



Key Stage: 5

Subject: Religious Studies

Aims of the subject: At Key Stage 5, Religious Studies is a popular option subject. Our curriculum follows the AQA A-level specification with a focus upon Christianity as the religion studied alongside units in Philosophy and Ethics. For pupils who have attended Ripley from year 7 and those who join the school in year 12, the delivery of this course encompasses our department aim of engaging pupils with a rigorous academic study of religion whilst broadening their understanding of challenging philosophical concepts which address many of the 'Big Questions' that all human beings will consider during their life time. Through studying ethical theories and applying them to ethical issues which are at the forefront of modern ethical debates, pupils are given further opportunities to develop advanced skills of critical analysis and evaluation whilst continually being challenged to develop informed personal options and the skills required to equip them to defend a view point or analytically challenge an opinion held by themselves or others.

A-Level Examination Board: AQA

Assessment Overview: Internal exams in January and May of Year 12, 1 internal 'mock' exam in January of Year 13 and 2 external exams at the end of year 13. There is no coursework element for this subject.

	What will I study?	Assessment
Year 12	<p>Ethics: Situation Ethics, Virtue Ethics and Natural Moral Law and the application of those ethical theories to a range of contemporary moral issues. The meaning of right and wrong.</p> <p>Philosophy: Religious Experience, Miracles, Death and the Afterlife, Evil and Suffering.</p> <p>Study of Religion: Beliefs about God, Sources of Authority, Good conduct and key moral principles, Expressions of religious identity,</p>	<p>Sample exam questions, essays, quizzes and short answer tests are used both within and outside of lessons to assess pupil's understanding.</p> <p>Mock Exam in January</p> <p>Internal exams in May</p>

Year 13	<p>Ethics: Freewill and moral responsibility, Conscience, Bentham and Kant.</p> <p>Philosophy: Arguments for the Existence of God, Religious Language.</p> <p>Study of Religion: Gender and Sexuality, Christianity and Science, The challenge of secularisation, Religious Pluralism.</p>	<p>Sample exam questions, essays, quizzes and short answer tests are used both within and outside of lessons to assess pupil's understanding.</p> <p>Mock exam in January</p> <p>2 external exams in June</p>
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Suggestions for wider reading

- A leaflet detailing wider reading is available in the JCL. The RE Department also displays a range of linked fiction books which address the topics studied from a range of view points.
- RS Revision Magazine is subscribed to by the school and copies are reference only in the JCL
- Relevant wider reading articles are provided for students in lessons either as a hard copy or through links published on Edmodo.
- All pupils have all been provided with a core textbook, on loan from the school library. Reading the chapters which are relevant to the topics studied would be beneficial.