



GCSE

INFORMATION BOOKLET

2021-2022



*Knowledge becomes **power** when you put it to use.*



We are proud to be part of
the world's largest international
community of schools.

Dear Pupil,

Choosing your options for GCSE is an important stage in your education. This is the process that allows you to think about your future goals and supports you to choose some of the subjects that you will study over the next few years. We know that it can be a difficult time because there are a lot of questions that you might have: Which subject is right for me? What if I don't know what I want to do at all? Rest assured that we will help you to make choices about your future learning that are right for you.

This booklet and the options process are designed to make this time less worrying for you and your parents/ carers. They will help you to start making decisions about your learning and to choose subjects that suit your aspirations, skills and needs. Please use all the information available to you: this booklet; advice from teachers; your tutors and your parents. All of these people know you and may be able to suggest whether they think a subject would suit you as a learner.

We hope that the information allows you to make the right choices that will see you well placed to succeed over the next few years and beyond.

Good Advice

You should remember the following when selecting options:

Do

- Do choose subjects which you like or enjoy.
- Do choose subjects at which you are successful.
- Do opt for subjects that match your ambitions.
- Do get **more advice** from parents, older brothers and sisters and older pupils.
- Do choose subjects which you may need for a career or further education.
- Do find out everything that you can about the subject before you choose it. Once you have started a subject, we expect you to stick with it for the full duration.
- Do think carefully about when you do your best – written exams or controlled assessments.
- Do talk to the people who know you best.
- Do listen to the advice your subject teachers give you.



Don't

- Don't choose a subject just because your friend has chosen it, friendships may change with time but your GCSE grades will remain with you forever.
- Don't choose a subject just because you like, or dislike a particular teacher. They may not end up teaching you!
- Don't panic if you are confused – come and talk to us.



GCSE Grading System

NEW grading structure	U	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Old grading structure	U	G	F	E	D	C	B	A	A*	

All pupils at Read Academy MUST study these subjects and they will be MANDATORY to take up as a GCSE:

In addition to the compulsory core subjects, you will choose two additional subjects from the Options Section in this booklet.

COMPULSORY CORE SUBJECTS
English Literature
English Language
Mathematics
Science – Physics
Science – Biology
Science – Chemistry
Islamiyat
Arabic

OPTIONAL SUBJECTS
Business
Citizenship
Sociology
Religious Studies (RE)
History
Psychology

Important Notice

After you have returned the completed Your Choices Form (at the end of this booklet), you will be given a meeting with a member of staff to discuss your choices. Every effort will be made to offer help you understand your choices well. However, we cannot guarantee that you will be able to follow all of the subjects you initially choose as this will depend on the level of demand for each subject.

Mathematics GCSE

Compulsory

Introduction:

Mathematics is studied by all students at Read Academy as it is a core subject. Students are taught key mathematical principles and then apply this knowledge in problem solving and in everyday situations. The skills covered in Math's are also applied in other subjects. Students are encouraged to present their solutions in different forms; these may include written explanations, diagrams, and discussion.

They will develop a feel for numbers, be able to reason logically and appreciate patterns and relationships in Mathematics. They will be expected to extend ideas in practical and investigative situations and work both independently and in groups.

What will I study?

- Number
- Algebra
- Ratio, Proportion, Rates of change
- Geometry
- Statistics
- Probability
- Use knowledge and understanding to form connections between mathematical concepts.
- Apply Math's in everyday life

What can I do with Mathematics?

Mathematics underpins the world around us and a good understanding of maths will help with many everyday life activities from catching a train to managing personal finances to baking a cake!

Many other subjects have mathematical elements so GCSE Maths will help to support further studies in Science, Geography, Psychology, Economics and many more.

Careers which require a good mathematical foundation include accountancy and finance, science and medicine, engineering and social sciences: the opportunities are endless!

