



KEY STAGE 5 A LEVEL CURRICULUM 2024-25

Pupils opting for Religious Studies A level study the **AQA Religious Studies GCE** (specification 7062B – Christianity). The 2 papers studied are divided into the following components:

Component 1: Philosophy of religion and ethics

Section A: Philosophy of religion

- Arguments for the existence of God
- Evil and suffering
- Religious experience
- Religious language
- Miracles
- Self and life after death.

Section B: Ethics and religion

- Ethical theories
- Issues of human life and death
- Issues of animal life and death
- Introduction to meta ethics
- Free will and moral responsibility
- Conscience
- Bentham and Kant.

This paper is assessed through a written exam lasting 3 hours. There are a maximum of 100 marks available from this paper and it counts towards 50% of the full A-level.

Component 2: Study of religion and dialogues

Section A: Study of religion (Christianity), covering the following topics:

- Sources of wisdom and authority
- God/gods/ultimate reality
- Self, death and the afterlife
- Good conduct and key moral principles
- Expression of religious identity
- Religion, gender and sexuality
- Religion and science
- Religion and secularisation
- Religion and religious pluralism.

Section B: The dialogue between philosophy of religion and religion.

- How religion is influenced by, and has an influence on philosophy of religion in relation to the issues studied.

Section C: The dialogue between ethical studies and religion.

- How religion is influenced by, and has an influence on ethical studies in relation to the issues studied.



This paper is also assessed through a written exam lasting 3 hours. There are a maximum of 100 marks available from this paper and it counts towards 50% of the full A-level.

YEAR 12

Year 12 pupils are taught by 2 specialist RS teachers with a 6:3 split over the 9 lessons allocated per fortnight.

Teacher A (6/9 lessons per fortnight) delivers the areas listed below in the order they appear:

Component 1: Philosophy of religion

Section A: Philosophy of religion

- Religious experience (*9 lessons*)
- Arguments for the existence of God – the Teleological argument (*9 lessons*)
- Arguments for the existence of God – the Cosmological argument (*9 lessons*)
- Arguments for the existence of God – the Ontological argument (*9 lessons*)
- Miracles (*9 lessons*)
- Evil and suffering (*9 lessons*)
- Religious language (*9 lessons*)
- Self and life after death. (*9 lessons*)

Component 2: Study of religion and dialogues

Section A: Study of religion (Christianity), covering the following topics:

- Sources of wisdom and authority (*10 lessons*)
- God/gods/ultimate reality (*10 lessons*)
- Self, death and the afterlife (*10 lessons*)
- Good conduct and key moral principles (*10 lessons*)

Teacher B (3/9 lessons per fortnight) delivers the areas listed below in the order they appear:

Component 1: The study of ethics

Section B: Ethics and religion

- Ethical theories – Normative ethical theories (*3 lessons*)
- Ethical theories – Natural Moral Law (*9 lessons*)
- Ethical theories – Situation Ethics (*9 lessons*)
- Ethical theories – Virtue Ethics (*6 lessons*)
- Application of these ethical theories to moral issues of theft and lying (*3 lessons*)
- Issues of human life and death (*9 lessons*)
- Issues of animal life and death (*10 lessons*)
- Introduction to meta ethics (*9 lessons*)

Each component ends with a GCE-style assessment comprising either a 10 or a 15-mark question in timed, exam-like conditions.

The end of year 12 mock exam assessment for RS is a 3-hour exam covering topics from **Philosophy of religion** and **the Study of Ethics**.



YEAR 13

Year 13 pupils are taught by 2 specialist RS teachers with a 6:3 split over the 9 lessons allocated per fortnight.

Teacher A (6/9 lessons per fortnight) delivers the areas listed below in the order they appear:

Component 2: Study of religion and dialogues

Section A: Study of religion (Christianity), covering the following topics:

- Good conduct and key moral principles **recap** (3 lessons)
- Expression of religious identity (6 lessons)

Component 1: The study of ethics

Section B: Ethics and religion

- Free will and moral responsibility (6 lessons)
- Conscience (8 lessons)
- Bentham and Kant. (4 lessons)

Component 2: Study of religion and dialogues

Section B: The dialogue between philosophy of religion and religion.

- How religion is influenced by, and has an influence on philosophy of religion in relation to the issues studied. (20+ lessons)

Section C: The dialogue between ethical studies and religion.

- How religion is influenced by, and has an influence on ethical studies in relation to the issues studied. (20+ lessons)

Teacher B (3/9 lessons per fortnight) delivers the areas listed below in the order they appear:

Component 2: Study of religion and dialogues

Section A: Study of religion (Christianity), covering the following topics:

- Religion, gender and sexuality (10 lessons)
- Religion and science (10 lessons)
- Religion and secularisation (10 lessons)
- Religion and religious pluralism (10 lessons)

Each component ends with a GCE-style assessment comprising either a 10 or a 15-mark question in timed, exam-like conditions.

The mid-year 13 mock exam assessment for RS is a 3-hour exam covering topics from **Philosophy of religion, Ethics and religion** and **the Study of religion (Christianity)**.