

**Woodbridge High School GCSE Religious Studies**

Welcome to Woodbridge High Schools RE department. GCSE Religious Studies is designed to enable learners to develop their interest and enthusiasm for, a study of religion and its place in the wider world. The course allows students to explore 2 religions in depth whilst also studying the philosophical approaches taken to understand the place of religion within the world and how religion forms ethical opinions and informs morals.

**What do you cover in the course? The OCR GCSE course is made up of 3 components. These components are based on the study of religion, philosophy and ethics.**



**Religion: Christianity and Islam** – This component focuses on the beliefs, teachings and practices of two religions (Islam and Christianity). This part of the course allows for philosophical and theological study, discussion and debate. Students are given opportunities to reflect upon other world religions. Within this unit students will study the nature of God, Good and Evil, Biblical and Qur’anic account of God. Beliefs about death and the afterlife, theories of creation – both religious and Scientific and students will also be given an opportunity to take a look at religious practices closely. This component will be examined through a 2 hour exam.

1. Christianity – Beliefs and Teachings
2. Christianity – Practices
3. Islam – Beliefs and Teachings
4. Islam – Practices

**Some of the topics discussed and studied in RE include Euthanasia, genetic engineering, arguments in favour and against God, Scientific theories on creation, secularisation, Pacifism, war, terrorism, pluralism, cloning, situation ethics**

**Areas Philosophy and Ethics** – In this part of the course students will be given opportunities to study philosophical beliefs, theories and views alongside ethical issues and take a look at how religions respond to these ethical issues. Students will be given opportunities to partake in debates and discussions. Students will also look at the philosophical, sociological, psychological impacts these issues have on the world. This component will be examined through a 2 hour exam.

1. Relationships and families
2. The existence of God
3. Religion, peace and conflict
4. Dialogue within and between religions and non-religious beliefs.

**Why Choose RE**

- Religious Studies is a subject that is multi-disciplinary which means it links to other subjects, however it is unique as it gives an opportunity to develop your knowledge and understanding of religion, philosophy and ethics.
- GCSE RS is looked favourably as a subject that gives a foundation to go on to study many other subjects. It is academically rigorous and requires a high level of written skills, referencing and evaluation.

**HIGHLIGHTS**

- Develop knowledge understanding of different world beliefs both religious and non-religious.
- Develop skills and knowledge on how to respond to different questions. Constructing well informed, balanced and structured arguments.
- Partake in debates and discussions on current affairs, religious, ethical and philosophical matters.
- Build written and verbal communication skills.
- Meet other like-minded people including members of the community that may further develop your knowledge and skills in the subject.

