

# mulberry

## Academy Woodside

### OPTIONS SUBJECTS: GCSE Religious Studies

#### HEAD OF DEPARTMENT

Ms R. McDonald

#### EXAM BOARD

AQA

#### BREAKDOWN OF MARKS

Two written exams: 1 hour 45 minutes  
96 marks, plus 6 marks (SPaG)

Paper 1: The study of religions: beliefs, teachings and practices - Christianity and Islam

Paper 2: Thematic studies - Themes A,B, D and E

Each paper has a common structure of two five-part questions of 1, 2, 4, 5 and 12 marks.

Each religion is marked out of 48.

#### SKILLS

You will need to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of religion and beliefs including:

Beliefs, practices and sources of authority  
Influence on individuals, communities and similarities and differences within and/or between religions and beliefs.

You will need to be able to analyse and evaluate aspects of religion and belief, including their significance and influence.

#### VITAL INFORMATION

You will need to be able to refer to religious scripture and/or sacred texts where appropriate. This requires you to revise quotes and teachings to improve your skills in recalling this knowledge. You will need to be able to write extended writing responses in timed conditions. You will need to be able to explore religious issues and debates outlined in the course.

#### CURRICULUM CONTENT

The study of religions: beliefs, teachings and practices

**Christianity:** Studying the beliefs, teachings and practices of Christianity and their basis in Christian sources of wisdom and authority. This will include; the nature of God, Jesus Christ and salvation, different forms of worship and their significance and The role of the church in the local and worldwide community

**Islam:** Studying the beliefs, teachings and practices of Islam and their basis in Islamic sources of wisdom and authority. This will include; the six articles of faith in Sunni Islam and five roots of Usul ad-Din in Shi'a Islam, including key similarities and differences, Five Pillars of Sunni Islam and the Ten Obligatory Acts of Shi'a Islam (students should study the Five Pillars and jihad in both Sunni and Shi'a Islam and the additional duties of Shi'a Islam).

**Thematic studies:** (Christian and Muslim attitudes towards the content covered in each theme)  
Theme A: Relationships and families. Including religious attitudes towards contraception and divorce  
Theme B: Religion and life. Including religious attitudes towards Abortion and Animal experimentation.  
Theme D: Religion, peace and conflict. Including religious attitudes towards war and violence  
Theme E: Religion, crime and punishment. Including religious attitudes towards forgiveness

#### CURRICULUM & CAREER PROGRESSION

##### NEXT STEPS

Religious studies offers the opportunity for further study at A level and beyond. You can study religious studies at A level and it combines well with: English, History, Psychology, Philosophy and Sociology.

There are also a range of smaller qualifications available and modules within vocational and other qualifications

##### CAREERS

Advice worker  
Archivist / Charity fundraiser  
Chaplain / Counsellor  
Civil Service administrator  
Community development worker  
International aid/development worker  
Mediator  
Newspaper journalist  
Police officer  
Youth worker / teacher