

# GCSE RELIGIOUS STUDIES

A subject that makes you THINK!



# We study GCSE Religious Studies because:

1) We live in a diverse society: understanding religious beliefs, ideas and outlooks, means we can understand the world in which we live.

2) Skills: RS develops

- *communication skills*
- *evaluation skills*
- *research skills*
- *using evidence / logical thinking*
- *empathy*

3) It is a subject which asks the '*Big Questions*' in life.



**Year 10** - Beliefs, teachings and practices of Christianity and three thematic studies:

### **Relationships and families**

Sex, marriage and divorce  
Families and gender equality

### **Religion and life**

The origins and value of the universe  
Abortion, euthanasia and animal testing

### **Religion, peace and conflict**

Religion, violence, terrorism and war  
Influences of religion and belief on war and peace in 21st century



# Year 11

Beliefs, teachings and practices of Islam  
and one thematic studies

## *Religion, crime and the causes of crime*

Corporal punishment and death penalty.

Forgiveness; reasons for crime

Religion and punishment



# Assessment

GCSE Religious Studies  
is assessed only by exam  
- there is no coursework.

There are **two exams** at the  
**end of Year 11**. Each is 1 hour  
and 45 minutes long.



You should answer questions from **four** themes.

0 1

**Theme A: relationships and families**

0 1

1 Which one of the following best expresses the religious view that one purpose of marriage is to have children?

[1 mark]

- A Procreation.
- B Contraception.
- C Stability.
- D Polygamy.

0 1

2 Give **two** religious beliefs about the nature of the family.

[2 marks]

0 1

3 Explain **two** contrasting beliefs in contemporary British society about the use of artificial contraception within marriage.

In your answer you should refer to the main religious tradition of Great Britain and one or more other religious traditions.

[4 marks]

0 1

4 Explain **two** religious beliefs about the role of parents in a religious family.

Refer to sacred writings or another source of religious belief and teaching in your answer.

[5 marks]

0 1

5 'Divorce is never right.'

Evaluate this statement.

In your answer you:

- should give reasoned arguments in support of this statement
- should give reasoned arguments to support a different point of view
- should refer to religious arguments
- may refer to non-religious arguments
- should reach a justified conclusion.

[12 marks]  
[+ 3 SPaG marks]

## Some of the careers Religious Studies is useful for:

- Law
- Police
- Army
- Medicine
- Business
- Media



### Metropolitan Police Recruitment Officer:

"It shows that a person has some understanding of the beliefs and values of others."

Cardiologist: "When you work in a hospital, you come across quite a lot of people from varying backgrounds. Studying RS prepared me for this."

- Other humanities subjects (eg psychology / sociology / politics)

(Former GCSE RS students are studying these subjects at top universities eg Cambridge, UCL, St. George's Medical School, Cardiff Medical School, Nottingham, Brunel)

# Examples of the careers Religious Studies is useful for.

CLICK ON THE IMAGE TO HEAR HER THOUGHTS.

## Sena - My Future. My Career. My RE.

01:18



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Sena is a law student at Oxford Brookes University, and she's found that a lot of the skills she learned while studying RE at school have been really valuable: learning to debate, seeing other people's points of view, even making the case for a point of view that she disagrees with. There was the opportunity to immerse herself in other cultures, gain a deeper understanding of the world and learn how to consider different perspectives.

Studying RE at GCSE and A Level provides you with important life skills, and offers opportunities in further education and a wide variety of careers. Visit the [MY FUTURE. MY CAREER. MY RE.](#) website to find more real stories about how Religious Studies benefits students and young professionals, along with free resources for schools.

Main Topic

[Education](#)

# Examples of the careers Religious Studies is useful for.

CLICK ON THE IMAGE TO HEAR HIS THOUGHTS.

## Arun - My Future. My Career. My RE.

01:17



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Arun is a junior doctor and every day he meets people of different faiths, cultures and lifestyles. The knowledge and skills he learned in RE help him to provide the right care plan for each of his patients. No other subject provides the same opportunity to find out about different communities from around the world, helping you understand different cultures and have empathy for people from all walks of life.

Studying RE at GCSE and A Level provides you with important life skills, and offers opportunities in further education and a wide variety of careers. Visit the [MY FUTURE, MY CAREER, MY RE](#) website to find more real stories about how Religious Studies benefits students and young professionals, along with free resources for schools.

### Main Topic

Education

Related Topic(s)



# THINKING ABOUT.....

## GCSE Religious Studies



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gIQ37A-2EMo>