

New River College – KS4 Humanities curriculum maps 2025-26

Year 10 – AQA Religious Studies GCSE shortcourse

Half term	Autumn HT1	Autumn HT2	Spring HT1	Spring HT2	Summer HT1	Summer HT2
Topic	Section A: Christian beliefs and teachings	Section A: Buddhist beliefs and teachings	Section B: Relationships and families	Section B: Religion, peace and conflict	Revision	Revision and final exam <i>Intro to GCSE Citizenship course ahead of Y11</i>
Learning objectives	Explain about the nature of God, including the belief that God is omnipotent, loving and just. Explain the problem of evil and suffering. Explain the Christian belief in the Oneness of God and the Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Explain different Christian beliefs about creation, including beliefs about the Word and Spirit from Genesis 1:1-3 and John 1:1-3. Explain different Christian beliefs about the afterlife and their importance, including resurrection, life after death, judgement, heaven and hell. Explain Christian beliefs and teachings about the	To know the differences between Sunni and Shi'a Muslims so that we can understand their beliefs. Explain the five roots so that we can understand how Shi'a Muslims live their lives. To understand the Islamic belief of Tawhid so that I can understand the significance of the Shahadah. To explain some of the qualities of Allah so that we can further understand Muslims beliefs. To explain Islamic beliefs about angels Explain two Muslim beliefs about predestination. To understand a range of beliefs about life after death in Islam	Compare Christian and Buddhist beliefs and teachings about: Human sexuality including: heterosexual and homosexual relationships. The nature and purpose of marriage. Divorce, including reasons for divorce, and remarrying. Ethical arguments related to divorce, including those based on the sanctity of marriage vows and compassion. Sexual relationships before and outside of marriage. Same-sex marriage and cohabitation. Contraception and family planning. The nature of families including: the role of parents and children,	Explain Christian beliefs about the meaning AND significance of peace. Explain Christian beliefs about the meaning AND significance of justice. Explain Christian beliefs about the meaning AND significance of forgiveness. Explain Christian beliefs about the meaning AND significance of reconciliation. Explain Christian beliefs and teachings about violence. Explain Christian beliefs and teachings about terrorism. Explain reasons for war, including self-defence, retaliation and greed Explain Christian beliefs about the above reasons.	Revision of all prior learning with a focus on exam skills.	

	incarnation and Jesus as Son of God. Explain Christian beliefs and teachings about the crucifixion, resurrection and ascension of Jesus. Explain Christian beliefs and teachings about sin, including original sin. Explain Christian beliefs and teachings about the means of salvation, including by law, grace and Spirit.	To understand the role of prophets in Islam so that I can answer: Why are prophets important in Islam? To gain knowledge of the Qur'an so that I can answer: Why is the Qur'an so important to Muslims?	extended families and the nuclear family. The purpose of families, including: procreation, stability and the protection of children, educating children in a faith. Contemporary family issues including: same-sex parents and polygamy. The roles of men and women Gender equality Gender prejudice and discrimination including examples.	Explain beliefs and teachings and Just War Theory and the criteria. Explain Christian beliefs and teachings about Holy War. Explain different viewpoints (including religious) to WMD. Evaluate why some people believe religion starts wars Explain Christian responses to victims of war using a present day example Explain religious beliefs and teachings about peace using an example of a religious leader e.g. Martin Luther King. Explain Buddhist beliefs and teaching about peace Explain Buddhist beliefs and teachings about violence Explain Buddhist beliefs and teachings about WMD		
Assessment	• 4 and 5 mark Q • 12 mark Q • Key terms test • End-of-unit assessment	• 4 and 5 mark Q • 12 mark Q • Key terms test • Mock exam	• 4 and 5 mark Q • 12 mark Q • Key terms test End-of-unit assessment	• 4 and 5 mark Q • 12 mark Q • Key terms test End-of-unit assessment	• Key terms tests • Practice exam Qs • Practice papers	• Key terms tests • Practice exam Qs

Half term	Autumn HT1	Autumn HT2	Spring HT1	Spring HT2	Summer HT1	Summer HT2
Theme	Theme A Living Together in the UK	Theme B Democracy at Work in the UK	Theme C/E The Law and Justice Own Citizenship Action	Theme E/D Own Citizenship Action cont... Power and Influence	Revision	EXAM
Topics * detailed LOs found in each unit progress sheet	Identity The changing UK population Migration and its impact Respect and understanding Rights, duties and values that underpin democracy Development of human rights	Parties and candidates Elections and voting systems Forming and organising the work of government The Westminster Parliament Making and shaping law The Constitution Government in constituent parts of the UK Taxation and government spending Citizens and local government Paying for local services	The role of law in everyday life in dealing with complex problems Principles and sources of law Civil and criminal law The justice system in England and Wales Courts and tribunals Youth justice Crime and society Sentences and punishment Identify an issue, form a team and carry out initial research Undertake primary research Represent your own and different points of view Plan the action	Apply skills of collaboration, negotiation and influence as you deliver the activity Critically evaluate your learning and the impact of the action Citizen participation in politics and society The role of groups and organisations in democratic society The role of the media and a free press Rights and responsibilities of the media The use of the media for influence The UK's role and relations with the rest of Europe The UK's role in the rest of the world Rights and responsibilities in challenging global situations	Revision of all prior learning with a focus on exam skills.	

Assessment	• 15 mark Q • Key terms test • End-of-unit assessment	• 12 mark Q • Key terms test • End-of-unit assessment • Mock exam	• 15 mark Q • Key terms test • End-of-unit assessment • Short answer Qs	• 12 mark essay • End-of-unit assessment • 10 mark Q • Key terms test • End-of-unit assessment	• Key terms tests • Practice exam Qs • Practice papers	
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