



### Why should I study GCSE Religious Studies?



GCSE Religious Studies provides students with the necessary skills to understand and empathise with other communities and cultures, whilst also understanding their role in their community. They will be able to critically evaluate religious and non-religious arguments, and apply them to everyday situations. Knowledge and understanding of Human Rights, Law, British Values and our chosen religions and themes will be developed in order to create well-balanced and evaluated arguments. A large part of the assessment focuses on extended written work based on a provocative statement which challenges your beliefs and opinions.

### What will I study?



**GCSE Religious Studies is studied in three units:**

- 1) Christianity: Beliefs, Teachings and Practices**
- 2) Judaism: Beliefs, Teachings and Practices**
- 3) Thematic Studies**
  - Theme A – Relationships and Families
  - Theme B – Religion and Life
  - Theme D – War and Conflict
  - Theme E – Religion, Crime and Punishment

### How will I be assessed?



GCSE Religious Studies is assessed in two exams at the end of the course.

- Paper 1: lasting 1 hour and 45 minutes. Worth 50% of final grade.
  - Section A: Christianity: Beliefs, Teachings and Practices (51 marks)
  - Section B: Judaism: Beliefs, Teachings and Practices (51 marks)Question types: multiple-choice, short answers, extended answer examination
- Paper 2: examination lasting 1 hour and 45 minutes. Worth 50% of final grade.
  - All four themes (24 marks each)Question types: multiple-choice, short answers, extended answer

### Which skills will I develop and use?



This course will help you to develop the following skills:

- Create sustained and reasoned arguments and reach substantiated conclusions based on various current affair issues like relationships, our use of the planet and treatment of criminals.
- Understand the beliefs and practices of two major world religions and engage in conversation with these communities.
- Critically compare religious and non-religious viewpoints on current affairs
- Critical thinking and communication (both verbal and written) to evaluate arguments and viewpoints.

### How will I be able to use this subject in my future career?



Religious Studies is a sought-after qualification on your CV. The discussions and debates involved opens numerous doors into journalism, law, media and education sectors. Whilst the building of empathy skills further improves your employability in Public Services and Health and Social Care. The study of Religious Studies allows all students to be citizens of the world beyond education, whilst providing you with the necessary skills to study a variety of subjects post-16.