

GCSE Religious Studies A — Year 10 & 11 Curriculum Overview

Edexcel GCSE (9–1) Religious Studies A: Paper 2F (Judaism) is studied first, followed by Paper 1A (Catholic Christianity) and Paper 3A (Philosophy and Ethics), with each unit taking roughly a half-term.

	Year 10	Year 11
Autumn 1	Paper 2F – Judaism <i>Section 1: Beliefs and Teachings (1.1–1.8)</i> - The nature of the Almighty, Shekhinah and the Messiah (1.1–1.3) - The covenants with Abraham and at Sinai (1.4–1.5) - Sanctity of life, the Mitzvot and Jewish beliefs about life after death (1.6–1.8)	Paper 1A – Catholic Christianity / Paper 3A – Philosophy and Ethics <i>Completing Forms of Expression, then Section 1: Arguments for the Existence of God (1.1–1.8)</i> - Completing any remaining Forms of Expression and Ways of Life content carried over from Year 10 - Revelation, visions, miracles and religious experience as proof of God's existence (1.1–1.4) - The design and cosmological arguments, and the problem of suffering (1.5–1.8)
Autumn 2	Paper 2F – Judaism <i>Section 2: Practices (2.1–2.8)</i> - Public worship, the Tenakh, the Talmud and Jewish food laws (2.1–2.2) - Prayer, the Shema and the Amidah, and key Jewish life-cycle rituals (2.3–2.5) - Shabbat, Jewish festivals and features of the synagogue (2.6–2.8)	Paper 3A – Philosophy and Ethics <i>Section 2: Relationships and Families in the 21st Century (2.1–2.8)</i> - Marriage, sexual relationships and the purpose of the family (2.1–2.3) - Support for the family in the parish, family planning, divorce and remarriage (2.4–2.6) - Equality, gender prejudice and discrimination (2.7–2.8) <i>Year 11 mocks fall within this half-term</i>
Spring 1	Paper 1A – Catholic Christianity <i>Section 1: Beliefs and Teachings (1.1–1.8)</i> - The Trinity and biblical understandings of God (1.1–1.2) - Creation and the significance of humanity made in the image of God (1.3–1.4) - The Incarnation, the Paschal Mystery and Catholic beliefs about salvation and the afterlife (1.5–1.8)	Consolidation and Revision <i>Completing Paper 3A content and beginning full-course revision</i> - Completing any outstanding Relationships and Families content - Full-course retrieval and exam skills practice across Papers 1, 2 and 3 - Building the evidence and evaluation bank for 12-mark questions
Spring 2	Paper 1A – Catholic Christianity <i>Section 2: Practices (2.1–2.8)</i> - The sacraments and liturgical worship, including the Mass (2.1–2.2) - The funeral rite, prayer and forms of popular piety (2.3–2.5) - Pilgrimage, Catholic Social Teaching and Catholic mission and evangelism (2.6–2.8)	Final Revision and Exam Preparation <i>Intensive revision across all three papers</i> - Timed exam practice and feedback across Papers 1, 2 and 3 - Targeted revision of weaker topics identified from assessments - Preparing for the GCSE examinations in the summer series <i>Year 11 Core Department Assessment Week falls within this half-term</i>
Summer 1	Paper 1A – Catholic Christianity <i>Section 3: Sources of Wisdom and Authority (3.1–3.8)</i> - The Bible: its development, interpretation and authority (3.1–3.2) - The Magisterium and the Second Vatican Council (3.3–3.4) - The Church as the Body of Christ, the four marks, Mary and sources of moral authority (3.5–3.8)	Study Leave and Examinations <i>GCSE examination series</i> - Study leave with structured revision support - Sitting the Religious Studies A examinations - Post-exam feedback and results preparation

	Year 10	Year 11
Summer 2	Paper 1A – Catholic Christianity <i>Section 4: Forms of Expression and Ways of Life (4.1–4.8)</i> • Church architecture and internal features (4.1–4.2) • Sacred objects, religious art and sculpture (4.3–4.5) • Symbolism, drama and music in worship (4.6–4.8) <i>This half-term is shortened by Year 10 End of Year Assessments; content may carry into Year 11 Autumn 1</i>	<i>Year 11 have left after their GCSE examinations</i>