

NEWSLETTER – SPRING TERM 2024

Professional Learning

In November and December GCSE Religious Studies professional learning events took place, available as face-to-face events in Cardiff and Llandudno with additional English and Welsh on-line events. CYDAG met in December in North Wales. The on-line events were well-attended by colleagues with an opportunity to revisit the last summer series of examinations. The focus of the face-to-face events was 'convenient strategies and time-saving resources for WJEC GCSE Religious Studies'.

All materials from the Professional Learning events are available on the WJEC website.

New qualification GCSE Religious Studies proposed first teaching from September 2025

WJEC has begun the process of developing the new GCSE Religious Studies specification based on the proposal published by Qualification Wales. A consultation on the WJEC qualification outline was completed in November. The new GCSE specification will be completed for September 2024, with first teaching scheduled to begin in September 2025; the first year of assessment for the new GCSE is scheduled for summer 2026, with an examination and NEA task.

It is important to note that this is a two-year unitised qualification.

Entry Pathways – Humanities

Entry Pathways Humanities is a qualification that allows learners to achieve credit for their work across units drawn from History, Geography and **Religious Studies**, with assessment criteria designed to complement the WJEC GCSE qualifications in these subjects. Centres can select units that are drawn from **one** or more of these subjects to allow those candidates who may not be able to display a successful outcome at GCSE to achieve an Award, Certificate or Diploma in Humanities at Entry Level 2 or Entry Level 3. For further information about the Entry Pathways Humanities qualification, please see the subject page (Entry Pathways Humanities) on <https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/humanities-entry-pathway>.

WJEC Resources GCSE Religious Studies

A reminder to explore the Digital Resources Site available on the WJEC web site to find helpful resources, often student-centred and highly interactive. There are a wide range of resources to support the GCSE Religious Studies available on <https://resources.wjec.co.uk>.