## Religious Studies

## Class of 2018

|  |
| --- |
| Exam board information: WJEC GCSE Religious Studies Specification B |

|  |
| --- |
| Course content: Students will study eight units over the course of Year 10 and 11:  **Religion and Life Issues**  **• Relationships:** Sex, marriage, divorce, same sex relationships  **• Is it fair? :** Equality, wealth, media, prejudice  **• Looking for Meaning:** Nature of God, existence of God, vocation, worship, afterlife, funerals.  **• Our World:** Creation stories, human talents, humanity, animals rights, the environment.  **Religion and Human Experience**  **• Religion and Conflict:** Peace, suffering, forgiveness, war, Just War Theory  **• Religion and Medicine:** Sanctity of Life, medical ethics, abortion, euthanasia, IVF  **• Religious Expression:** Charity, symbolic actions, symbolic clothing, worship, pilgrimage, interfaith  dialogue  **• Authority - Religion and State:** Human rights, punishment, death penalty, sacred texts, authority. |

|  |
| --- |
| Skills that will be developed: **Knowledge & Understanding:** Throughout the course students will gain an in depth understanding of moral issues facing us in the world today and how religions have responded to these. Students will be able to express their understanding coherently in written responses.  **Evaluation:** Students will develop their own reasoning skills and, by the end of the course, will be able to structure well argued responses, expressing clear insights into the different areas of study.  **Exam Skills:** A great deal of effort is put into teaching students how to approach exams successfully. Students will learn techniques that will hopefully support them in all areas of the school curriculum.  **Personal Development:** It is hoped that by engaging with content and lessons students will be exposed to a number of different ideas and opinions. Students will be encouraged to develop and express their own world view. |

|  |
| --- |
| How the course will be assessed: All formal assessment takes place in two terminal exams at the end of Year 11.  Regular end of unit assessments take place throughout Year 10 and 11, although these do not contribute to the final GCSE Grade. |

|  |
| --- |
| To be successful: Students need to have:  • a willingness to discuss and write about a variety of current issues.  • an interest in the beliefs which motivate a person’s behaviour.  • the ability to interpret and apply religious teachings to a range of topics.  • the desire to be a motivated and independent learner. |

|  |
| --- |
| Onward pathways: Whilst it is accepted that GCSE Religious Studies it is not an essential qualification for specific career pathways, the academic discipline and transferrable skills developed can be useful in many areas of employment.  • GCSE study may lead on to an A-Level in Religious Education  • Many students go on to have a successful career in law, teaching, social work, police and probation services and journalism. |

|  |
| --- |
| Further information:Teachers in the Religious Education Department (Mrs A Daugherty, Mrs H Parsons, Miss A Clucas, Mrs L Parr and Miss K Annesley) will be pleased to assist with any questions you may have. Further information from the Welsh Joint Education Committee can be found at:  <http://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/qualification-resources.html?subject=ReligiousStudiesB&level=GCSE> |