

GCSE Students views on RS.....

"I love learning about other people's religions, what they believe, how they practice their beliefs, what motivates them to make certain sacrifices and what values they promote"

"Studying religion at GCSE has been so interesting, I now want to take this further in my education / career"

"We have to do so much writing in such little time which can sometimes be quite scary but Miss Brooks is really helpful at providing strategies to help us improve"

"It's really clear to see how RS will be helpful to me in whatever career choice I choose to make particularly in a multi-faith country like Britain."

"It's really interesting to see all the similarities between Islam and Christianity rather than focusing on the differences like the media does"

"I've mainly achieved above my target grade on all assessments"

FAQS

Is the GCSE tiered?

No. There is only one paper; no foundation or higher tiers.

Do I have to believe in God to take RS?

Not at all. This is an academic study of religion & beliefs. Your own beliefs do not reflect your ability to be successful.

Aren't all answers 'right' in RS?

No. There is a lot to learn in the GCSE that you can answer correctly/incorrectly. You have to learn facts, quotations, teachings & beliefs that must be accurate.

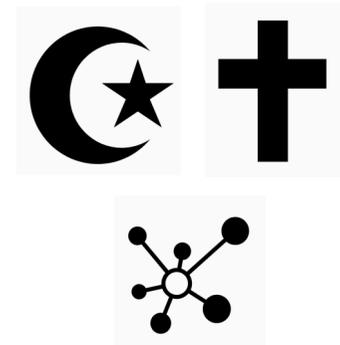
Is RS an easy option?

There is no such thing as an easy option. The subjects you will find 'easiest' will be the ones you enjoy learning about as being successful in any subject at GCSE requires a lot of extra work outside the classroom.



GCSE Religious Studies

**Christianity
&
Islam**



Why choose GCSE Religious Studies?



Religious Studies is a subject that is multi-disciplinary which means it links to other subjects such as History and English. However, it is unique as it **gives students an opportunity to develop their knowledge & understanding of religion, philosophy & ethics.**



GCSE RS is looked on favorably as a subject which gives a foundation to go on to study many other subjects. For example, Law, Philosophy, Sociology and Psychology. It is academically rigorous and **requires a high level of written skills** such as note taking, referencing and evaluation.



GCSE RS is a good subject to consider if you are thinking of **any career which requires working with other people**, especially when it involves differences of opinion. For example, law, medicine, social work, public services & education.



As with many subjects, RS promotes personal development skills that are useful beyond GCSE. Being able to express an opinion, listen to others and form logical arguments are **transferable skills.**

Course content

The course is divided into two papers: Religions and Themes. Each paper is worth 50% of their final grade.

Religions



Christianity

Beliefs and teachings

- * The nature of God:
- * Jesus Christ and salvation

Practices

- * Worship and sacraments
- * Pilgrimage, celebrations & the worldwide Church



Islam

Beliefs and teachings

- * Key Beliefs
- * Authority

Practices

- * Worship
- * Duties and festivals

Themes

Religious, philosophical and ethical studies themes:

- Theme A: Relationships and families
- Theme B: Religion and life.
- Theme D: Religion, peace and conflict
- Theme E: Religion, crime and punishment.



How it's assessed



- Written exams
- 2 x 1 hour 45 minutes exams
- 2 x 96 marks, plus 9 marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPaG)

Question types

1 mark	Multiple choice	A01
2 marks	Give/name two...	A01
4 marks	Explain two...	A01
5 marks	Explain two... refer to sacred writings or another	A01
12 marks	Evaluate...	A02

A01: Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of religion and beliefs including: • beliefs, practices and sources of authority • influence on individuals, communities and societies • similarities and differences within and/or between religions and beliefs.

A02: Analyse and evaluate aspects of religion and belief, including their significance and influence.

Specification content of the religions and themes

