

Revision Schedule 2026

Year 11 Revision Schedule 2026

Subject/Course:		Religious Studies GCSE				
Topic	Key knowledge/skills/questions	R	A	G	Revised	Resources/activities/links
Key beliefs: Christianity	<p>The nature of God: God as omnipotent, loving and just, and the problem of evil and suffering</p> <p>The oneness of God and the Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.</p>					<p>https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/religious-studies/gcse/religious-studies-8062/assessment-resources</p> <p>https://assets.website-files.com/5b479663b998de7367010948/5b855eb16ffd96ecfa3b005b_GCSE%20RS%20Paper%201.pdf</p>
	Different Christian beliefs about creation including the role of Word and Spirit (John 1:1-3 and Genesis 1:1-3).					Textbook: AQA Religious Studies A Christianity, Oxford University Press
	Different Christian beliefs about the afterlife and their importance, including: resurrection and life after death; judgement, heaven and hell					https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zjgx47h
	<p>Jesus Christ and salvation:</p> <p>The incarnation and Jesus as the Son of God</p> <p>The crucifixion, resurrection and ascension</p> <p>Sin, including original sin</p>					Revision guide: AQA A Complete Revision & Practice (with Online Extras) (CGP AQA A GCSE RS)

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	<p>The means of salvation, including law, grace and Spirit</p> <p>The role of Christ in salvation including the idea of atonement.</p>					
Practices: Christianity	<p>Worship and festivals</p> <p>Different forms of worship and their significance:</p> <p>liturgical, non-liturgical and informal, including the use of the Bible</p> <p>private worship.</p>					Revision guide: AQA GCSE Religious Studies A: Christianity and Islam Complete Revision and Practice (Oxford Revise: Religious Studies)
	Prayer and its significance, including the Lord's Prayer, set prayers and informal prayer.					Revision Guide: AQA GCSE Religious Studies A: Christianity and Islam Revision Guide:(GCSE Religious Studies for AQA)
	<p>The role and meaning of the sacraments:</p> <p>the meaning of sacrament</p> <p>the sacrament of baptism and its significance for Christians; infant and believers' baptism; different beliefs about infant baptism</p> <p>the sacrament of eucharist (Holy Communion) and its significance for Christians, including different ways in which it is celebrated and different interpretations of its meaning.</p>					<p>Revision guide: AQA GCSE Religious Studies A (9-1)</p> <p>Workbook: Christianity and Islam for Paper 1: Get Revision with Results Paperback – 7 Nov. 2019</p>

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	<p>The role and importance of pilgrimage and celebrations including:</p> <p>two contrasting examples of Christian pilgrimage: Lourdes and Iona</p> <p>the celebrations of Christmas and Easter, including their importance for Christians in Great Britain today.</p>					Give 2 Christian festivals (2)
	<p>The role of the church in the local and worldwide community</p> <p>The role of the Church in the local community, including food banks and street pastors.</p> <p>The place of mission, evangelism and Church growth.</p> <p>The importance of the worldwide Church including:</p> <p>working for reconciliation</p> <p>how Christian churches respond to persecution</p> <p>the work of one of the following: Catholic Agency For Overseas Development (CAFOD), Christian Aid, Tearfund.</p>					<p>Give 2 ways in which the Church works towards reconciliation. (2)</p> <p>Explain 2 ways in which the Church responds to persecution. (4)</p>

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Beliefs and Teachings: Islam	<p>Key Beliefs</p> <p>The six articles of faith in Sunni Islam and five roots of Usul ad-Din in Shi'a Islam, including key similarities and differences.</p> <p>The Oneness of God (Tawhid), Qur'an Surah 112.</p> <p>The nature of God omnipotence, beneficence, mercy, fairness and justice (Adalat in Shi'a Islam), including different ideas about God's relationship with the world: immanence and transcendence.</p> <p>Angels, their nature and role, including Jibril and Mika'il.</p> <p>Predestination and human freedom and its relationship to the Day of Judgement.</p> <p>Life after death (Akhirah), human responsibility and accountability, resurrection, heaven and hell.</p>					<p>Textbook: AQA Religious Studies A Islam, Oxford University Press</p> <p>'The best way to describe God is as omnipotent' Evaluate this statement. (12)</p> <p>In your answer you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • should give reasoned arguments in support of this statement • should give reasoned arguments to support a different point of view <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • should refer to religious arguments • may refer to non-religious arguments • should reach a justified conclusion.
	<p>Authority:</p> <p>Prophethood (Risalah) including the role and importance of Adam, Ibrahim and Muhammad.</p>					<p>'Adom is the most important prophet in Islam' Evaluate this statement. (12)</p> <p>In your answer you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • should give reasoned arguments in support of this statement

