| **Religious Studies GCSE** |
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| **Course Overview** |
| Religious Studies GCSE aims to develop students who are confident in analysing and evaluating a range of the world’s most complex problems through a study of a range of ethical and philosophical problems.We consider:* the value of human life by studying religious’ attitudes to abortion and euthanasia
* the value of other life on Earth through a consideration of how we use animals and pollute the planet
* Crime and punishment, including human responsibility, the role of punishment within society, and an analysis of the arguments for and against the use of the death penalty.
* racism, sexism, freedom of speech and the causes of poverty.
* religious attitudes to sexuality and relationships including attitudes to homosexuality and gender

We ground these discussions with our study of Christian and Buddhist beliefs and practices. Armed with this knowledge and understanding of religion, students apply their learning to these philosophical and ethical problems, and develop and articulate their own informed beliefs about these issues.Religious Studies will challenge you to think about the world differently. |
| **Assessment** |
| * This is a linear qualification with two exams in year 11.
* Each paper is 1 hour and 45 minutes long with a mixture of short answer questions and longer evaluative questions.
* Each exam is worth 50% of the GCSE.
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| **Awarding Body** |
| AQA |
| **Independent Learning Expectations** |
| Students will be expected to complete an independent learning activity each week. Tasks will mostly focus on knowledge retention and revision activities and exam practice. |
| **Possible Careers in the Subject** |
| GCSE Religious Studies students go on to a range of A-Level subjects including Philosophy, Criminology and Psychology at Pudsey Grammar. Students with Religious Studies GCSE develop skills of analysis and evaluation which make them suitable for careers where those skills are in high demand such as management roles within businesses. As students study ethics, jobs which require an understanding of ethical practices, such as journalism and medicine, can also be possible career paths for Religious Studies students. |
| **Subject Leader** |
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