

Mulberry Academy Woodside

Religious studies GCSE - Curriculum Overview

INTENT: Our Religious Studies GCSE offers a challenging, knowledge-rich curriculum that promotes academic excellence and empowers all students to achieve their full potential. Students develop critical thinking, respect, and curiosity as they explore diverse beliefs, ethical issues, and philosophical questions. Through inclusive and engaging learning, the course deepens understanding of identity, morality, and global perspectives, preparing students to be reflective, informed, and responsible individuals who can positively contribute to their communities and the wider world.

DEPARTMENT: Social studies

KS4	AUTUMN TERM		SPRING TERM		SUMMER TERM	
	TERM 1A	TERM 1B	TERM 2A	TERM 2B	TERM 3A	TERM 3B
YEAR 10	Islam: Beliefs and Teachings Knowledge: Six Articles of Faith (Sunni) and Five Roots of Usul ad-Din (Shi'a), Tawhid, Qur'an Surah 112, nature of God, angels,	Islam: Practices Knowledge: Five Pillars of Sunni Islam, Ten Obligatory Acts of Shi'a Islam; Shahadah, Salah, Sawm, Zakah (Khums in Shi'a), Hajj, Jihad;	Christianity: Beliefs Knowledge: Nature of God, Trinity, creation, problem of evil, life after death, resurrection, heaven, hell, Jesus' incarnation, crucifixion, resurrection,	Christianity: Beliefs and Practices Knowledge: Continuation of Christian beliefs; introduction to practices: worship (liturgical, non-liturgical, informal, private), prayer,	Christianity: Practices Knowledge: Sacraments (baptism, Holy Communion/Eucharist), role and importance of Church locally (food banks, street pastors) and worldwide	Theme A: Relationships and Families Knowledge: Human sexuality, sexual relationships, contraception, marriage, divorce, same-sex marriage, cohabitation; family

	<p>predestination, Akhirah, Prophethood, holy books, Imamate in Shi'a Islam.</p> <p>Skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recall beliefs and teachings (AO1) Analyse significance and influence for Muslims (AO2) Compare different Sunni and Shi'a perspectives (AO2) Exam practice: 1-, 4-, 6-, and 12-mark questions 	<p>Id-ul-Fitr, Id-ul-Adha, Ashura.</p> <p>Skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recall practices (AO1) Analyse significance and influence for Muslims (AO2) Compare Sunni and Shi'a practices (AO2) Exam practice: 1-, 4-, 6-, and 12-mark questions 	<p>ascension, sin, and salvation.</p> <p>Skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recall beliefs (AO1) Analyse significance and influence for Christians (AO2) Compare different Christian interpretations (AO2) Exam practice: 1-, 4-, 6-, and 12-mark questions 	<p>festivals (Christmas, Easter), pilgrimage (Lourdes, Iona).</p> <p>Skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recall beliefs and practices (AO1) Analyse significance and influence for Christians (AO2) Compare interpretations and practices (AO2) Exam practice: 1-, 4-, 6-, and 12-mark questions 	<p>(mission, evangelism, CAFOD, Christian Aid, Tearfund).</p> <p>Skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recall practices (AO1) Analyse significance and influence for Christians (AO2) Compare interpretations and practices (AO2) Exam practice: 1-, 4-, 6-, and 12-mark questions 	<p>structures, roles, gender equality, polygamy.</p> <p>Skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recall beliefs and teachings (AO1) Analyse significance and influence (AO2) Compare different religious and contemporary perspectives (AO2) Exam practice: 1-, 4-, 6-, and 12-mark questions
<p>YEAR 11</p>	<p>Recap Theme A & Theme B: Religion and Life</p> <p>Knowledge: Recap of Theme A (Relationships and Families); Theme B – origins and value of the universe, origins of human life, sanctity of life, abortion, euthanasia,</p>	<p>Theme B & Theme D: Religion, Peace and Conflict</p> <p>Knowledge: Theme B continued; Theme D – peace, justice, forgiveness, reconciliation, violence, terrorism, reasons for war, nuclear weapons,</p>	<p>Theme D & Theme E: Religion, Crime and Punishment</p> <p>Knowledge: Theme D continued; Theme E – good and evil intentions, causes of crime (poverty, upbringing, mental health, addiction, greed, hate, opposition to unjust</p>	<p>Theme E & Revision for Paper 1</p> <p>Knowledge: Theme E continued and completed; revision of Paper 1 – Christianity and Islam.</p> <p>Skills:</p>	<p>Paper 2 Revision</p> <p>Knowledge: Revision for Paper 2 – Themes A, B, D, and E.</p> <p>Skills:</p>	

	<p>animal experimentation, stewardship, dominion, use of animals, environmental responsibility.</p> <p>Skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recall beliefs, teachings, and practices (AO1) Analyse significance and influence for believers (AO2) Compare different religious and contemporary perspectives (AO2) Exam practice: 1-, 4-, 6-, and 12-mark questions 	<p>WMDs, pacifism, holy war, just war theory.</p> <p>Skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recall beliefs, teachings, and practices (AO1) Analyse significance and influence for believers (AO2) Compare different religious and contemporary perspectives (AO2) Exam practice: 1-, 4-, 6-, and 12-mark questions 	<p>laws), religious responses, aims of punishment (retribution, deterrence, reformation), treatment of criminals, forgiveness, death penalty, ethical arguments.</p> <p>Skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recall beliefs, teachings, and practices (AO1) Analyse significance and influence for believers (AO2) Compare different religious and contemporary perspectives (AO2) Exam practice: 1-, 4-, 6-, and 12-mark questions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recall beliefs, teachings, and practices (AO1) Analyse significance and influence for believers (AO2) Compare different religious and contemporary perspectives (AO2) Exam practice: 1-, 4-, 6-, and 12-mark questions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recall beliefs, teachings, and practices (AO1) Analyse significance and influence for believers (AO2) Compare different religious and contemporary perspectives (AO2) Exam practice: 1-, 4-, 6-, and 12-mark questions 	
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