



## Content - Big ideas

### Christianity: Core Beliefs, Teachings and Practices

**God:** The nature of God as creator and sustainer and the creation accounts in Genesis. The nature of humanity in relation to God and the nature of Trinity.

**Jesus as God Incarnate:** Son and Holy Spirit. Jesus as Messiah, saviour, Word: the Incarnation, salvation and atonement. Jesus' birth, crucifixion, resurrection and ascension.

**Morality:** Divine command/absolutist and situational/relativist approaches to ethical decision making. The teachings of Jesus on love and forgiveness.

**Church:** The diversity within Christianity, including denominations, features of churches, types of worship and social responses.

### Islam: Core Beliefs, Teachings and Practices

**The Nature of God:** Allah as one God (tawhid) and His qualities. Submission and Greater Jihad. Shahadah and shirk.

**The Qur'an:** The Qur'an as a sacred text and guide for life. Revelation of the Qur'an by Allah. The importance of the Hadith and Sunnah. Examples of respect for the Qur'an as the direct words of Allah.

**The Five Pillars of Islam (salat/prayer):** The call to prayer, prayer at the mosque, Friday Jummah prayer. Prayer at home/private prayer (Du'ah). The preparation, intention and sequence of prayer.

**Obligatory Acts:** Shahadah, zakat and sawm.

### Issues of Life and Death

**The World:** Diverse beliefs about the creation of the world. Whether religious and non-religious views on creation are compatible. Religious beliefs about Global Citizenship. Non-religious view on creation.

**The Origin/Value of Human Life:** Sanctity of life, abortion, euthanasia and organ donation.

**Beliefs about Death and the Afterlife:** Muslim, Christian and Humanist beliefs about funerals and life after death.

### Issues of Good and Evil

**Crime and Punishment:** What makes an act wrong? The causes of crime and aims of punishment. Religious views on Prison Reform and the Death Penalty.

**Forgiveness:** Peace and conflict, Just War Theory, pacifism and conscientious objectors, Christian beliefs, teachings and examples of forgiveness.

**Good, Evil and Suffering:** Philosophical perspectives on the origin of evil, Original Sin, Augustine and Irenaeus, The Problem of Evil.

## Prior learning

The Department assumes students have fully engaged with the Key Stage 3 Scheme of Work and have a foundational understanding of Christianity, Islam and ethical/philosophical themes.

## Global/IOM/Subject Links

**Global:** Cultural capital of an in depth study of religion. A study of Global Citizenship. Study of ethical and philosophical themes.

**IOM:** Euthanasia and abortion debate on the Isle of Man. Local charity organisations. Local churches.

**Subject Links:** Science – organ donation. History – peace and conflict. English – written evaluation responses.

## Subject specific skills development

Please see 1.1 Aims and Objectives in the Specification:

<https://www.wjec.co.uk/media/u3ilyesd/wjec-gcse-religious-studies-spec-from-2017-e-120319.pdf>