

Option – GCSE Religious Studies

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Should we punish criminals with the death penalty?

Can war ever be justified?

Are the rich responsible for the poor?

Should a human be able to choose when they die?

These questions, and many more like it, are asked and possible answers discussed as part of the GCSE RS course.

GCSE Religious Studies is a highly stimulating course that is relevant to anyone who has a keen interest in culture and the phenomena that shape it. Through the study of religion, students will be challenged with intriguing questions about belief, values, meaning, purpose and truth, enabling them to develop their own attitudes towards religious issues.

Building upon the topics we have studied in KS3, students will gain an appreciation of how religion, philosophy and ethics form the basis of our culture and impact the lives of billions of people globally. Students will develop a deeper knowledge of Christianity and Islam as well as analytical and critical thinking skills, and the ability to work with abstract ideas. The combination of this knowledge and these skills will help prepare students for further study, work and their experience of humanity.

At David Nieper Academy we follow the AQA GCSE Religious Studies A specification.

| Component | Content | Assessment |
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| 1. The study of religions: Beliefs, teachings and practices | Beliefs, teachings and practices of Christianity and Islam | 1 hour 45-minute written examination 50% of qualification |
| 2. Thematic studies | Four of the following religious, philosophical and ethical studies themes: Theme A: Relationships and families. Theme B: Religion and life. Theme C: The existence of God and revelation. Theme D: Religion, peace and conflict. Theme E: Religion, crime and punishment. Theme F: Religion, human rights and social justice | 1 hour 45-minute written examination 50% of qualification |

Examination Board - AQA