Course specification & further information:

Pearson
Edexcel Level 1/Level 2
GCSE (9–1)
in Mathematics (1MA1)

Further information can be found at:
<https://qualifications.pearson.com/>

Assessment:

Three papers – 1 Non calc and 2 Calc
Duration: 1 Hour 30 Min
Marks: 80 per paper – 240 Total

Triple Science GCSE

Compulsory

Introduction:

Being scientifically literate is becoming increasingly important in the 21st century as we head into a technologically advancing world. Science is not just the accumulation of knowledge, it is also the ability to understand the scientific methods, which allow us to make new discoveries about the world around us and beyond. This course aims to develop a deep understanding of your knowledge in biology, chemistry and physics. Through scientific problem solving, analysing complex information, research and evaluation, experimental work and interpretation of experimental data.

The skills learnt in science can also be applied to many other subjects as it allows you to understand how things work in many careers and further educational courses, not just science related ones.

What will I study?

Biology:

- Cell biology
- Organisation
- Infection and response
- Bioenergetics

Chemistry:

- Atomic structure
- Periodic table
- Bonding and structure
- Quantitative chemistry

Physics:

- Energy
- Electricity
- Forces
- Waves
- Magnetism

What can I do with sciences?

This qualification will lead to successful students gaining 3 separate GCSE's which provide a gateway to a wealth of vocational courses.

For Biology these include Nursing, Doctor, Radiography, Sonography, physician associate, physiotherapist, clinical scientist, Nutrition, Zoologist, dentist.

For chemistry these include chemical engineer, pharmacology, pharmacy, toxicologist, nanotechnologist, metallurgist, forensics and medical chemistry.

For Physics this includes nuclear engineer, Astronomer, Engineering, geophysicist, sound engineer, audiologist, computer science, meteorologist, electrician.

Course specification & further information:

AQA GCSE , Biology 9–1 (841) , Chemistry 9–1 (842) , Physics 9–1 (843)

Further information can be found at:

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/>

Assessment:

Two papers for chemistry, biology and physics

Duration: 1 Hour 45 Min each paper

English GCSE

Compulsory

Introduction:

GCSE English Language and Literature is a core subject that all pupils at Read Academy study at KS4. Student will be able to take part in exploratory activities designed to develop confidence in reading and writing. Immerse themselves in group discussions, arguments and debates to develop critical opinions regarding literature. Work towards building confidence in reading skills by encountering a range of non-fiction texts across three centuries, having the opportunity to read and enjoy literature from a range of times and genres as well as forming personal responses to literature through analysing unseen texts. With the guidance of Miss Noreen, students will be taught how to develop a precise and accurate writing style through practicing technical aspects of written and spoken expression.

What will I study?

You will study a range of non-fiction texts from the 19th, 20th and 21st century including travel writing, diary entries and quality journalism. You will learn how to analyse a range of fiction texts including Shakespeare's Macbeth, Charles Dicken's A Christmas Carol and JB Priestley's An Inspector Calls as well as power and conflict poetry. You will learn how to write in a variety of forms such as narrative descriptions and argumentative essays, whilst also developing presentation and discussion skills in front of an audience.

What can I do with English?

The key English skills of reading, writing, speaking and listening are required in all academic courses and all careers. The study of English develops confidence. The study of English can provide a life-long love of literature. You will achieve critical skills that are applicable in a wide range of contexts.

These key English skills will enable you to access a plethora of subjects that consist of literature elements. For example, Sources in GCSE History, critical study in GCSE Art and Design as well as written NEA components in GCSE Food and Nutrition – these but amongst the few that consist of English language and literature elements.

A career in English; teaching, poetry, authoring, journalism amidst a pool of opportunities.

Course specification & further information

AQA GCSE English Language and Literature. Please access the links below for more details:

http://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/english/specifications/A_QA-8700-SP-2015.PDF

http://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/english/specifications/A_QA-8702-SP-2015-V1-1.PDF

Assessment

English Language: Two written exams both lasting 1 hour 45 minutes in which you will answer questions on a range of non-fiction texts and complete 2 creative writing tasks (100% of final grade)

English Literature: Shakespeare and the 19th Century novel - exam lasting 1 hour 45 minutes (40% of final grade) and Modern texts and poetry – exam lasting 2 hours 15 minutes (60% of final grade)

Spoken language presentations (0%)

GCSE Arabic

Compulsory

Introduction:

“Arabic is the soul of the Quran.”

Learning Arabic is the first step for any Muslim to know about Islam, as it is the native language of our beloved Prophet Muhammad (SAW). It is the language of the last book of Allah (the Holy Quran), and also the whole Islam.

