



The Religious Education faculty

We believe that every child has the capacity to learn, engage, reflect and experience Religious education through a creative, thought provoking and tolerant environment where we think about Who, How and Why within our local, national, Worldwide and religious communities.

We provide and develop the skills of our young people to be respectful, reflective, intuitive and open minded with the vision of making their futures, their world secure, tolerant and diverse.

At Rainford High we explore a broad range of various religious aspects including beliefs and practices of specific religion. We also investigate moral and ethical issues.

Our aim is to engage, inspire and educate our students within thought provoking and challenging lessons which enable them to discuss and justify opinions, analyse beliefs, and think 'outside of the box'.

For further information about the Religious Education curriculum, please see below or contact:

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Key Stage 3 – Overview of Learning

Year 7

Half Term 1	Half Term 2	Half Term 3	Half Term 4	Half Term 5	Half Term 6
'The Island' - My Philosophy focusing on Spirituality, symbols and beliefs.	Introduction to Philosophy – Ways of Seeing/ Belief in a God – why people believe and don't believe / Problem of Evil – linking to The Nature of God / Teleological argument and Science – theories for and against the existence of God.	MOSES / Abraham – Key ideas linking to Covenants / Laws and the way Jewish people live today.	Judaism - Beliefs and Practise including Torah / Synagogue/ Prayer / Jerusalem / Kosher / Weddings etc.	Judaism - - Beliefs and Practise including Torah / Synagogue/ Prayer / Jerusalem / Kosher / Weddings etc.	Stewardship and Creation

Year 8

Half Term 1	Half Term 2	Half Term 3	Half Term 4	Half Term 5	Half Term 6
ISLAM –main beliefs and teaching applied to Case studies / People.	Religious inspirational people – independent study tasks focused on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prophet Muhammad Martin Luther King Malala Mother Teresa Jesus 	Jesus As the Son of God – fact or belief / Miracles / crucifixion How are they all evidence that JC was The Son Of God – how can this be proved / disproved.	Jesus Rebel or Revolutionary – Was he simply this or someone more.	Buddhism –main beliefs and teaching applied to Case studies / People.	Radicalisation / Terrorism / Injustice (Potential Topic Hillsborough, Alfie King – Stephen Lawrenson etc.)

Year 9

Half Term 1	Half Term 2	Half Term 3	Half Term 4	Half Term 5	Half Term 6
Crime, punishment and forgiveness (Business Ethics – What makes a business Ethical? Sweat Shops – if we remove them what happens to the villages they support financially? Child Labour – is it a 1 st world issue? Is Globalisation a good or poor concept?	Capital Punishment – What is it? It is an ethical approach and if not what is reasonable punishment?	Abortion: When does life begin and religious arguments.	The Holocaust: Human Rights Pre-war Judaism Anti-Semitism in Germany Survivors Story Holocaust Memorials	Introduction to Religion and the Media	Religion and The Media including Film analysis of <u>Bruce Almighty</u> covering aspects as Evil and Suffering, why God does not say Yes to all prayers and the power of God.

Key Stage Four: AQA GCSE Religious Studies

Aims of the course:

GCSE RS covers a range of the major world religions and contemporary ethical themes. Students have a diverse choice of intriguing subjects to explore.

Students will be challenged with questions about belief, values, meaning, purpose and truth, enabling them to develop their own attitudes towards religious issues.

Students will also gain an appreciation of how religion, philosophy and ethics form the basis of our culture. They will develop analytical and critical thinking skills, the ability to work with abstract ideas, leadership and research skills. All these skills will help prepare them for further study.

Component 1

The study of religions: beliefs, teachings and practices

Students will complete an in-depth study focused upon the Beliefs, teachings and practices of **The religions of Christianity and Judaism**

Assessed: 1 Paper 50% of overall grade. Examination based 1hr 45mins

Component 2

Thematic studies

Brief Overview: Students will explore x4 different Philosophical and ethical based units. Chosen Theses are:

- Theme A: Relationships and families.
- Theme B: Religion and life.
- Theme D: Religion, peace and conflict.
- Theme E: Religion, crime and punishment.

Assessed: 1 Paper 50% of overall grade. Examination based 1hr 45mins

Key Stage Five: OCR Religious Studies H573

Aims of the course:

This qualification is designed to develop a greater understanding and appreciation of religious beliefs and teachings, as well as the disciplines of ethics and philosophy of religion.

Learners will develop their skills of critical analysis in order to construct balanced, informed arguments and responses to religious, philosophical and ethical ideas.

OCR's A Level Religious Studies course aims to engage learners thoroughly and develop an interest in Religious Studies, which extends beyond the classroom and can be applied to the world around them.

Component 1 Philosophy of religion

Learners will study:

- Ancient philosophical influences such as Plato and Aristotle
- the nature of the soul, mind and body and if they exist
- arguments about the existence or non-existence of God
- the nature and impact of religious experience on believers and non believers including Near death experiences.
- The challenge for religious belief of the problem of evil
- ideas about the nature of God including his existence
- issues in religious language.

Assessed: 33.3% of total A Level 120 marks 2 hour written paper

Component 2 Religion and ethics

Learners will study:

- Normative ethical theories such as Situation ethics (ethics means to do the most loving thing)
- the application of ethical theory to Sexual ethics and The Environment.
- Ethical language – What do we mean when we say 'good'.
- debates surrounding the significant idea of conscience
- Sexual ethics and the influence on ethical thought of developments in religious beliefs.

Assessed: 33.3% of total A Level 120 marks 2 hour written paper

Component 3 Developments in Christian thought

Learners will study:

- Christian religious beliefs, values and teachings, and how they vary historically and in the contemporary world
- sources of religious wisdom and authority including moral teachings, Jesus and the Bible
- practices which shape and express religious identity, and how these vary within different denominations.
- Significant social and historical developments in theology and religious thought including Pluralism etc.

Assessed: 33.3% of total A Level 120 marks 2 hour written paper