

# Why choose...?

## Philosophy, Religion and Ethics

### The Basics

**Exam Board:** AQA

**Name of Course:**

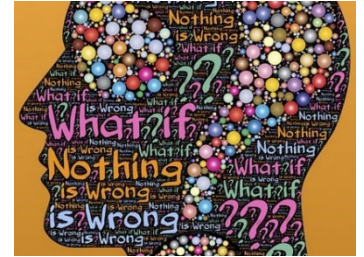
GCSE Religious Studies A

**Assessment:**

2 x 1 hr 45 min exams, worth 50%  
each

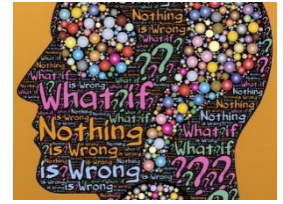
**Success:**

A number of students have  
reached grades 8 and 9!





# What will I study?



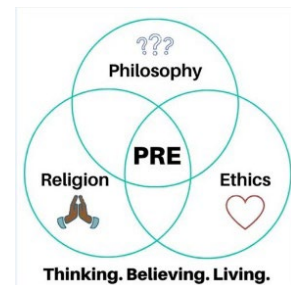
## Paper 1: The Study of Religions (50%)

An in depth study of the beliefs, teachings and practices of **Christianity** and **Sikhism**. You will visit both **places of worship** and learn about holy books, buildings, practices, festivals etc. of each religion.

## Paper 2: Thematic Studies (50%)

Application of a range of views, including Christian and Sikh views, to the contemporary themes of:

- **Relationships and Families**
- **Religion and Life**
- **Crime and Punishment**
- **The Existence of God and Revelation**



# How do I know if it's right for me?

Here are some of the questions we will explore and debate whilst studying PRE. If these sound interesting to you, it's a great subject to opt for!

Is it ok to test on animals if it's to support medical treatment for humans?

Is there some form of life after death?

Should the Death Penalty be brought back in the UK for mass murderers?

Can science fully explain how the world came to be here?

Does everyone have the right to be forgiven?

Should men and women always be treated equally?

Should human life always be protected, no matter what?

Are holy books trustworthy sources of authority?

Should gay marriage be legal in all countries?

Is the suffering in the world proof that God does not exist?

# How do I know if it's right for me?

Here's what some former and current students have said about  
Philosophy, Religion and Ethics:

*I am glad I took PRE because it expanded my knowledge on the different religions, it makes it easier to understand different life style choices and it comes with a lot of opportunity*

Tegan (former PRE student)

**What I like about Philosophy, Religion and Ethics is the fact that we can have discussions and debates about our beliefs and we won't be judged for our opinions.**

Alicia (former PRE student)

*What I loved about Philosophy, Religion and Ethics at GCSE was the way it helped me see life from a whole different perspective, especially with my more 'extreme' viewpoints compared to others. To say it's a subject at school, it really is life changing.*

Harley (former GCSE and A Level student)

**It was different from all my other lessons; I could learn about how different religions view the world and could visit places like a Sikh temple to actually see it in real life and experience it.**

Samanta (former GCSE and A Level student)

# Where can this subject take me?

PRE is highly thought of by colleges, universities and employers because it shows that you have an awareness of the wider world around us, that you're respectful of the views of others and that you have opinions that you can justify! Here are some of the skills you will develop and the career paths that the course may lead you to...

## SKILLS

**Logical thinking:** discussing and reaching conclusions

**Building persuasive arguments:** debates allow you to put your point across confidently

**Critical thinking:** analysing and evaluating issues

**Increased confidence:** Trusting your own views and being able to express them

**Coherent writing:** being able to communicate clearly in writing – an invaluable skill!!

## CAREER PATHS

Any career will involve you working with people from all backgrounds, so the subject is crucial for that. It's also a highly respected subject for careers such as...

**Social Work**

**Law**

**Teaching**

**Management**

**Business**

**Health Care**

**Journalism**

**Local Government**

**Medicine**

**Retail**

**Child Care**

**Psychotherapy**

# Frequently Asked Questions

## Can I do this subject if I'm not religious?

Yes! In fact, the more diverse views we have in our groups, the better our debates will be!

## Do we debate every lesson?

Hmm, probably not every lesson... but there is always discussion!

Developing your own views is crucial for this subject, so we always want to hear what you think!

## Is there a lot of writing?

The exam involves 5 types of questions for each topic: a multiple choice, a short 2-mark question, 2 medium questions of 4 and 5 marks, and a longer 12-mark question.

## Is it a popular/ successful subject?

Yes 😊 almost 70 students completed their PRE GCSE last year.

## Do we get to go on trips?

During the course we will visit a gurdwara and a cathedral. We will also have guest speakers where possible, for example a former prison worker! Watch 2020's gurdwara trip [here!](#)

## Will I like it?

We think you will **LOVE** it!! It's so different to your other subjects, and as teachers, we are so passionate about it! It will open your mind to new ideas and get you thinking in a way you've never thought before! 😊