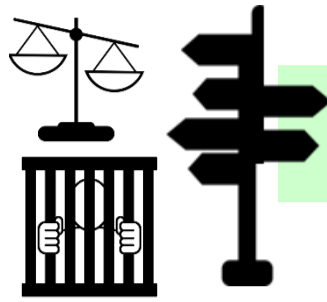


GCSE RS Learning Journey

Paper 2



Theme E: Crime and Punishment

Students explore religious and non-religious perspectives on the causes of crime and the impact of crime on individuals and society. The theme examines different aims of punishment, including retribution, deterrence, and reformation, and considers debates around forgiveness and justice. Students also study contrasting views on corporal and capital punishment, evaluating the influence of religious teachings and secular arguments on these issues.

Paper 2

Theme D: War and Conflict

Students examine religious and ethical arguments about the causes and consequences of conflict, as well as different approaches to achieving peace. Areas of study include violence, protest, and terrorism; the morality and impact of weapons of mass destruction; and the role of peacekeeping and reconciliation. Students also explore religious teachings on forgiveness and justice, alongside responses to victims of war, including the work of charities and faith-based organisations.

Paper 2

Theme A: Relationships and Families

This theme covers religious beliefs regarding topics like marriage, divorce, family life, and sexual relationships. Key areas of study include the nature and purpose of marriage and family, contrasting views on sex before and outside marriage, same-sex marriage, and divorce. The exam also requires knowledge of different ethical perspectives on these issues and specific religious beliefs and quotes.



Paper 2

Theme B: Religion of Life

Students explore the origins and value of the universe from both religious and non-religious perspectives, considering differing views on the use and care of animals and the environment. The theme then develops into an examination of the origins and value of human life, analysing a range of religious, philosophical, and ethical arguments about topics such as abortion, euthanasia, and beliefs about the afterlife.



Paper 1

Islam: Practices

Students explore aspects of worship including the Five Pillars of Sunni Islam and the Ten Obligatory Acts of Shi'a Islam. Study of duties include the role and significance of Sawm (fasting), Zakah, Hajj and the different understandings of Jihad. The origins and meanings of festivals such as Id-ul Adha, Id-ul-Fitr and Ashura are studied alongside their importance for Muslims in Great Britain



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Paper 1

Christianity: Practices

Students explore different forms of worship and their significance including prayer, the role and meaning of the sacraments of baptism and Eucharist, pilgrimage, and festivals of Christmas and Easter. Study also includes investigation of the role of the church in the local and worldwide community.



Paper 1

Islam: Beliefs

Students deepen knowledge and understanding of religious beliefs and teachings with a study of Islam including similarities and differences between core beliefs for Sunni and Shi'a Muslims, Tawhid, the nature of Allah, predestination and afterlife, and authorities.



Paper 1

Christianity: Beliefs

GCSE RE begins with study of common and divergent views within Christianity about how core beliefs and teachings are understood and expressed. Study includes the nature of God, Trinity, creation, the incarnation and life of Jesus, sin and salvation through grace, law and the Spirit.



Core RE

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At GCSE, students deepen their KS3 understanding of theological, philosophical, and ethical issues by studying both religious and non-religious worldviews in greater depth. They critically examine how beliefs and practices are expressed and lived, and analyse their influence on individuals, communities, and wider society. This learning journey builds on prior knowledge and develops the skills of explanation, analysis, and critical evaluation that are essential for success at GCSE and beyond.

KS3

