

Religious Education

Ms S Straw

OCR H573 A



Entry Requirements

Grade 5 in GCSE RE

Course Aims

The course aims to broaden and develop critical thinking, by means of exploring the world beyond that which we know. It also encourages students to challenge established ideas, and reflect academically, and personally, about how to approach ethical challenges.

Course Outline

We are following OCR's programme of study, which consists of three components:

1. Philosophy of Religion

This component allows us to explore and discuss the big questions surrounding religion, such as: Does God exist? What might God be like? What evidence supports the existence or non-existence of God? We also examine religious experiences and their impact on believers, question the existence of the soul and its relationship with the mind and body, and confront the problem of suffering in relation to the goodness of God.

2. Religion and Ethics

In this component, we analyse and critique various ethical systems and apply them to contemporary issues like euthanasia, business ethics, and sexual ethics. We also explore the nature and role of conscience and consider how Christianity has responded to and been shaped by ethical developments over time.

3. Developments in Christian Thought

This component focuses on how Christianity has evolved in addressing profound questions, such as: What does it mean to be human? Is there life after death? Is knowledge of God founded on faith or reason? We also examine the theological significance of Jesus, the Church's basis for moral teachings, and how Christianity engages with and responds to other faiths and worldviews in the modern era.

Resources

- Oxford A Level Religious Studies for OCR: AS and Year 1, Author: Libby Ahluwalia and Robert Bowie