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	<p>The holy books:</p> <p>Qur'an: revelation and authority</p> <p>the Torah, the Psalms, the Gospel, the Scrolls of Abraham and their authority.</p> <p>The imamate in Shi'a Islam: its role and significance.</p>					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • should give reasoned arguments to support a different point of view • should refer to religious arguments • may refer to non-religious arguments • should reach a justified conclusion.
Practices: Islam	<p>Worship:</p> <p>Five Pillars of Sunni Islam and the Ten Obligatory Acts of Shi'a Islam (students should study the Five Pillars and jihad in both Sunni and Shi'a Islam and the additional duties of Shi'a Islam).</p> <p>Shahadah: declaration of faith and its place in Muslim practice.</p> <p>Salah and its significance: how and why Muslims pray including times, directions, ablution (wudu), movements (rak'ahs) and recitations; salah in the home and mosque and elsewhere; Friday prayer (Jummah); key differences in the practice of salah in Sunni and Shi'a Islam, and different Muslim views about the importance of prayer.</p>					<p>'The Jummah prayer is the most important prayer for Muslims' (12)</p> <p>In your answer you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • should give reasoned arguments in support of this statement • should give reasoned arguments to support a different point of view <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • should refer to religious arguments • may refer to non-religious arguments • should reach a justified conclusion.
	Duties and festivals:					<p>Explain two contrasting views in Islam on the giving of alms (4)</p>

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	<p>Sawm: the role and significance of fasting during the month of Ramadan including origins, duties, benefits of fasting, the exceptions and their reasons, and the Night of Power, Qur'an 96:1-5.</p> <p>Zakah: the role and significance of giving alms including origins, how and why it is given, benefits of receipt, Khums in Shi'a Islam.</p> <p>Hajj: the role and significance of the pilgrimage to Makkah including origins, how hajj is performed, the actions pilgrims perform at sites including the Ka'aba at Makkah, Mina, Arafat, Muzdalifah and their significance.</p> <p>Jihad: different understandings of jihad: the meaning and significance of greater and lesser jihad; origins, influence and conditions for the declaration of lesser jihad.</p>					
	<p>Festivals and commemorations and their importance for Muslims in Great Britain today, including the origins and meanings of Id-ul-Adha, Id-ul-Fitr, Ashura.</p>					<p>Explain two contrasting ways in which Muslims celebrate the festival of Ashura (4)</p>

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Theme A: Relationships and families	Contraception.					Revision guide: AQA GCSE Religious Studies A (9-1) Workbook: Themes through Christianity and Islam for Paper 2: Get Revision with Results Paperback – 17 Oct. 2019
	Sexual relationships before marriage.					Explain two views on sex before marriage in contemporary British society. (5) Refer to sacred writings or another source of religious belief and teaching in your answer.
	Homosexual relationships.					
	Sex, marriage and divorce: Human sexuality including: heterosexual and homosexual relationships. Sexual relationships before and outside of marriage. Contraception and family planning. The nature and purpose of marriage. Same-sex marriage and cohabitation. Divorce, including reasons for divorce, and remarrying.					'Marriage should be for life' (12) In your answer you: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • should give reasoned arguments in support of this statement • should give reasoned arguments to support a different point of view <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • should refer to religious arguments • may refer to non-religious arguments • should reach a justified conclusion.

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	Ethical arguments related to divorce, including those based on the sanctity of marriage vows and compassion.					
	Families and gender equality The nature of families, including: the role of parents and children extended families and the nuclear family.					Give 2 religious beliefs on the nature of families. (2)
	The purpose of families, including: procreation stability and the protection of children educating children in a faith.					Explain 2 reasons why education children in faith is important for people with religious faith. (4)
	Contemporary family issues including: same-sex parents polygamy.					
	The roles of men and women. Gender equality. Gender prejudice and discrimination, including examples.					'The role of a woman is to be a wife and mother' (12) In your answer you: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • should give reasoned arguments in support of this statement • should give reasoned arguments to support a different point of view <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • should refer to religious arguments • may refer to non-religious arguments

