

Subject: Religious Studies
(Short Course)

Teachers: Mrs Barker,
Reverend Walters

Exam Board: Eduqas

NEWPORT GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL

KS4 Curriculum Overview

Curriculum Intent & Organisation

This course provides an opportunity for pupils to explore a range of challenging questions about existence and morality. Pupils will consider a range of questions concerning belief, value, meaning, purpose, truth, and their influence on human life. The course challenges students to reflect on and develop their own values, beliefs and attitudes in the light of what they have learnt. Through the course learners will come to understand more about the world, the religious challenges it faces and their place within it.

On completion of the course, pupils will have developed:

- An understanding of a range of philosophical, ethical and religious issues.
- An understanding of Christian, Buddhist, atheist and humanist beliefs.
- Their ability to construct well-argued, well-informed, balanced and structured written arguments.
- A range of religious skills and approaches.

Pupils are taught in mixed ability groups.

Examination Information

EBACC?

P8 Bucket

Option subject examined end of Year 10 with no controlled assessment.

No

N/A

Impact of Prior Learning from KS3

During years 7 & 8 pupils begin to explore the diversity of religious and non-religious beliefs and consider the effects of belief on individuals and society. Philosophical and ethical thinking skills are developed through units such as 'Does God exist?'; 'What is a Human being?' and 'How can I know what is right and wrong?' Throughout key stage 3 pupils begin to develop their ability to discuss issues, to construct arguments, to justify viewpoints, to analyse and evaluate; to write extended answers and to read, interpret and apply religious beliefs and teachings.

Equipment Required for this course

- Standard classroom stationery

Curriculum Implementation – Areas of Focus Year 9

Autumn Term

- Christian beliefs about the nature of God
- Christian and non-religious beliefs about the origins of the universe and human life. (Including the views of Stephen Hawking, Charles Darwin and Richard Dawkins)

Spring Term

- Christian and humanist beliefs about environmental responsibility, sustainability and global citizenship.
- Christian and humanist beliefs about the nature and value of human life (including Peter Singer's views on speciesism)
- Christian beliefs about the life, nature, purpose and importance of Jesus Christ.

Summer Term

- Christian beliefs about Salvation.
- Christian, atheist and humanist beliefs about death and the afterlife.
- Buddhism: The Buddha.
- Buddhism: The Dhamma.

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Curriculum Implementation – Areas of Focus Year 10

Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Buddhism: The Four Noble Truths.• Buddhism: Human personality (the nature of humans).• Buddhism: Human destiny and ethical teachings.• Christian & Buddhist perspectives on relationships.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Christian and Buddhist perspectives on sexual relationships.• Christian and Buddhist perspectives on issues of equality, gender prejudice and discrimination.• Christian, Buddhist, atheist and humanist perspectives on the issues of abortion.• Christian, Buddhist, atheist and humanist perspectives on the issues of euthanasia.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Preparation for the examination.

Impact / Outcomes

Learning will be assessed throughout the course by:

- Regular completion of examination style questions.
- End of unit knowledge and understanding tests.
- Written responses to consolidation questions.
- Exercise book checks.

Homework

A variety of tasks will be set, including:

- Completion of examination style questions.
- Research tasks in preparation for classwork.
- Consolidation questions to review and apply learning.
- Revision for upcoming assessments.
- Preparation reading and notes ahead of a new topic.

Ways to support learning

- The following websites are useful sources of information about Christianity, Buddhism and humanism:
 - <https://request.org.uk> (Christianity)
 - www.clear-vision.org (Buddhism)
 - www.humanism.org.uk (Humanist views)
 - Buddha Bits – short videos on You Tube.
- A useful revision guide is “My Revision notes WJEC Eduqas GCSE 9 – 1 Religious Studies Route A: Covering Christianity, Buddhism, Islam and Judaism”; Publisher - Hodder Education (26 Jan. 2018).
- Pupils could support their learning in the following ways:
 - Prior to each lesson, review the work completed in the previous lesson. This will ensure pupils can connect the learning.
 - Use the websites listed above to read more widely about the topic.
 - One of the best ways to prepare for the examination is to complete additional examination questions.
 - Act on the feedback received – correct/develop points indicated as soon as possible. A detailed and accurate exercise book will be the best revision resource.

Next Steps

The GCSE short course will develop many skills that will be of use not just in studying A Level Religious Studies, but in any A level subject that requires independent, analytical and evaluative thinking. In particular, the course prepares students for A level Religious Studies by developing: philosophical and ethical thinking skills; the ability to construct well-argued, well-informed, balanced and structured written arguments and an understanding of the diversity of religious and non-religious beliefs and attitudes.

For more information, contact Mrs Barker.