This language in which the Quran was revealed on the Messenger of Allah Muhammad (SAW) over 1400 years ago. As an Arabic teacher I believe Arabic language should be accessible for all students. GCSE Arabic has been developed to help students of all abilities progress and develop a passion for Arabic language, through culturally engaging content. The course of study that will enable students to manipulate and use the Arabic language effectively, independently, and creatively, so that they have a solid basis from which to progress to A Level or employment. This qualification offers a suitable progression route to GCE AS and GCE A Level in Arabic. In addition, the study of one language at GCSE can facilitate and help promote the learning of other languages. The qualification may also add to an individual’s employability profile. Students will be able to apply their knowledge, skills and understanding to authentic, real-life contexts. They will develop transferable skills that support higher education study and the transition to employment, together with an understanding and appreciation of Arabic-speaking countries and their cultures.

What will I study?

Students will study across a variety of contexts relevant to their age and interests and will also develop a greater awareness of the culture of Arabic-speaking communities and countries. These contexts are listed under Themes and topics. Students will need to develop and use their knowledge and understanding of Arabic grammar progressively through their course. The course includes materials that cover the four skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. This course adopts task-based method of learning, where students are required to perform some Arabic linguistic tasks, such as: role-play, presentations, and discussions followed by some general conversation activities.

What can I do with Arabic?

Arabic is not the language of one country, of course, but of 26 nations across North Africa and the Middle East. It is a language that unites at least 400 million native speakers in the Arab world.

Learning Arabic will make you stand out, as there are very few people from the West that speak Arabic. Having command of Arabic will make you appear clever and sophisticated.

Learning a language is learning about the culture of the country where the language is spoken. Arab culture is rich and interesting. Learning the language will enable you to read some of the famous classic literature.

You will be able to benefit economically. Natural resources abound in the Middle East and speaking Arabic will open many job positions for you.

The Arabic language helps:

- Develop the student ability to communicate confidently and coherently with native speakers in speech and writing, conveying what they want to say with increasing accuracy.
- Deepen the students’ knowledge about how language works and enrich their vocabulary in order for them to increase their independent use and understanding of extended language in a wide range of contexts.
- Develop language-learning skills both for immediate use and to prepare them for further language study and use in school, higher education, or employment.

Course specification & further information:

Pearson Edexcel Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9–1)

Further information can be found at:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/>

Assessment

Arabic consists of four externally examined papers based on the following skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students must complete their speaking assessment in April/May and all other assessments in May/June in any single year. Each paper is available at Foundation tier or Higher tier.

Cambridge International Islamiyat

Compulsory

Introduction:

Our expertise in curriculum, teaching and learning, and assessment is the basis for the recognition of our programmes and qualifications around the world. Cambridge IGCSEs is accepted and valued by leading universities and employers around the world as evidence of academic achievement. Many universities require a combination of Cambridge International AS & A Levels and Cambridge IGCSEs or equivalent to meet their entry requirements. UK NARIC, the national agency in the UK for the recognition and comparison of international qualifications and skills, has carried out an independent benchmarking study of Cambridge IGCSE and found it to be comparable to the standard of GCSE in the UK. This means students can be confident that their Cambridge IGCSE qualifications are accepted as equivalent to UK GCSEs by leading universities worldwide.

What will I study?

Cambridge IGCSE is the world's most popular international qualification for 14- to 16-year-olds, although it can be taken by students of other ages. It is tried, tested and trusted. Students can choose from 70 subjects in any combination – it is taught by over 4800 schools in 146 countries. The syllabuses provide opportunities for contextualised learning and the content has been created to suit a wide variety of schools, avoid cultural bias and develop essential lifelong skills, including creative thinking and problem-solving. Our aim is to balance knowledge, understanding and skills in our programmes and qualifications to enable students to become effective learners and to provide a solid foundation for their continuing educational journey. Through our professional development courses and our support materials for Cambridge IGCSEs, we provide the tools to enable teachers to prepare students to the best of their ability and work with us in the pursuit of excellence in education. Cambridge IGCSEs is considered to be an excellent preparation for Cambridge International AS & A Levels.

