

# GCSE Religious Studies (World Religions, Philosophy and Ethics) & Extended Project Qualification Combined

**Exam Boards:** GCSE Religious Studies - AQA                      Extended Project Qualification - Edexcel

Students taking this option are able to gain two qualifications. One is GCSE Religious Studies and the second is an Extended Project Qualification either Level 3 (worth an AS-Level) or at Level 2 Higher GCSE standard.

## GCSE Religious Studies Aims:

This course is designed to enable you to:

- explore and learn to express your ideas and the ideas of others, about social, moral, personal, religious and/or philosophical issues
- develop a knowledge and understanding of two different religions and of Ethics and Philosophy
- understand different peoples’ beliefs, morals and ways of living.
- produce evidence and arguments to support and evaluate points of view.



The skills which are learned in Religious Studies are useful in almost all aspects of adult life. The ability to discuss issues and to support your view with suitable evidence is very important in a whole range of jobs from Police Officer to someone preparing a report about a new project for a manager of a business. Religious Studies also promotes personal development skills that are useful beyond GCSE. Being able to understand people more effectively, to express an opinion, to listen to others and form logical arguments are transferable skills. GCSE RS is looked on favourably as a subject which gives foundation to go on to study many other subjects. For example Law, Philosophy, Sociology and Psychology.

## Content & Assessment:

It is compulsory to study two world religions. These are Christianity and Buddhism. Within these religions, there are two themes, which are

Beliefs and teachings	Practices
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There are then four Religious, philosophical and ethical themes which are

Relationships and families	Existence of God and revelation
Religion and life	Religion, crime and punishment

The course will be assessed by two written examinations at the end of Year 11, which are each 1 hour 45 minutes, and include short and extended writing.

## Extended Project Qualification Overview:

Through a flexible, study-based approach, the Project helps students to develop as inquisitive, independent learners. It is a fantastic opportunity for students to experience university style study and expand their knowledge in an area of interest. As part of an EPQ students will choose a topic or area that they research in great depth. They will work independently with the support of a tutor and will plan, manage, complete and evaluate a single piece of work which can take the form of a dissertation, case study, artefact or performance. The EPQ is limitless and students can focus on any area they wish to study.

**For further information, please contact Mrs L Groom and Mr Newbury**