

RELIGIOUS STUDIES (GCSE)

Examination Board

Edexcel (Specification B: Beliefs In Action)

Overview of the course

Religious Studies will allow you to study a range of ideas regarding morality and values, including reference to a range of relevant moral issues. This opportunity to reflect on your own moral perspective, as well as that of others makes it an interesting and rewarding subject, regardless of an individual's belief. It is important that you have an enquiring mind and are prepared to listen and consider alternative viewpoints. You will develop the ability to form your own views and use evidence to support your conclusions. Religious Studies is valued as a subject that enables students to develop a critical and analytical approach to a range of questions. This is hugely beneficial if you wish to go on to study the subject beyond GCSE or to support other post-16 courses.

Course content

Students will study two religions in depth from the major faith traditions represented in the UK, as well as considering other worldviews such as Atheism, Humanism and Philosophical theories. Content for the two examination papers is divided into:

Philosophy and Social Justice (Christianity)

- Christian Beliefs
- Philosophy of Religion
- Christian Practices and Values
- Equality

Religion, Peace and Conflict (Islam)

- Muslim Beliefs
- Crime and Punishment
- Muslim Practices and Values
- Peace and Conflict

How you will be assessed

- The course is 100% examined in two written papers (each 1 hour 45 minutes). Results will be graded on a nine point scale: 1 to 9 – where 9 is the highest grade.
- The examinations will include short open response questions as well as extended writing questions.
- Assessment is based on knowledge and understanding, as well as the ability to analyse and evaluate various aspects of belief.

Post-16 options available

You can go on to study Religious Studies at A level, which is currently available in The Sandon Sixth Form.