Cambridge IGCSE Islamiyat is accepted by universities and employers as proof of ability and understanding. The Cambridge IGCSE Islamiyat syllabus encourages students to develop lifelong skills and knowledge, including:

- an understanding of the importance of the major beliefs of Islam and of the early history of the Islamic community
- evaluation skills to understand how these beliefs impact on the daily lives and thoughts of Muslims around the world
- familiarity with the Qur'an and Hadith in Arabic.

What can I do with Islamiyat?

It permits students to build their knowledge and understanding of the main elements of Islamic faith and history, assessing the meaning and the **importance** of these elements in the lives and thoughts of Muslims. This will help build your confidence in knowledge of the deen and go on to teach this to future generations.

Course specification & further information

Candidates can combine this syllabus in an examination series with any other Cambridge International syllabus, except: • Cambridge O Level Islamic Studies (2068) • Cambridge O Level Islamiyat (2058) • syllabuses with the same title at the same level. Please note that Cambridge IGCSE, Cambridge IGCSE (9–1) and Cambridge O Level syllabuses are at the same level.

Assessment

All candidates take two written papers and answer in English. Both papers must be taken for the candidate to be awarded a grade. Candidates should be able to demonstrate that they have closely studied the topics set. They should be able to:

AO1: Recall, select and present relevant facts from the main elements of the faith and history of Islam.

AO2: Demonstrate understanding of their significance in the teachings of Islam and in the lives of Muslims.

GCSE Sociology

Optional

Introduction:

GCSE Sociology helps students to gain knowledge and understanding of key social structures, processes and issues through the study of families, education, crime and deviance and social stratification. Students will develop their analytical, assimilation and communication skills by comparing and contrasting perspectives on a variety of social issues, constructing reasoned arguments, making substantiated judgements and drawing reasoned conclusions.

By studying sociology, students will develop transferable skills including how to: • investigate facts and make deductions • develop opinions and new ideas on social issues • analyse and better understand the social world.

What will I study?

The sociological approach, social structures, social processes and social issues, Families, Functions of families, Family forms, conjugal role relationship, criticism of families, divorce, roles and functions of education and more.

For further information; <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/sociology/gcse/sociology-8192>

What can I do with Sociology?

This specification requires students to:

- draw on information and evidence from different sources and demonstrate the ability to synthesise them
- analyse and evaluate different research methods used in sociological investigations and assess, critically, the appropriateness of their use
- analyse and evaluate information and evidence presented in different written, visual and numerical forms.
- apply their understanding to explore and debate the current sociological issues outlined in each of the topic areas.
- use sociological theories and evidence to compare and contrast social issues, construct reasoned arguments and debates, make substantiated judgements and draw conclusions • draw connections between the different topic areas studied.

Students are expected to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of key sociological theories by reading and responding to extracts which illustrate the different views of sociologists. They should be able to critically analyse and evaluate how the issues have been interpreted by these sociologists. For each topic area students are expected to demonstrate an understanding of relevant methods and methodological issues, for example the use of official statistics, qualitative and quantitative approaches and the use of mixed methods. They will explore and debate contemporary social issues in order to be able to challenge everyday understandings of social phenomena from a sociological perspective. The knowledge, understanding and skills they develop will provide a basis for further study and career choices.

Course specification & further information – S

GCCSE SOCIOLOGY – 8192 AQA

For more information on the exciting new GCSE Sociology qualification, visit aqa.org.uk/sociology

Assessment

Paper 1: What's assessed • The sociology of families • The sociology of education • Relevant areas of social theory and methodology Students will be expected to draw on knowledge and understanding of the entire course of study to show a deeper understanding of these topics.

Paper 2: What's assessed • The sociology of crime and deviance • The sociology of social stratification • Relevant areas of social theory and methodology Students will be expected to draw on knowledge and understanding of the entire course of study to show a deeper understanding of these topics.

GCSE Psychology

Optional

Introduction:

This engaging and effective qualification introduces students to the fundamentals of psychology, developing critical analysis, independent thinking and research skills. Building on the success of our previous specification we've refreshed the topics and introduced the latest advances in the subject. We gained feedback from teachers to ensure it's as clear, engaging and easy-to-use as possible. • You'll see many familiar and popular topics from our previous specification, which means you can continue to use many of your existing resources. • Our assessments use multiple choice, short answer and extended writing/essays to assess knowledge, understanding, application and evaluation skills. Knowledge of research methods gained through classroom experience of practical psychology will be assessed using scenario-based questions.

