

## Course Information - RE

GCSE Religious Studies is a core, compulsory subject for Year 9, 10 and 11 students at Holy Family School, where we follow the AQA B specification.

GCSE Religious Studies gives you the opportunity to explore the biggest questions in life and to discover religion in the modern world. The course is important because it is about you, your life, and your position in our diverse UK society. As a community, it helps us to remove the ignorance that causes prejudice, hatred and violence around us. It provides you with the opportunity to explore religious and moral beliefs in a safe environment so that you can become sure of your own point of view and explain it coherently.

GCSE Religious Studies is suitable for students of any religious faith, or none. The current Year 9, 10 and 11 groups contain a mix of Catholics, atheists, agnostics, and theists from a variety of religious backgrounds. Religious Studies at Holy Family is not about making you religious; it is about enabling you to think for yourself about religious, philosophical, moral and ethical issues and to apply your beliefs in order to lead a better life.

## Course Content

The course is divided into three sections:

### Component 1: Catholic Christianity

Creation

Incarnation

The Triune God, mission and prayer

Redemption – ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven

Church and the Kingdom of God

Eschatology: Christian life, death and eternity

### Component 2: Perspectives on Faith

Judaism – beliefs and teachings: key beliefs; the Covenant and the mitzvot

Judaism – practices: the synagogue and worship; family life and festivals

Theme A: Religion, relationships and families

Theme B: Religion, peace and conflict

## Assessment

The course is assessed through two 1¾ hour examinations at the end of Year 11

## Future Opportunities

GCSE Religious Studies is intellectually rewarding. Because it prepares you so well for life in the UK, it can help you succeed in a wide variety of careers, such as business, law, the armed forces, banking, journalism and the media, retailing, nursing, social work, psychology and counselling, charitable work, teaching, and of course religion, to name but a few! It complements other GCSE subjects like English, History and Science, and is great preparation for A level RS as well as many other A level subjects. It is respected by good universities because it is challenging and will help you to achieve a place in higher education.

