



Religious Studies (GCSE)



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Why study Religious Studies?

Whether you consider yourself a religious person or not, it is a fact that religious belief and religious thinking has played a crucial role in the development of our society. Throughout history fundamental questions, such as: “what is the true meaning of life? What happens to us after death? How do we explain human suffering and injustice?” have long been grappled with by members of the Christian faith and others. In Religious Studies you will have chance to reflect on these issues and explore the teachings of the Catholic Church more fully. As a Catholic Community allowing our students to gain an understanding of our faith is an important aspect of the mission of Ellesmere Port Catholic High School. However, in a multi-faith country such as the UK it is also important that you have an appreciation of what those of others faith, and none, may believe about the world around us.

What key knowledge, concepts and skills will I learn?

The study of religion helps you to learn how to think critically, listen empathetically, speak thoughtfully, and write clearly—all skills that will be of great use no matter what you go on to do in life. It will also help you to better live and work in our increasingly diverse society and global world.

What attitudes and qualities are required to do well?

The ability to argue your own viewpoints clearly and concisely, but also learned to understand the viewpoints of others. To be able to understand the importance of tolerance within the community and that there are many ways to approach any issue, that different people can believe the same things for completely different reasons, and that within religions, or even within denominations, there are often many contrasting beliefs and opinions.

How will I be assessed?

100% examination (3 papers)

Which other subjects link into this course?

The academic study of religion is inherently multidisciplinary. The Religious Studies course draws from different disciplines in the humanities and the social sciences, such as history, literature, art history, and science. Studying religion thus provides you an opportunity to learn about a range of disciplinary approaches, and, even more importantly, the connections and linkages among them. In this way studying religion invites us all to think in a more interdisciplinary and integral way about the world and our place in it.

What career options are open to me?

Students of religion go on to careers in a wide variety of fields including teaching, medicine, social service, law, journalism, international business, diplomacy, and, of course, religious professions of various kinds.

For more information please visit:

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/religious-studies-a-2016.html>