What will I study?

Social context and study, cognition and Behaviour, Language, thought and communication, Brain and neuropsychology, psychological problems.

You can find out about Psychology qualifications at aqa.org.uk/psychology

What can I do with Psychology?

Courses based on this specification must encourage students to: • use specialist vocabulary, psychological concepts, terminology and convention to engage in the process of psychological enquiry • acquire knowledge and understanding of psychology, developing an understanding of self and others, and how psychological understanding can help to explain everyday social phenomena • understand how psychological research is conducted, including the role of scientific method and data analysis • present information, develop arguments and draw conclusions through a critical approach to psychological evidence, developing as reflective thinkers • develop an understanding of the relationship between psychology and personal, moral, social and cultural issues, and develop an understanding of ethical issues in psychology • develop an understanding of psychological issues, the contribution of psychology to individual, social and cultural diversity, and how psychology contributes to society.

Course specification & further information

GCSE PSYCHOLOGY (8182) AQA

You can find out more about Psychology qualifications at aqa.org.uk/psychology

Assessment

Paper 1: Cognition and Behaviour: What's assessed • Memory • Perception • Development • Research methods
Students will be expected to draw on knowledge and understanding of the entire course of study to show a deeper understanding of these topics.

Paper 2: What's assessed • Social influence • Language, thought and communication • Brain and neuropsychology • Psychological problems
Students will be expected to draw on knowledge and understanding of the entire course of study to show a deeper understanding of these topics.

GCSE Business

Optional

Introduction:

A qualification that is engaging and inspiring, and which reflects the demands of a truly modern and evolving business environment – a qualification that enables students to develop as commercially minded and enterprising individuals and helps them to succeed in their chosen pathway.

What will I study?

Through studying this qualification students will:

- apply knowledge and understanding to different business contexts. These include businesses ranging from small enterprises to large multinationals and businesses operating in local, national and global contexts
- develop an understanding of how these contexts impact on business Behaviour
- use business terminology to identify and explain business activity
- apply business concepts to familiar and unfamiliar contexts.

Business decision making

Through studying this qualification students will:

- apply knowledge and understanding to business decision making, including:
 - o the interdependent nature of business activity, influences on business, business operations, finance, marketing and human resources; and how these interdependencies underpin business decision making
 - o how different business contexts affect business decisions
 - o the use and limitation of quantitative and qualitative data in making business decisions
- develop problem-solving and decision-making skills relevant to business
- investigate, analyse and evaluate business opportunities and issues
- make justified decisions using both qualitative and quantitative data, including its selection, interpretation, analysis and evaluation, and the application of appropriate quantitative skills.

What can I do with Business?

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable students to:

- know and understand business concepts, business terminology, business objectives, the integrated nature of business activity and the impact of business on individuals and wider society
- apply knowledge and understanding to contemporary business issues and to different types and sizes of businesses in local, national and global contexts
- develop as enterprising individuals with the ability to think commercially and creatively to demonstrate business acumen, and draw on evidence to make informed business decisions and solve business problems
- develop as effective and independent students, and as critical and reflective thinkers with enquiring minds
- use an enquiring, critical approach to make informed judgements
- investigate and analyse real business opportunities and issues to construct well-argued, well-evidenced, balanced and structured arguments, demonstrating their depth and breadth of understanding of business
- develop and apply quantitative skills relevant to business, including using and interpreting data.

Course specification & further information

EDEXCEL GCSE BUSINESS 1BS0 EDEXCEL

You can find out more about Business qualifications on [Edexcel GCSE Business | Pearson qualifications](#)

Assessment

The Pearson Edexcel Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9–1) in Business consists of two externally-examined papers.

Theme 1: Investigating small business (*Paper code: 1BS0/01)

Theme 2: Building a business (Paper code: 1BS0/02)

GCSE Citizenship Studies

Optional

Introduction:

Citizenship Studies is about how people take an active part in democratic politics and work together for a better society, locally, nationally and globally. Students will learn about power, democracy, the operation of government and the legal system, and the role of the UK in the wider world. They will explore and learn about different controversial and topical issues with political, social, ethical, economic and environmental dimensions in local to global contexts. They will experience taking citizenship action and learn from trying to make a difference themselves.

