

Religious Studies

AQA



Penwortham Girls'
High School

Introduction: The study of religion has never been so relevant: religion has an integral part to play in global politics and in contemporary British society which is increasingly diverse, with many religious communities at its heart. Global conflicts have increasing links with religious affiliation and pupils need the tools to understand this and make their own informed judgements. This GCSE course aims to help students make sense of that which gives meaning and purpose to so many: their religious faith. Girls are encouraged to question everything – developing into enquiring young women with their own justified opinions about the most important of life's questions.

Description of the course: In this course students will consider different beliefs and attitudes to religious and non-religious issues in contemporary British society. In Year 10, students study the beliefs, teachings and practices of both Christianity and Islam, developing an understanding of complex scriptural references. In Year 11 students apply their knowledge of Christianity and Islam to the study of 4 themes: Relationships and Families; Religion and Life; Crime and Punishment; Religion, Peace and Conflict.

How you will learn: Students learn via the use of presentations, newspaper articles, video clips, text books and Philosophy for Children discussions as well as from visiting speakers from the two faiths. Girls will be taught how to research information accurately and how to 'skim' and 'scan' to obtain the most important information from any text. They will use technology such as kindles, online quizzes and SMART board apps to further embed their learning. Students are encouraged to share their religious beliefs and attitudes and develop their own beliefs through evaluation skills.

Students will sit regular mock exams in exam conditions to develop the required skills for the final examinations.

Assessment : Paper 1: Beliefs and Practices: Christianity (48 marks) and Islam (48 marks): 1 hour 45 minutes (50% of the final mark) taken at the end of Year 11.

Paper 2: Thematic Studies: 4 x Themes (24 marks each): 1 hour 45 minutes (50% of the final mark) taken at the end of Year 11. (A - Relationships and Families; B - Religion and Life; D- Religion, Peace and Conflict and E – Crime & Punishment.)

Using this qualification: A qualification in RS is useful in any career where an understanding of peoples' beliefs and culture is necessary and also where skills in debate, critical thinking and analysing evidence is required. RS is particularly useful in any of the following professions: Law, medicine, journalism, nursing, social work, teaching and the police.

Subject Leader: Miss Brooks