



Blue Coat Church of England Academy

Year: 9

Subject: Religious Studies

Biblical Wisdom- Understanding Christianity

Students study a range of Biblical sources to discuss is Biblical wisdom can encourage people to live good lives. We study the Problem of Evil, The story of Job, if faith can help those who suffer, Proverbs, St Paul and the Methodist Covenant. We also look at faith in action and how Biblical wisdom has impacted the lives of many different people including the Vicar of Baghdad and Dr Noel.

Pilgrimage

We study how pilgrimage is different to a holiday and whether you can go to a pilgrim site as a tourist. We look at pilgrimage from many different religious perspectives, including Hindu, Jewish and Christian. We examine why believers visit a variety of pilgrimage sites, the history of these sites and the impact that going on pilgrimage has on believers.

Judaism

Students complete an in depth study of Judaism. We study the beginning of the faith, the relationship Judaism has with Islam and Christianity, Hanukkah, Anti-Semitism, the role of the Rabbi, pilgrimage and Orthodox Judaism. This gives pupils a wider world view as many have not studied Judaism in depth before and it also gives pupils a better understanding of where their own faith comes from as our main religions in school are both also Abrahamic (Christianity and Islam).

AQA GCSE – Christian Beliefs and Teachings

Students should be aware that Christianity is one of the diverse religious traditions and beliefs in Great Britain today and that the main religious tradition in Great Britain is Christianity. This knowledge may be applied throughout the assessment of the specified content.

Students should study the beliefs, teachings and practices of Christianity specified below and their basis in Christian sources of wisdom and authority. They should be able to refer to scripture and/or sacred texts where appropriate. Students should study the influence of the beliefs, teachings and practices studied on individuals, communities and societies.

Common and divergent views within Christianity in the way beliefs and teachings are understood and expressed should be included throughout. Students may refer to a range of different Christian perspectives in their answers including Catholic, Orthodox and Protestant. They must study the specific differences identified below.

The nature of God:

God as omnipotent, loving and just, and the problem of evil and suffering

The oneness of God and the Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Different Christian beliefs about creation including the role of Word and Spirit (John 1:1-3 and Genesis 1:1-3).

Different Christian beliefs about the afterlife and their importance, including:

Resurrection and life after death; judgement, heaven and hell.

Beliefs and teachings about:

The incarnation and Jesus as the Son of God

The crucifixion, resurrection and ascension

Sin, including original sin

The means of salvation, including law, grace and Spirit

The role of Christ in salvation including the idea of atonement

AQA GCSE – Christian Practices

Different forms of worship and their significance:

liturgical, non-liturgical and informal, including the use of the Bible and private worship.

Prayer and its significance, including the Lord's Prayer, set prayers and informal prayer.

The role and meaning of the sacraments:

the meaning of sacrament

the sacrament of baptism and its significance for Christians; infant and believers' baptism; different beliefs about infant baptism

the sacrament of Holy Communion/Eucharist and its significance for Christians, including different ways in which it is celebrated and different interpretations of its meaning.

The role and importance of pilgrimage and celebrations including:

two contrasting examples of Christian pilgrimage: Lourdes and Iona

the celebrations of Christmas and Easter, including their importance for Christians in Great Britain today.

The role of the Church in the local community, including food banks and street pastors.

The place of mission, evangelism and Church growth.

The importance of the worldwide Church including:

working for reconciliation

how Christian churches respond to persecution

the work of **one** of the following: Catholic Agency For Overseas Development (CAFOD), Christian Aid, Tearfund.

Information

Blue Coat follows the Walsall Agreed Syllabus plus the Understanding Christianity guide supplied by RE TODAY.

Blue Coat Church of England School follows AQA GCSE Religious Studies A:

We study both Islam and Christianity in depth at GCSE, these two areas are a strength for our pupils and reflect the diversity of our school community. The two religions complement each other and share lots of similar themes.