



COURSE SUMMARY

Students will follow the OCR syllabus, with exams at the end of Year 13. There is no coursework involved in this subject, although students will be expected to produce essays regularly.

WHY STUDY RELIGIOUS STUDIES?

The subject studies how humans understand the world around them. We consider how we make our moral choices and try to provide clues to life's bigger questions. We take part in plenty of debates and look at the study of philosophical, theological and ethical theories which underpin and structure our world today. *Abbie*

"When I leave school I hope to take a year to see the world then study Philosophy at university, either Durham or St Andrew's before finally pursuing a career in sales. Philosophy can lead to almost any career; politics, law etc. I have studied Religious Studies, Biology, Sociology and Psychology." Annabel

MIGHT LEAD TO...

Religious Studies is one of the fastest growing A Levels for the reason that the thinking skills learnt at this level are applicable to many aspects of 21st century British life. All universities and employers recognise the importance of this subject. The subject can lead to degrees or careers in law, theology and religious studies, philosophy, history, medicine, scientific research, police force, teaching, civil service and politics among others.

ADVICE ON ENTRY

The specifications build on, but do not depend on, the knowledge, understanding and skills specified for GCSE Religious Studies. B grade at GCSE Religious Studies is preferred.

READING AROUND THE SUBJECT

- Ahluwalia, *Foundation's for Study of Religion*
- Jordan, Tate & Lockyear, *Philosophy of Religion*
- Dawkins, *The Selfish Gene*
- Clarke, *Questions about God*
- Burns & Law, *Philosophy for AS & A2*
- Palmer, *The Question of God*
- Dawkins, *The God Delusion*
- Vardy, *The Thinker's Guide to God*
- Swinburn, *Is there a God*
- Cole, *Philosophy of Religion*
- Vardy, *The Puzzle of God*

WHAT HAPPENS IN LESSONS?

Lesson activities are varied and range from lively discussions, debates, retrieving information from texts and analysing these, teacher led sessions, use of audio visual clips, news articles and student led sessions. *Charles*

COURSE ASSESSMENT

This is a new linear course. This means that students opting for an A Level in this subject will be committing to a two year linear course, with all units examined at the end of Year 13. AS Levels will still exist and can be taken as a stand-alone qualification at the end of Year 12, but students taking this option and then continuing to study the subject in Year 13 would have to sit all the A Level units as linear exams to gain that qualification.

