

## AQA GCSE Religious Studies

Component:	Assessment:	Topic areas:	
<b>PAPER 1:</b>  Study of Religions  Christianity and Buddhism	50%  Exam  102 marks  1 hour 45 minutes  Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> May – 9AM	<b>Christian Beliefs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The nature of God</li> <li>The problem of suffering and evil</li> <li>The Trinity</li> <li>Creation including the role of Word and Spirit John 1:1-3 and Genesis 1:1-3</li> <li>The afterlife: resurrection, life after death, judgement, heaven and hell</li> <li>Jesus' incarnation, crucifixion, resurrection and ascension</li> <li>Sin, salvation and atonement</li> </ul>	<b>Buddhist Beliefs</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The birth of Buddha, life of luxury, the Four Sights (Jataka 075), ascetic life, enlightenment</li> <li>The Four Noble Truths, including the Three Poisons, Nirvana, Enlightenment middle way, the eightfold path (Dhammapada 190–191)</li> <li>Dharma, Dependent Arising, The Three Marks of Existence</li> <li>Human Personality: the Five Aggregates, Sunyata, Buddhahood and Buddha nature</li> <li>Human Destiny: Arhat and Bodhisattva</li> </ul>
		<b>Christian Practices:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Types of worship</li> <li>Types of prayer including The Lord's Prayer</li> <li>Baptism: infant and believers</li> <li>Holy Communion</li> <li>Pilgrimage (Lourdes and Iona)</li> <li>Christmas and Easter</li> <li>Church in the local community: food banks and street pastors</li> <li>Mission, evangelism and church growth</li> <li>The worldwide church: reconciliation, persecution and charity</li> </ul>	<b>Buddhist Practices</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Places of worship and features</li> <li>Puja in the home and temple</li> <li>Chanting, mantra recitation and malas</li> <li>Meditation: samatha, vipassana and visualisations</li> <li>Death ceremonies in Theravada communities, Japan and Tibet</li> <li>Wesak, Parinirvana Day and retreats</li> <li>Karma and rebirth, karuna, metta, the five moral precepts, the six perfections</li> </ul>
<b>PAPER 2:</b>  Thematic Studies  Choose four of the six themes	50%  Exam  99 marks  1 hour 45 minutes  Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> May – 1PM	<b>Theme A: Relationships and Families</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sexuality: hetero and homosexual</li> <li>Sexual before/outside 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</li> <li>The nature of families</li> <li>The purpose of families</li> <li>Same-sex parents and polygamy</li> <li>Roles of men and women</li> </ul>	<b>Theme B: Religion and Life</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Origins of the universe: religion and science</li> <li>Stewardship, dominion, responsibility, awe and wonder</li> <li>Use of natural resources and pollution</li> <li>Using animals for experiments and food</li> <li>Origins of life: religion and science</li> <li>Sanctity and quality of life</li> <li>Abortion, euthanasia</li> <li>Death and the afterlife</li> </ul>
		<b>Theme C: Existence of God and Revelation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Design Argument</li> <li>The First Cause Argument</li> <li>Argument from miracles</li> <li>Evil and suffering</li> <li>Scientific arguments against God</li> <li>Special revelation</li> <li>Enlightenment</li> <li>General revelation</li> <li>Nature of the divine</li> </ul>	<b>Theme E: Religion, Crime and Punishment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Good/evil intentions and actions</li> <li>Reasons for crime</li> <li>Views about people who break the law</li> <li>Views about different types of crimes</li> <li>Aims of punishment</li> <li>Treatment of criminals</li> <li>Forgiveness</li> <li>The death penalty</li> </ul>

Link to St George's Academy GCSE RE Padlet: [Religious Studies at SGA \(AQA\) STUDENTS](#)

Link to AQA GCSE RS website past papers: [GCSE Religious Studies 8062 | Assessment Resources | AQA](#)

Link to SENECA learning: [📖 Free AQA Religions GCSE Revision | Seneca](#)