What will I study?

The course content is divided into five themes:

- A: Living together in the UK
- B: Democracy at work in the UK
- C: Law and justice
- D: Power and influence
- E: Taking citizenship action

What can I do with Citizenship Studies?

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable students to:

- know and understand what democracy is, how parliamentary democracy operates within the constituent parts of the UK, how government works and how democratic and non-democratic systems of government are different beyond the UK
- know and understand the relationship between the state and citizens, the rights, responsibilities and duties of citizens living and working in the UK and how people participate in democracy
- know and understand the role of the law in society, how laws are shaped and enforced and how the justice system works in England and Wales
- know and understand how taxes are raised and spent by governments, and how national economic and financial policies and decisions relate to individuals
- use and apply knowledge and understanding of key citizenship ideas and concepts, including democracy, government, justice, equality, rights, responsibilities, participation, community, identity and diversity, to think deeply and critically about a wide range of political, social, economic and ethical issues and questions facing society in local to global contexts
- use and apply knowledge and understanding as they formulate citizenship enquiries, explore and research citizenship issues and actions, analyse and evaluate information and interpret sources of evidence
- use and apply citizenship knowledge and understanding to contribute to debates, show understanding of different viewpoints, make persuasive and reasoned arguments, and justify and substantiate their conclusions
- use and apply citizenship knowledge, understanding and skills in order to participate in responsible actions to address citizenship issues aimed at improving society and positively contributing to democracy and public life, as individuals and in collaboration with other.

Course specification & further information

GCSE CITIZENSHIP STUDIES - 1CS0 EDEXCEL

You can find out more about GCSE Citizenship Studies Edexcel GCSE Citizenship Studies (2016) | Pearson qualifications

Assessment

The Pearson Edexcel Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9–1) in Citizenship Studies consists of two externally examined papers.

Paper 1 Written examination: 1 hour and 45 minutes 50% of the qualification 80 marks

Paper 2 Written examination: 1 hour and 45 minutes 50% of the qualification 80 marks

GCSE History

Optional

Introduction:

Each Paper 1 option is divided into two: a thematic study and a linked study of a historic environment. This linked structure promotes topic coherence across Paper 1 and aids teaching and learning by allowing the issues studied in the historic environment to be seen within a broader thematic context. Both parts cover British history.

Thematic studies:

The thematic studies require students to understand change and continuity across a long sweep of history, including the most significant characteristics of different ages from the medieval to modern periods. They include people, events and developments and reveal wider changes in aspects of society over the centuries and allow comparisons to be made between different periods of history.

Historic environments

Each historic environment is linked to a thematic study and focuses on that site in its historical context. It examines the relationship between a place and historical events and developments. Much of the content is linked to the thematic study, but additionally some of the content focuses on the place itself.

What will I study?

This GCSE complies with the requirements specified by the Department for Education (DfE) in its document History GCSE subject content (published April 2014). This requires students to study, as a minimum: ● two depth studies, each covering a substantial and short time span: o one must be a British depth study from the medieval (500–1500), early modern (1450–1700) or modern (1750–present) eras o the other must be a European or wider-world depth study from an era different to the British depth study ● a period study of at least 50 years from any of the eras ● the historic environment through the study of a particular site in its historical context ● a thematic study involving the study of people, events and developments drawn from all three eras defined above. The DfE also requires that British history must form at least 40% of the assessed content.

What can I do with History?

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable students to: ● develop and extend their knowledge and understanding of specified key events, periods and societies in local, British, and wider world history; and of the wide diversity of human experience ● engage in historical enquiry to develop as independent learners and as critical and reflective thinkers ● develop the ability to ask relevant questions about the past, to investigate issues critically and to make valid historical claims by using a range of sources in their historical context ● develop an awareness of why people, events and developments have been accorded historical significance and how and why different interpretations have been constructed about them ● organise and communicate their historical knowledge and understanding in different ways and reach substantiated conclusions.

