

22 October 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

Religious Studies Mock Exam

As you may already be aware, your child will be taking their GCSE mock exam in Religious Studies this year, in November - Wednesday 5 November at 9.00am. Their actual (final) GCSE exams will take place during the formal exam season in the summer. We are following AQA RS Specification A.

As a department, we have provided each student with a [Personal Learning Checklist](#), which details every topic in the GCSE course and includes helpful links to a variety of revision resources. 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 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 mocks in addition to any homework or classwork. This is roughly 30 minutes per day.

The RS GCSE Mock will include the following topics:

- a) Paper 1 - Christianity and Islam - students should prepare to answer possible exam questions on sections numbered **1-33 on the PLC**.
- b) Paper 2 - Theme E - Religion, Crime and Punishment - students should prepare to answer possible exam questions on sections numbered **60-69 on the PLC**.

The mock exams are always important and a useful learning tool as they give our students a chance to experience a period of revision and then what it is like to sit an exam.

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](#) (final tab) to help organise this. They will have revision set for homework, and they should be completing this as a bare minimum.
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 use quizlets or Seneca. Quizlet is accessible through the countdown plan and all Y10 students have a Seneca account through their school email.

5. Buy a Religious Studies Revision Guide. Many of them are good but the one we have found most user friendly is linked on the school website and [here](#).
6. Encourage them to do practice questions under timed conditions. There are plenty of these on the revision navigator as well as full sample papers. (*note: not all themes have been covered yet)
7. 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.

Finally, help them be clear on the exam dates and details. This will be different for the exams in the summer and information will be sent out at a later date regarding these exams. **For the 5 November 2025 mocks:**

- c) Paper 1 - Christianity and Islam
- d) Paper 2 - Theme E - Religion, Crime and Punishment.

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

Yours faithfully,



Miss B Johnson
Religious Studies Subject Leader