

GCSE Religious Studies



ALSOP HIGH SCHOOL

AIM: Religious Studies is not about making you 'religious', it is about enabling you to think for yourself about religious and moral issues. It is about you, your life and the issues you will face when you leave school and go into the multi-ethnic, multi-faith society, which is the UK. The main advantage is that it prepares you for life and gives you the skills you will need to make the decisions every adult faces.

Where will it take you?

It is excellent preparation for:

- A Level Social Sciences (law, sociology and psychology).
- A Level Religious Studies, History and English.
- Jobs that appreciate the skills GCSE Religious Studies will give you such as, medicine, the police, the armed forces and the caring professions (social work, nursing and the probation service).

What and how will you learn?

Your studies will be based on Christianity and Islam, after finding out about the origins and beliefs of these major world religions we will go on to explore controversial issues such as; terrorism, gender roles, animal rights and life after death to name but a few. A significant proportion of the exam will focus on your own personal point of view on these interesting areas of life.

The course is 100% examination, which is split over two separate exams.

Component 1 is the study of religions, beliefs, teachings and practices and the two religions studied would be Christianity and Islam. This includes looking at the central beliefs of each religion including key figures, key texts and how these are interpreted. Students will also consider the challenges faced by Christians and Muslims today and how worship practices as well as traditions have developed and changed over time.

Component 2 is thematic studies which would see students' study four themes based around religious, philosophical and ethical issues. The four themes would be - Relationships and families, Religion and Life, Religion - Peace and Conflict and Religion - Crime and Punishment. These units will include considering a wide range of opinions on ethical and moral dilemmas and explore how religious belief impacts the world we live in today.

What homework can you expect?

Homework will be mainly based on revision and exam practice. You will also be asked to discuss the issues that we are focusing on in the classroom with people at home in order to improve your ability to express your own opinion while respecting the opinion of others.

For further information please see Miss Johnson