

WJEC GCSE Religious Studies

Newsletter – April 2023

Summer series 2023

Advanced Information is available on the WJEC website to support GCSE candidate revision for this summer series of examinations.

<https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/religious-studies>

A range of resources to aid teaching, learning and revision are also available on the WJEC website, including new student revision planners.

<https://resources.wjec.co.uk>

New GCSE Religious Studies proposed first teaching 2025.

WJEC will start the process of developing the new GCSE Religious Studies specification during the Summer term. The new specification with specimen assessment materials will be ready for September 2024, with first teaching scheduled to begin in September 2025. Detailed teacher guidance and resources will follow publication of the new specification.

Full 14-16 qualification offer consultation.

Public consultation concerning the new proposed Full 14-16 qualification offer is now available until the June 2023 deadline. The proposed qualifications have an important possible RVE element and RVE teachers may want to look at the proposal regarding RVE; mention of a possible unit is included in the proposal 1 study skills section and proposal 3 (humanities). No short-course GCSE Religious Studies will be offered as part of the reform of current GCSE qualifications but there may be an opportunity for a future standalone qualification within the full qualification offer. Qualification Wales 'welcome views on whether there is also a case for creating a small, standalone qualification that focuses specifically on RVE. This would be a relatively small qualification (between 30 GLH and 60 GLH) available across Entry Level, Level 1 and Level 2. We envisage that schools would teach this type of qualification separately to the new Religious Studies GCSE.' It is important all RVE teachers respond to this consultation. The link for further details:

<https://haveyoursay.qualifications.wales/hub-page/the-full-14-16-offer>

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 (wjec.co.uk)) or contact entrypathwayshumanities@wjec.co.uk.