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						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • should reach a justified conclusion.
Theme B: Religion and life	<p>The origins of the universe, including:</p> <p>religious teachings about the origins of the universe, and different interpretations of these</p> <p>the relationship between scientific views, such as the Big Bang theory, and religious views.</p> <p>The value of the world and the duty of human beings to protect it, including religious teaching about stewardship, dominion, responsibility, awe and wonder.</p> <p>The use and abuse of the environment, including the use of natural resources, pollution.</p> <p>The use and abuse of animals, including:</p> <p>animal experimentation</p> <p>the use of animals for food.</p>					<p>Explain 2 contrasting views about the origin of the universe. (4)</p> <p>'The earth is ours to do with as we wish'(12) In your answer you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • should give reasoned arguments in support of this statement • should give reasoned arguments to support a different point of view <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • should refer to religious arguments • may refer to non-religious arguments • should reach a justified conclusion.
	<p>The origins and value of human life:</p> <p>The origins of life, including:</p>					<p>'Euthanasia should be legalized in the UK'(12) In your answer you:</p>

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	<p>religious teachings about the origins of human life, and different interpretations of these</p> <p>the relationship between scientific views, such as evolution, and religious views.</p> <p>The concepts of sanctity of life and the quality of life.</p> <p>Abortion, including situations when the mother's life is at risk.</p> <p>Ethical arguments related to abortion, including those based on the sanctity of life and quality of life.</p> <p>Euthanasia.</p> <p>Beliefs about death and an afterlife, and their impact on beliefs about the value of human life.</p>					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • should give reasoned arguments in support of this statement • should give reasoned arguments to support a different point of view <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • should refer to religious arguments • may refer to non-religious arguments • should reach a justified conclusion. <p>Explain 2 contrasting views on abortion in contemporary British society.</p> <p>Refer to sacred writings or another source of religious belief and teaching in your answer. (5)</p>
Theme D: Religion, Peace and conflict	<p>Religion, violence, terrorism and war</p> <p>The meaning and significance of:</p> <p>Peace</p> <p>Justice</p>					<p>'War can never be justified' (12)</p> <p>In your answer you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • should give reasoned arguments in support of this statement • should give reasoned arguments to support a different point of view

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	<p>Forgiveness</p> <p>reconciliation.</p> <p>Violence, including violent protest.</p> <p>Terrorism.</p> <p>Reasons for war, including greed, self-defence and retaliation.</p> <p>The just war theory, including the criteria for a just war.</p> <p>Holy war.</p> <p>Pacifism.</p>					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • should refer to religious arguments • may refer to non-religious arguments • should reach a justified conclusion.
	<p>Religion and belief in 21st century conflict: Religion and belief as a cause of war and violence in the contemporary world.</p> <p>Nuclear weapons, including nuclear deterrence.</p> <p>The use of weapons of mass destruction.</p> <p>Religion and peace-making in the contemporary world including the work of individuals influenced by religious teaching.</p>					<p>Explain 2 contemporary responses to the use of weapons of mass destruction.</p> <p>Refer to sacred writings or another source of religious belief and teaching in your answer. (5)</p>

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	Religious responses to the victims of war including the work of one present day religious organisation.					
Theme E: Religion, crime and punishment	<p>Religion, crime and the causes of crime</p> <p>Good and evil intentions and actions, including whether it can ever be good to cause suffering.</p> <p>Reasons for crime, including:</p> <p>poverty and upbringing</p> <p>mental illness and addiction</p> <p>greed and hate</p> <p>opposition to an unjust law.</p> <p>Views about people who break the law for these reasons.</p> <p>Views about different types of crime, including hate crimes, theft and murder.</p>					<p>Give 2 reasons for Crime. (2)</p> <p>'Crime can never be justified' 12)</p> <p>In your answer you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • should give reasoned arguments in support of this statement • should give reasoned arguments to support a different point of view <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • should refer to religious arguments • may refer to non-religious arguments • should reach a justified conclusion.
	<p>The aims of punishment, including:</p> <p>retribution</p> <p>deterrence</p>					<p>Explain 2 aims of punishment.</p> <p>Refer to sacred writings or another source of religious belief and teaching in your answer. (5)</p>

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	reformation.					
	The treatment of criminals, including: prison corporal punishment community service.					Explain 2 religious views on the treatment of criminals. (4)
	Forgiveness. The death penalty. Ethical arguments related to the death penalty, including those based on the principle of utility and sanctity of life.					<p>'Murderers should get the death penalty' (12)</p> <p>In your answer you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • should give reasoned arguments in support of this statement • should give reasoned arguments to support a different point of view <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • should refer to religious arguments • may refer to non-religious arguments • should reach a justified conclusion.