

26 March 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

Religious Studies GCSE Exams

I am writing with details about how to prepare for the upcoming RS GCSE exams. They will take place on the following dates:

Paper 1: Christianity and Islam	Tuesday 12 May 2026
Paper 2: Thematic Studies	Wednesday 20 May 2026

To aid revision, each student has been provided with a [Personal Learning Checklist and Countdown plan](#), stating what to revise and when. These have been shared through Google classroom with the students. We have found in the past that students who perform best are those whose parents/carers have an understanding of [good revision strategies](#) in RS and who support this revision at home. We would encourage 3-4 hours per week of revision leading up to the exams in addition to any homework or classwork. This is roughly 30 minutes per day.

The RS Department is providing revision sessions after school to support students on a Tuesday and Wednesday. Please encourage them to attend any session they would like, detailed here: [GCSE RS After School Revision Sessions Final Exams](#). These sessions are first come - first serve. If there is no space in the classroom for the students to join the session, then students will have to revise in the LRC or at home.

Below are some ways that you can support your child at home to ensure that their revision is effective:

1. **Insist on a social media blackout during revision time.** Research shows that students who revise without smartphones near them benefit from their revision more.
2. Encourage them to revise short topic areas frequently, rather than cramming in the final week. Use the [countdown plan](#) to help organise this.
3. Check they are using the countdown plan and updating it so that they know what they have already revised and what they have left to cover.
4. Encourage them to test their knowledge by answering exam style questions (these can be found on the [25/26 RS GCSE PLC](#)). They need to be able to apply their knowledge to the exam.
5. Encourage them to seek feedback from their teachers. They get lots of feedback on exams and writing techniques in class, but if they would like more, they need to be proactive in seeking it out.

I hope this is of use to you and your child as they prepare for their first GCSE exam. If you have any questions, please email your child's RS teacher and one of us will get back to you as soon as possible.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Johnson', enclosed within a circular scribble.

Miss B Johnson
Religious Studies Subject Leader