

## Higher RMPS (Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies)

### What are the aims of this course?

This course aims to allow you to:

- Develop an in-depth knowledge and understanding of religious, moral and philosophical issues that affect the world today.
- Formulate reasoned and structured responses to religious, moral and philosophical issues.
- Study a world religion in detail and to gain insight into the ways in which beliefs and values affect the lives of others.
- Explore and develop a deeper understanding of contemporary moral issues.
- Study key aspects of current religious and philosophical questions.
- Consider the questions raised in each area of study and to analyse and evaluate the solutions offered by religious and non-religious perspectives.
- Engage personally with a range of important questions and issues in order to inform their own beliefs and values in a way which contributes to their own personal and social development.

### What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

**Recommended entry:**

Students will normally be expected to have attained **one** of the following:

- National 5 RMPS at A or B **or**
- National 5 English at A or B **or**
- National 5 Social Subject at A or B

## **What will I learn on this course?**

There are **three units** of study:

### **Unit 1 – World Religion**

This unit involves an in-depth study some of the key beliefs and practices found within Islam, which is the second largest and fastest growing religion in the world. The unit examines the significance and the impact of Islam in today's world.

### **Unit 2 – Religious and Philosophical Questions**

This unit explores the relationship and the dialogue between religion and science in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. There will be a particular focus on the origins of the universe and the origins of life. Key scientific theories such as the Big Bang theory and the theory of Evolution will be examined in some detail alongside religious creation accounts.

### **Unit 3 – Morality and Belief**

This unit examines a number of moral issues arising in medicine (medical ethics). Key areas of study include the issues surrounding the use of embryos, organ donation and end of life care, including euthanasia and assisted dying. Responses to these issues will also be studied from both religious and secular (non-religious) perspectives.

## **What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?**

You will experience a wide variety of learning and teaching approaches for example: you will have the opportunity to work individually, in pairs and in small groups, you will experience direct teaching and teacher-led class discussions as well as whole class debates. You will also have the opportunity to learn using interactive technologies.

## **How will I be assessed?**

You will be assessed throughout the course via:

- Regular homework assignments
- A preliminary exam
- The course assessment will be an assignment with a 30 mark allocation plus an external exam with an 80 mark allocation, this will be grade A-D.
- The exam will consist of two papers. Paper 1 will last 2hrs 15mins, paper 2 will last 45 mins.

## **What are the homework requirements?**

You can expect regular homework assignments. Homework will be set on a weekly basis.

## **What are the possible progression routes?**

### **Academic Progression**

If you pass Higher RMPS you can progress to:

- The study of Advanced Higher RMPS
- A degree or further study in the areas of Theology, Comparative Religion, Philosophy, Arts or Social Sciences
- General entrance to university or college for most courses in the UK.
- Vocational training / employment.