

GCSE Ethics: Religious Studies

OPTION

GCSE Religious Studies (Ethics) is for students who have an interest in contemporary issues and a desire to explore questions and issues affecting daily life within a multicultural society. It allows students to gain a knowledge and understanding of world religious traditions as well as enabling them to address fundamental questions about life. By acquiring the ability to explore questions and issues, students are provided with a solid foundation for continuing intellectual, spiritual and moral development throughout adulthood. The approach to GCSE Religious Studies (Ethics) has a vigorous theological, philosophical, ethical and sociological base which ensures the relevance of the subject in today's society.

Students follow the AQA Religious Studies A full course option comprised of two components. Component 1 is the study of religious beliefs, teachings and practices within Christianity and Sikhism. Component 2 is the thematic studies of: relationships and families, religion and life, religion, peace and conflict and religion, crime and punishment.

What skills are needed for this course:

- An enquiring and open mind.
- Ability to form a balanced argument in both verbal and written forms.
- An interest in all cultures and religions.

The course aims to:

- Address fundamental questions in life, including moral issues, beliefs and behaviour.
- Guide students to develop and strengthen their skills in discussion, debate and academic writing.
- Make appropriate references to religious teachings, text and practices.
- Develop knowledge, skills and understanding to provide a solid foundation for continuing intellectual and spiritual moral development throughout adulthood.

Coursework:

- There is no coursework.

Examination:

- This is worth 100% of the final mark.
- There are two 1 hour 45 minute exams - one exam for each component.

There are 96 marks (plus 3 marks for SPaG) for the Thematic Studies. There are 96 marks (plus 6 marks for SPaG) for the study of religious beliefs, teachings and practices within Christianity and Sikhism.

Component 1: The study of religious beliefs, teachings and practices within Christianity and Sikhism (50% of the final grade).

Component 2: Thematic Studies (50% of the final grade).

Progression Pathways to further and higher education:

- IB World Religions, IB Philosophy, A-level Religious Studies (Philosophy and Ethics), Sociology, Law, Psychology, Criminology, Politics, History and English Literature and Language.

Career Opportunities:

- Politics, Law Enforcement and the Law, Education and Social Work, Counsellor, Community Development Officer, Civil Service, Charity Worker, Youth Worker, Advice Worker, Archivist, Teacher and many more.