Course specification & further information

GCSE HISTORY – 1HI0 EDEXCEL

You can find out more about GCSE History on: [Edexcel GCSE History \(2016\) | Pearson qualifications](#)

Assessment

The Pearson Edexcel Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9–1) in History consists of three externally examined papers. The total qualification mark is 168, of which 8 marks are for spelling, punctuation, grammar and use of specialist terminology (SPaG).

Paper 1: Thematic study and historic environment (Paper codes: 1HI0/10–13) Written examination: 1 hour and 15 minutes 30%* of the qualification 52 marks (16 for the historic environment, 36 for the thematic study)

Paper 2: Period study and British depth study (Paper codes: 1HI0/2A–2W) Written examination: 1 hour and 45 minutes 40%* of the qualification 64 marks (32 for the period study and 32 for the British depth study)

GCSE Religious Studies

Optional

Introduction:

GCSE specifications in religious studies must require students to:

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding of two religions
- demonstrate knowledge and understanding of key sources of wisdom and authority including scripture and/or sacred texts, where appropriate, which support contemporary religious faith
- understand the influence of religion on individuals, communities and societies
- understand significant common and divergent views between and/or within religions and beliefs
- apply knowledge and understanding in order to analyse questions related to religious beliefs and values
- construct well-informed and balanced arguments on matters concerned with religious beliefs and values set out in the subject content of the syllabus.

What will I study?

Catholic Christianity, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Judaism, Sikhism, Buddhism, Study of Second Religion, Area of Study 3: Philosophy and Ethics and more!

You can find out more about GCSE Religious Studies on: [Edexcel GCSE Religious Studies A \(2016\) | Pearson qualifications](#)

What can I do with Religious Studies?

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable students to:

- develop their knowledge and understanding of religions and non-religious beliefs, such as atheism and humanism
- develop their knowledge and understanding of religious beliefs, teachings, and sources of wisdom and authority, including through their reading of key religious texts, other texts, and scriptures of the religions they are studying
- develop their ability to construct well-argued, well-informed, balanced and structured written arguments, demonstrating their depth and breadth of understanding of the subject
- engage with questions of belief, value, meaning, purpose, truth, and their influence on human life
- reflect on and develop their own values, beliefs and attitudes in the light of what they have learnt and will contribute to their preparation for adult life in a pluralistic society and global community
- demonstrate knowledge and understanding of two religions
- demonstrate knowledge and understanding of key sources of wisdom and authority including scripture and/or sacred texts, where appropriate, which support contemporary religious faith
- understand the influence of religion on individuals, communities and societies
- understand significant common and divergent views between and/or within religions and beliefs
- apply knowledge and understanding in order to analyse questions related to religious beliefs and values
- construct well-informed and balanced arguments on matters concerned with religious beliefs and values.

Course specification & further information

Pearson Edexcel Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9-1) in Religious Studies A (1RA0)

You can find out more about GCSE Religious Studies on: [Edexcel GCSE Religious Studies A \(2016\) | Pearson qualifications](#)

Assessment

The Pearson Edexcel Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9–1) in Religious Studies A consists of three externally-examined papers. All students must complete:

- Paper 1: Area of Study 1 – Study of Religion (Catholic Christianity, Christianity and Islam)
- Paper 2: Area of Study 2 – Study of Second Religion (Catholic Christianity, Christianity, Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism, Judaism and Sikhism). Students must then complete one assessment from either:
- Paper 3: Area of Study 3 – Philosophy and Ethics (Catholic Christianity, Christianity and Islam)
- Paper 4: Area of Study 4 – Textual Studies (Mark’s Gospel or The Qur’an)

GCSE OPTIONS – YOUR CHOICES FORM 2021



Name:

Year Group:

Date:

The following subjects are taken by all pupils to GCSE level:

- English Language
- English Literature
- Mathematics
- Science Biology
- Science Chemistry
- Science Physics
- Arabic
- Islamiyat

Options

Students must choose **TWO** options from the list below. Please tick your first and second choices.

OPTIONAL SUBJECTS	FIRST CHOICE	SECOND CHOICE
<i>Business</i>		
<i>Citizenship</i>		
<i>Sociology</i>		
<i>Religious Studies (RE)</i>		
<i>History</i>		
<i>Psychology</i>		

Pupil Signature:

Parent Signature: