

# RELIGIOUS STUDIES KEY STAGE 4 CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

By the end of Key Stage 4, students should:

<b>Know</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Core beliefs, teachings and practices of the religions studied.</li> <li>Key sources of wisdom and authority and how they inform belief and practice.</li> <li>Diversity within religions, including differing interpretations and traditions.</li> <li>Similarities and differences within and between religions and worldviews.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How religious and non-religious beliefs influence ethical views and responses to contemporary issues.</li> <li>The role and significance of religion and belief in modern British society.</li> <li>Essential religious and subject-specific terminology, used accurately.</li> </ul>
<b>Do</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explain religious beliefs, teachings and practices clearly and accurately.</li> <li>Support explanations with relevant evidence, including references to sources of wisdom and authority.</li> <li>Describe and compare religious, non-religious and intra-faith viewpoints.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Analyse the influence of beliefs on moral, social and philosophical issues.</li> <li>Construct reasoned and balanced arguments responding to different perspectives.</li> <li>Evaluate claims and ideas, reaching justified conclusions.</li> <li>Apply knowledge and skills effectively in AQA GCSE examination-style questions.</li> </ul>
<b>Appreciate</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The importance of religion and belief in shaping identity, values and behaviour.</li> <li>The need for respectful and informed dialogue in a diverse society.</li> <li>The complexity of moral, ethical and philosophical issues.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The value of critical thinking, empathy and reflection.</li> <li>The relevance of Religious Studies to personal development, citizenship and future learning</li> </ul>

## Curriculum coverage

	Topic	Sub topic	Coverage
Year 10	Judaism: Beliefs and Teachings	Key Beliefs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nature of G-D</li> <li>The divine presence</li> <li>Beliefs about life after death, judgement and resurrection</li> <li>Nature and role of the Messiah</li> </ul>
		The Covenant and Mitzvot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Promised Land and the Covenant</li> <li>Ten Commandments</li> <li>Key moral principles: justice, healing the world, charity and kindness to others</li> <li>Sanctity of human life</li> <li>Free will and Mitzvot</li> <li>Mitzvot between man and God, and man and man</li> </ul>
	Judaism: Practices	The synagogue and worship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The importance of the synagogue</li> <li>Design and religious features</li> <li>Public areas of worship</li> <li>Shabbat in the home and synagogue</li> <li>Worship in the home and private prayer</li> <li>Tenakh and Talmud and their study, use and significance in daily life</li> </ul>
		Family life and festivals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rituals and their significance</li> <li>Dietary laws and their significance</li> <li>Festivals and their importance for Jews in Great Britain today</li> </ul>
	Christianity: Beliefs and Teachings	Key Beliefs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The nature of God</li> <li>Creation</li> <li>Afterlife</li> </ul>
		Jesus Christ and Salvation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The incarnation and Jesus as the Son of God</li> <li>The crucifixion, resurrection and ascension</li> <li>Sin, including original sin</li> <li>Salvation</li> <li>Atonement</li> </ul>
	Christianity: Practices	Worship and Festivals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Different forms of worship and their significance</li> <li>Prayer and its significance</li> <li>The role and meaning of sacraments</li> <li>Role and importance of pilgrimage</li> </ul>
		Church and Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Role of the church within the local community</li> <li>Place of mission, evangelism and Church growth</li> <li>The importance of the worldwide Church</li> </ul>

**Curriculum Coverage continued:**

	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Sub Topic</b>	<b>Coverage</b>
<b>Year 11</b>	<b>Religion, Crime and Punishment</b>	<i>Religion, Crime and the Causes of Crime</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good and evil intentions and actions, including whether it can ever be good to cause suffering</li> <li>• Reasons for crime</li> <li>• Views about people who break the law</li> <li>• Views about different types of crime</li> </ul>
		<i>Religion and Punishment</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The aims of punishment, including retribution, deterrence and reformation</li> <li>• The treatment of criminals, including prison, corporal punishment and community service</li> <li>• Forgiveness</li> <li>• The death penalty</li> <li>• Ethical arguments related to the death penalty, including those based on the principle of utility and sanctity of life</li> </ul>
	<b>Religious, Peace and Conflict</b>	<i>Religion, Violence, Terrorism and War</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The meaning and significance of peace, justice, forgiveness and reconciliation</li> <li>• Violence, including violent protest</li> <li>• Terrorism</li> <li>• Reason for war, including greed, self-defence and retaliation</li> <li>• The Just War Theory</li> <li>• Holy war</li> <li>• Pacifism</li> </ul>
		<i>Religion and Belief in 21<sup>st</sup> Century Conflict</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Religion and belief as a cause of war and violence in the contemporary world</li> <li>• Nuclear weapons, including violent protest</li> <li>• The use of weapons of mass destruction</li> <li>• Religion and peace-making in the contemporary world</li> <li>• Religious responses to the victims of war, including the work of one present-day religious organisation</li> </ul>
	<b>Religion and Life</b>	<i>The origins and value of the universe</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Different interpretations of religious teachings around the origins of the universe</li> <li>• The relationship between scientific views and religious views</li> <li>• The value of the world and the duty of human beings to protect it</li> <li>• The use and abuse of the environment, including the use of natural resources</li> <li>• The use and abuse of animals, including animal experimentation and the use of animals for food</li> </ul>
		<i>The origins and value of human life</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The origins of life</li> <li>• The concepts of sanctity of life and quality of life</li> <li>• Abortion</li> <li>• Ethical arguments relation to abortion</li> <li>• Euthanasia</li> <li>• Beliefs about death and an afterlife, and their impact on beliefs about the value of human life</li> </ul>
	<b>Relationships and Families</b>	<i>Sex, marriage and divorce</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Human sexuality</li> <li>• Sexual relationships before and outside of marriage</li> <li>• Contraception and family planning</li> <li>• The nature and purpose of marriage</li> <li>• Same-sex marriage and cohabitation</li> <li>• Divorce and remarriage</li> <li>• Ethical arguments related to divorce</li> </ul>
		<i>Families and gender equality</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The nature of families</li> <li>• The purpose of families</li> <li>• Contemporary family issues</li> <li>• The roles of men and women</li> <li>• Gender equality</li> <li>• Gender prejudice and discrimination</li> </ul>

**Wider Key Stage 4 Curriculum**

Homework tasks will be set regularly for revision and examination practice.