhammad

The Holy Books in Islam

Islam Practices



KNOWLEDGE CHECKLIST

The five Pillars and the Ten Obligatory Acts

Salah: the daily prayers

Sawm: Fasting

The Night of Power

Zakat: alms giving- including Khums and Sadaq

Hajj: Pilgrimage

Jihad: including greater and lesser

The festivals of Id-UL-Fitr and Id-UL- Adha

The festival of Ashura

Paper 2- Thematic Studies

Theme A: Relationships and the Family

Christian teaching about human sexuality

Sexual relationships before and outside of marriage

Contraception and family planning

Christian teaching about marriage

Divorce and remarriage

Religious teaching about the nature of family in the 21st Century

Religious teaching about the purpose of family in the 21st Century

Religious attitudes to Gender equality

Theme B: Religion and Life

The origins of the universe

The value of the world

The use and abuse of the environment

Pollution

The use and abuse of animals

The origins of human life

Abortion

Euthanasia

Death and the afterlife

Theme D: Religion, Peace and Conflict

Understanding, justice, peace, forgiveness and conflict

Violent protest and terrorism

Reasons for war

Nuclear war and weapons of mass destruction

The just war theory

Holy War and religion as a cause of war

Pacifism and peace-making

Religious responses to victims of war

Theme E: Religion, Crime and Punishment

What is crime and punishment

Reasons for committing a crime

Christian attitudes to lawbreakers and different types of crime

The aims of punishment

Christian attitudes to suffering and causing suffering to others

Christian attitudes to the treatment of lawbreakers

Forms of punishment- including community service, prison, and corporal punishment

Christian attitudes to forgiveness



REVISION

Revision Material

There is a selection of pre-approved revision material in our class Teams folder

Students will be given packs of “zigzag” knowledge organisers

Useful Revision Websites

BBC Bitesize (offers interactive notes and tests)

Seneca Learning (provides in-depth content, practice questions, and personalized learning tailored to your needs.

Revision World- provides access to past papers

[IsThatMrHarrison ? - YouTube](#) – a set of video resources produced by one of our own ESF teachers

Homework and Independent Study

Homework

Each week you will be set a homework task which has a deadline assigned to it.

This will be marked and returned to you.

These tasks will be in the form of:

Homework Booklets

Seneca Learning

Exam Style Questions

Revision tasks

Learning (particularly quotes from both the Bible and Qur'an)

Independent Study

Each week you should also spend 2 additional hours studying for this subject.

The suggested tasks for independent study are:

Creating mind maps or flash cards using the GCSE RS revision guide.

Creating mind maps or flash cards using “Is that Mr Harrison?” online videos.

Completing the GCSE Religious Studies tasks on Seneca.

Completing the revision tasks in the revision guides provided in Teams

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Textbooks and Revision Guides

Publisher	Title	Author(s)	ISBN
Oxford University Press	AQA Religious Studies A- Christianity	Marianne Flemming Peter Smith David Worden	0198370334
Oxford University Press	AQA Religious Studies A- Islam	Marianne Flemming Peter Smith David Worden	0198370342
Oxford University Press	AQA GCSE Religious Studies A: Christianity and Islam Revision Guide:(GCSE Religious Studies for AQA)	Marianne Flemming Peter Smith Harriot Power	0198422830



READING LIST

Additional Reading

This additional reading list has been created to allow you to identify books that you can read for pleasure that have a strong link to Religious Studies.

Christianity

Good News Bible

Christianity – a short introduction-(Ward, Keith)

The pilgrim's guide to Lourdes and the surrounding area- (Houseley, David)

Who Moved the Stone- (Morrison, Frank)

The Problem of Pain- (Lewis, C S)

The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe- (Lewis C S)

If I Could Ask God Anything: Awesome Bible Answers for Curious Kids-(Kathryn Slattery)

Islam

Islam - A dictionary Maqsood- (Ruqaiyyah Waris)

Islam –A new approach- (Thompson, Jan)

Islam - A very short introduction- (Ruthven, Malise)

The Koran-(Dawood, N. J)

The Koran - A very short introduction- (Cook, Michael A)

Muhammad and Islam- (White-Thomson, Stephen)

Nine parts of desire - the hidden world of Islamic women- (Brooks, Geraldine)

The Secret Diary of a British Muslim Aged 13 ¾- (Ilyas, Tez)

Theme B: Religion and Life

Animal rights- (Biram, Tracy)

Cruelty to animals (Hibbert, Adam)

Debating animal rights- (Acred, Cara)

Assisted suicide-(Acred, Cara)

Euthanasia-(Biram, Tracy)

Discussing abortion- (Biram, Tracy)

Theme A: Religion and the family

True Love- (Jones, L Dr, Richards, C Dr)

The Puzzle of Sex – (Vardy, Peter)

Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up For Education And Changed The World- (Yousafzai Malala)

Theme D: Religion, Peace and Conflict

Why do people fight wars?- (Brownlie, Alison)

Night- (Wiesel, Elie)

The Hiding Place- (Corrie Ten Boom)

We are displaced: my journey and stories from refugee girls around the world- (Yousafzai, Malala and Welch, Liz)

Refugee Boy- (Zephaniah, Benjamin)

Terror Kid- (Zephaniah, Benjamin)

Theme E: Religion, Crime and Punishment

The Death Penalty- (Stearman, Kaye)

Crime and Punishment (Shakespeare's World- (Elgin, Kathy)

ext to be added here.





CHRIST'S COLLEGE

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Principal Julie Normanton

Christ's College, Pennywell Road, Sunderland, SR4 8PG

T: 0191 534 4444 E: enquiries@christscollege.org.uk

www.christscollege.org.uk



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