



GCSE Curriculum intent

To equip students to be able to articulate, evaluate, challenge and form their own core beliefs about key concepts that form a person's attitude and worldview toward moral issues that will impact their future choices.

GCSE Curriculum Overview

Component 1: The study of religions: beliefs, teachings and practices

Islam- Beliefs and Teachings	Islam-Practices	Christianity- Beliefs and Teaching	Christianity- Practices
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Key Question

What are key beliefs and teachings of Islam?	What are the key practices in Islam?	What are key beliefs and teachings of Christianity?	What are the key practices in Christianity?
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Key Vocabulary

Tawhid	The Five Pillars	Ascension	Baptism
Adalat/justice	Tawhid (the Oneness of God)	Atonement	Eucharist/Holy Communion
Angels	The Shahadah	Incarnation	Church
Prophethood	Salah	Trinity	Christmas
Imamate	Sawm	Salvation	Easter
Akhirah	Zakah	Resurrection	Lord's Prayer
Day of Judgement	Hajj	Original sin	Mission
Heaven	Muhammad	Omnipotent	Persecution
Hell	Risalah (Prophethood)	Reconciliation	Street pastors
Jibril	Day of Judgement	Sacrament	Tearfund

	The knowledge you will need to recall:	How you will apply this knowledge:	This links to:
1	- Christianity as a major religious tradition in Great Britain, with awareness of diversity within Christianity. - Key beliefs about the nature of God, including omnipotence, love, justice, the Trinity, and beliefs about creation. - Christian beliefs about the afterlife, including resurrection, judgement, heaven and hell. - Beliefs about Jesus Christ, including incarnation, crucifixion, resurrection and ascension. - Christian teachings on sin, salvation, grace, law, Spirit and atonement, with reference to Christian sources of wisdom and authority.	- Students answer questions on two religions, using recalled Christian beliefs and teachings accurately. - Apply knowledge to structured exam questions made up of 1, 1, 4, 6 and 12 mark parts. - Use scripture and Christian sources of wisdom and authority to support explanations and evaluations. - Explain and compare common and differing Christian viewpoints, including Catholic, Orthodox and Protestant perspectives. - Evaluate the influence of Christian beliefs and teachings on individuals, communities and society.	This links to Key Stage 3 because studying Early Christianity and Jesus introduces students to key Christian beliefs about Jesus' life, teachings, crucifixion, resurrection and salvation. It also builds a foundation for understanding Christian teachings about God, sin, atonement and the afterlife, which are explored further at GCSE.
2	- Different forms of worship: liturgical, non-liturgical, informal, and private worship, and the use of the Bible. - The significance of prayer, including the Lord's Prayer, set prayers, and informal prayer. - The meaning and importance of the sacraments: baptism (infant and believers') and Holy Communion/Eucharist, including different interpretations. - The role and significance of pilgrimage and celebrations, including Lourdes, Iona, Christmas, and Easter. - The role of the Church locally and globally: mission, evangelism, reconciliation, responding to persecution, and the work of charities like CAFOD, Christian Aid, and Tearfund.	- Answer questions on Christianity practices using the five-part structure: 1, 1, 4, 6, 12 marks. - Explain the importance of worship, prayer, and the sacraments for Christians. - Describe the role of pilgrimage, festivals, and celebrations in Christian life. - Assess the impact of the Church locally and globally, including charity work, mission, and responses to persecution.	
2	- Islam as a diverse religious tradition in Great Britain, with awareness of both Sunni and Shi'a Islam. - The Six Articles of Faith in Sunni Islam and the Five Roots of Usul ad-Din in Shi'a Islam, including similarities and differences. - Key beliefs about the nature of God, including Tawhid, omnipotence, mercy, beneficence, fairness and justice (Adalat), and ideas of immanence and transcendence. - Beliefs about angels, predestination and human freedom, and the Day of Judgement. - Islamic beliefs about Akhirah (life after death), resurrection, heaven and hell, and the role of human responsibility and accountability.	- Students answer questions on two religions, using accurate Islamic beliefs and teachings. - Apply knowledge to structured exam questions made up of 1, 1, 4, 6 and 12 mark parts. - Use Islamic sources of wisdom and authority, including the Qur'an and other holy books, to support explanations and evaluations. - Explain and compare Sunni and Shi'a perspectives, including the role of prophethood and the imamate. - Evaluate the influence of Islamic beliefs and teachings on individuals, communities and society.	This links to Key Stage 3 because studying Islam introduces students to key beliefs about God (Allah), the prophets, the Qur'an and the Five Pillars, including practices like prayer and fasting. It also provides a foundation for understanding Islamic teachings about human responsibility, the afterlife, and moral guidance, which are studied in greater depth at GCSE.
4	- The Five Pillars of Sunni Islam and the Ten Obligatory Acts of Shi'a Islam, including key differences. - The significance of Shahadah, Salah (prayer), Sawm (fasting), Zakah (charity), Hajj (pilgrimage), and Jihad in Muslim life. - How and why Muslims perform worship, including prayer times, ablution (wudu), rak'ahs, recitations, and Friday prayers (Jummah). - The origins, meaning, and significance of festivals: Id-ul-Fitr, Id-ul-Adha, and Ashura. - Key places and practices associated with Hajj: Ka'aba, Mina, Arafat, and Muzdalifah.	- Answer questions on Islam practices using the five-part structure: 1, 1, 4, 6, 12 marks. - Explain the importance of worship, prayer, and the Five Pillars/Ten Obligatory Acts in a Muslim's life. - Describe the role of festivals and pilgrimage in contemporary Muslim practice. - Assess the impact of these practices on individuals, communities, and wider society.	