



Religious Studies

Why should I study this course?

Learning about religions in the 21st Century is vital if you want to be able to understand what is happening in the world today and why. You will have the chance to study in depth the beliefs, teachings and practices of two of the world's major religions (Christianity & Hinduism). You will also study four themes that enable you to consider some of the big ethical issues of our time. You will be given the opportunity to critically discuss, challenge and analyse some of the most important questions that our society faces: How do we know what is good? Why do people commit evil acts? Can it ever be right to euthanize someone? What is truth? Can we believe in God and science? What happens after death? Religious Studies is about asking questions; critically analysing evidence and the views of others; making persuasive arguments and ultimately coming to your own conclusions about life's big questions. Religious Studies is an academically rigorous course that is useful for a great number of jobs, for example: law, politics, medicine, police work, teaching, business, and the armed forces. The transferable skills learnt in RS can be used in many professions and it will also help you with your literacy skills in other subjects.

The GCSE is made up of two components, both worth 50% of the final mark:

Component 1: The Study of Religions

Which includes:

- Christianity: Beliefs and teachings
- Christianity: Practices
- Hinduism: Beliefs and Teachings
- Hinduism: Practices

Component 2: Religious, Philosophical and Ethical studies

Which includes:

- Relationships and Families
- Religion and Life
- Religion, Peace and Conflict
- Religion, Crime & Punishment

What knowledge and/or skills will I need?

- You do not need any prior knowledge of the topics we cover but we will build upon the skills you have been developing in year 9 - both in your written work and in your ability to critically analyse and develop arguments.
- An interest in people and the world around you is helpful.
- It is a demanding course with some challenging religious and philosophical concepts to get your head around, so you will need to be prepared to think hard, accepting that some things may be beyond explanation.
- Good literacy skills
- You need to be open-minded and respectful about the views and beliefs of others.
- You will need to be able to empathise with others.
- You will need to be inquisitive, enthusiastic, hardworking and willing to communicate your findings in different formats.

How will I be assessed?

The course is assessed completely through exams at the end of year 11. You will sit 2 exams in total covering each of the components. We will do exam practice throughout the course to ensure that you are confident and ready for your exams.

How can I find out more about this course?

Email Mr Stone mstone@corfehills.net

Visit the [AQA Website](#)