

WJEC GCSE Religious Studies

Newsletter – spring term 2023

Professional Learning

In December and early January GCSE Religious Studies professional learning (CPD) took place, available as face-to-face events in Cardiff and Llandudno with an English and Welsh on-line event in early January. CYDAG met in December. The events were well-attended by colleagues with an opportunity to revisit the last summer series of examinations and develop strategies for improving examination performance. The opportunity was used to ask colleagues for their views regarding the possible curriculum content for the new proposed GCSE RS.

All materials from the CPD events are available on the WJEC website.

Advance Information GCSE Religious Studies summer series 2023

Welsh Government has announced its intention to offer advance information on the general topic areas of certain questions in 2023. The release date for advance information regarding the summer series is scheduled for **6th February 2023** and there will be Advanced Information for GCSE Religious Studies.

New GCSE Religious Studies proposed first teaching 2025

WJEC will begin the process of developing the new GCSE Religious Studies specification as soon as the final proposal is published by Qualification Wales. The new specification will be ready for September 2024, with first teaching scheduled to begin in September 2025.

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.

Become an assistant examiner in 2023

Have you thought of becoming a GCSE Religious Studies examiner with the WJEC? There are many benefits for teachers in becoming an assistant examiner. Some of these include:

- Extra insight into the assessment of your subject.
- Improved subject knowledge to take back to the classroom.
- Improved quality of feedback given to students.

For further information on the benefits of becoming an examiner can be found [here](#).

Contributions for the REConnect magazine

We are always looking for teachers to contribute an article for the Religious Studies magazine – 'REConnect'. Why not send in a teaching and learning idea or thought-provoking Religious Studies related article?