

## New Specification GCSE for Religious Studies

From May 2018 students will be examined on the new specification GCSE for RS

For students at The Hollins this means **Edexcel Religious Studies Specification B**

Area of Study 1: Religion and Ethics through Christianity

Area of Study 2: Religion, Peace and Conflict through Islam

All students follow the Edexcel GCSE course in Religious Studies

Religious Studies, as well as giving students a good understanding of some of the moral aspects of the complex world in which we live, and the ethical questions we face in our societies, seeks to encourage students to question, debate, gain knowledge and understanding and reach their own conclusions. The RS exam is rigorous and demanding and is highly regarded as an essay writing subject, encouraging literacy skills such as comprehension, expression, evaluation and SPAG (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar).

RS is also a useful subject for a range of further studies such as A level law, psychology, philosophy, sociology and for vocational areas which involve working with a range of people, such as nursing, teaching, the armed forces and the police force.

Students will follow a 2 year course, beginning in the summer term of year 9, to complete 8 topics, which will be examined in two separate written examinations of 1 hour 45 minutes

| <b>Religion and Ethics<br/>Christianity</b>  | <b>Religion, Peace<br/>and Conflict<br/>Islam</b>                                     |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Beliefs Christianity</li></ul>                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Beliefs Islam</li></ul>                       |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Marriage and the Family</li></ul>                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Crime and Punishment</li></ul>                |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Living the religious life<br/>Christianity</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Living the religious life<br/>Islam</li></ul> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Matters of Life and Death</li></ul>                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Peace and Conflict</li></ul>                  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 50 % exam ( 1 hr 45 mins)</li></ul>                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 50% exam ( 1 hr 45 mins)</li></ul>            |

Students will be graded from level 1-8 (with the highest performing students in the country being awarded level 9). Level 5 will be the 'pass' level

For more information regarding the specific content of these topics please refer to the Edexcel website

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/religious-studies-b-2016.html>

or contact one of the RE teachers at the Hollins :

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