

Religious Studies

Subject: Religious Studies

How will I be assessed?

3 exams

Paper 1. 2 hours. Issues of Relationships, Life and Death, Good and Evil, Human Rights. 50%

Paper 2. 1 Hour. Christianity. 25%

Paper 3. 1 Hour. Hinduism

What will I learn?

Paper 1. Issues:

Q1: Relationships

- **Marriage**
- **Divorce/separation**
- **Sex**
- **Family roles**
- **Same-sex relationships**

Q2: Life and Death

- **Creation**
- **Stewardship**
- **Abortion**
- **Euthanasia**
- **Beliefs about the afterlife**
- **Funeral rites**
- **Humanist views**

Q3: Good and evil

- **Nature of good and evil**
- **Making moral judgements**
- **Sin**
- **Crime**
- **Punishment**
- **Death penalty**

Q4: Human Rights

- **Origins of Human rights**
- **Conflicting human rights**
- **Poverty**
- **Charity**
- **Working for Human Rights**

Paper 2: Christianity

Q1: Christian beliefs about God, Jesus, the Bible, forgiveness of sins, theodicies, eschatology.

Q2: Christian practices; Prayer, worship, festivals, pilgrimage, the role of the church, persecution, ecumenicalism

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Paper 3: Hinduism

Q1: Hindu Beliefs; Brahman (saguna and nirguna), Atman, Trimurti and Tridevi, Avatara Karma, Dharma, Kama, Varnashramadharma, Samsara, Moksha, Triguna, the multiverse

Q2: Hindu Practices: Puja, Arati, Mandirs, Festivals, Pilgrimage, ISKCON, Goshallahs,

Why is this subject valuable?

Religious Education is valuable because it teaches young people to consider the variation in the world around them. It requires them to develop their own beliefs and values whilst learning how to argue critically. Being able to present a balanced argument is useful in many professions and for higher education. In modern Britain, it is crucial to have wide knowledge of cultures and beliefs different from one's own and RE in schools provides a safe environment to explore these differences.

Career choices where this subject would be valuable:

An understanding of RE would be valuable in any job working with people as it helps to develop the skills to be empathetic and understanding, for example retail, social care, teaching, police, medicine, the Armed Forces. It would also be valuable in careers which require an understanding of ethics and debate e.g. journalism, law and politics.