



KEY STAGE 4 CURRICULUM 2024-25

In key stage 4, all pupils study the **AQA Religious Studies** full course GCSE (specification A – Christian and Muslim beliefs and practices as well as four separate thematic studies).

YEAR 10

This year provides a solid foundation for pupils now studying their full course Religious Studies GCSE (AQA). We focus heavily at the start on Islam as a deeper understanding of Muslim beliefs and practices is essential to a true grasp of the ethical issues posed in all 4 of the units we cover for Paper 2.

10.1A – Theme B - Religion and life – PAPER 2 (6 lessons focusing on areas not covered in KS3, namely sanctity of life, abortion and euthanasia) **CHRISTIANITY & ISLAM**

10.1 – Islamic beliefs – PAPER 1 (21 lessons) **ISLAM**

10.2 – Islamic practices – PAPER 1 (19 lessons) **ISLAM**

10.3 – Theme E - Crime & punishment – PAPER 2 (16 lessons) **CHRISTIANITY & ISLAM**

10.4 – Theme A - Relationships and families – PAPER 2 (12 lessons – unit to be completed at start of year 11) **CHRISTIANITY & ISLAM**

Each unit ends with a GCSE-style assessment comprising a 1, 2, 4, 5 and 12-mark question in timed, exam-like conditions. The end of year 10 mock exam assessment for RS is a 1 hour 45-minute exam covering 2 units from **PAPER 1 (Islamic beliefs & Islamic practices)** and 2 units from **PAPER 2 (Religion and life & Crime & punishment)**.



YEAR 11

This year completes our pupils' GCSE studies, focusing on an in-depth exploration of Christian beliefs and practices before spending time revising for the summer exams.

10.4 (continued from Year 10) – Theme B - Relationships and families – PAPER 2
(6 lessons) **CHRISTIANITY & ISLAM**

11.1 – Christian beliefs – PAPER 1 (21 lessons) **CHRISTIANITY**

11.2 – Christian practices – PAPER 1 (20 lessons) **CHRISTIANITY**

11.3 – Theme D – Religion, peace and conflict – PAPER 2 (6 lessons focusing on areas not covered in KS3, namely Holy War in Christianity and Islam and Muslim responses to conflict, forgiveness, violent protest and terrorism) **CHRISTIANITY & ISLAM**

Each unit ends with a GCSE-style assessment comprising a 1, 2, 4, 5 and 12-mark question in timed, exam-like conditions. There is at least 1 set of formal mock exams during year 11 and, as with year 10, all pupils will sit a 1 hour 45-minute exam covering 2 units from **PAPER 1 (Christian beliefs & Christian practices)** and 2 units from **PAPER 2 (Relationships and families & Religion, peace and conflict)**.

The final external exams for RS are 2 x 1 hour 45-minute exams. **PAPER 1** covers all 4 units studied (**Islamic beliefs & Islamic practices, Christian beliefs & Christian practices**). **PAPER 2** covers all 4 units studied (**Theme A - Relationships and families, Theme B - Religion and life, Theme D – Religion, peace and conflict, Theme E - Crime & punishment**).