

# GCSE Religious Studies Full Course

## Course content and overview

The WJEC GCSE Full Course in Religious Studies provides opportunities for pupils to follow a course that balances knowledge of core beliefs, teachings and practices of at least two religions, with an understanding of how they can be applied to philosophical and ethical themes. The two religions studied at Ysgol Bro Taf are Christianity and Islam. The course takes two years to complete with pupils sitting two formal examinations. Unit 1 is completed in Year 10 with the examination taking place in May 2025 and Unit 2 is completed in Year 11 with the examination taking place in May 2026.

Through this course pupils develop their knowledge and understanding of religious beliefs, teachings, practices, and sources of wisdom and authority, key religious texts and scriptures for both Christianity and Islam. They also develop knowledge and understanding of non-religious philosophy, such as atheism and humanism.

## Assessment Details

Exam Board: WJEC

Assessment: Year 10

Unit 1: Religion and Philosophical Themes Written examination: 2 hours 50% of qualification

Part A

- Christianity - Core beliefs, teachings and practices
- Islam – Core beliefs, teachings and Practices

Part B Philosophical Themes

- Life and Death
- Good and Evil

Assessment: Year 11

Unit 2: Religion and Ethical Themes Written examination: 2 hours 50% of qualification

Part A

- Christianity - Core beliefs, teachings and practices
- Islam – Core beliefs, teachings and Practices

Part B Philosophical Themes

- Relationships
- Human Rights

### **Useful Revision Guides, resources and websites**

The Religious Studies GCSE specification can be found at: [https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/religious-studies-gcse/#tab\\_keydocuments](https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/religious-studies-gcse/#tab_keydocuments)

Revision materials can be found at BBC Bitesize: [GCSE Religious Studies - WJEC - BBC Bitesize](#)

### **Supporting Home Learning**

- Independent reading is crucial to improve both reading and writing skills.
- Completion of home study and regular revision of teaching notes will enable pupils to embed their knowledge and ensure familiarity with the key skills and different question types.
- Continuous practice of key words and concepts linked to beliefs and teaching

### **Progression Routes & Careers**

Religious Studies is a mandatory subject in Wales, it can be instrumental to pupils when accessing further studies in any subject or career choice. The ability to treat people with respect and tolerance is valued everywhere, as is the ability to show empathy and understanding. In particular, jobs in the media, teaching, advertising, law, local and national government, marketing and public relations all value the skills that this subject develops and encourages.

**Contact for help: Ceri Lynne Jones**