

A photograph of a classroom scene. A male teacher with dark curly hair, wearing a dark blue sweater over a white collared shirt and a teal and black striped tie, is seated on the right, gesturing with his hands as he speaks. Three students are seated on the left, listening attentively. A female student with long braids, a female student with long blonde hair, and a male student with dark curly hair are all wearing dark blue school uniforms with white collared shirts and teal and black striped ties. In the background, a female teacher with dark hair, wearing a black dress with white floral patterns, stands smiling. The room has large windows on the left and orange and yellow geometric shapes hanging from the ceiling.

YOUR GUIDE TO SWITCHING TO EDUQAS

[EDUQAS.CO.UK/RS](https://www.eduqas.co.uk/rs)

WHY SWITCH TO EDUQAS FOR GCSE RELIGIOUS STUDIES?

Switch to Eduqas for an accessible and adaptable GCSE Religious Studies qualification.

Our [GCSE Religious Studies](#) qualification will develop your learners' understanding of a range of religious and non-religious beliefs, teachings and practices. Learners will engage with questions of belief, value, meaning, purpose and truth, gaining an appreciation of the relationships between people and communities.

Learners will also improve their philosophical and critical thinking skills and their ability to think conceptually, and develop vital transferrable skills, such as extended writing and the ability to present arguments and counter arguments in a balanced, intelligent and reasoned way.



More reasons to choose Eduqas

- Free access to an extensive range of online teaching resources.
- A 'Route A' that offers a choice of full or short course.
- A 'Route B' designed specifically with Catholic schools and colleges in mind, developed with input from the Catholic Education Service.



ALL THE SUPPORT YOU NEED TO TEACH WITH CONFIDENCE

Easy access to subject experts

Our subject experts are just an email or call away. Eduqas teachers can also access free advice and guidance both online or in-person from our Regional Support Team.

Free high-quality teaching resources

Our free online teaching resources are designed by an expert team to help guide teachers and learners through our specifications, and include:

- Exam Walkthroughs
- Knowledge Organisers
- Interactive Online Blended Learning materials

Expert-led training opportunities

Our comprehensive programme includes both free online exam feedback sessions and paid face-to-face training opportunities.

Comprehensive Assessment Feedback

Eduqas centres can access our free post-exam [Assessment Feedback Package](#), including access to marked scripts, Principal Examiner reports and online feedback sessions.

SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT (ROUTE A)

Eduqas offers a choice of three GCSE Religious Studies specifications to suit the needs of your learners - Route A, Route A Short Course or Route B.

Route A

Component 1: Religious Philosophical and Ethical Studies in the Modern World	Component 2: Study of Christianity	Component 3: Study of a World Faith
<p>Candidates will study the following four themes:</p> <p>Theme 1: Issues of Relationships Theme 2: Issues of Life and Death Theme 3: Issues of Good and Evil Theme 4: Issues of Human Rights</p>	<p>Candidates will study the beliefs, teachings and practices of Christianity.</p>	<p>Candidates will study the beliefs, teachings and practices of one world faith:</p> <p>Option 1: Buddhism or Option 2: Hinduism or Option 3: Islam or Option 4: Judaism or Option 5: Sikhism</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written examination • 2 hours • 50% of qualification 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written examination • 1 hour • 25% of qualification 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written examination • 1 hour • 25% of qualification

Route A (Short Course)

Component 1: Religious Philosophical and Ethical Studies in the Modern World	Component 2: Study of Christianity	Component 3: Study of a World Faith
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written examination • 1 hour • 50% of qualification 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written examination • 35mins • 25% of qualification 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written examination • 35mins • 25% of qualification

How do we compare with other boards?

Assessment Comparison Tool included at the end of this guide

SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT (ROUTE B)

Our Route B option is designed with Catholic schools and colleges in mind. It has been developed with input from the Catholic Education Service and is fully compliant with Bishops' Conference requirements:

Route B

Component 1: Foundational Catholic Theology	Component 2: Applied Catholic Theology	Component 3: Study of a World Faith - Judaism
<p>Candidates will study the following themes:</p> <p>Theme 1: Origins and Meaning Theme 2: Good and Evil</p>	<p>Candidates will study the following themes:</p> <p>Theme 1: Life and Death Theme 2: Sin and Forgiveness</p>	<p>Candidates will study the beliefs, teachings and practices of Judaism:</p> <p>Theme 1: Beliefs and Teachings Theme 2: Practices</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written examination • 1 hour 30minutes • 37.5% of qualification 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written examination • 1 hour 30minutes • 37.5% of qualification 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written examination • 1 hour • 25% of qualification

How do we compare with other boards?

Assessment Comparison Tool included at the end of this guide



HOW TO SWITCH TO EDUQAS

Switching to Eduqas is a straightforward, three-step process:

1

Register your interest in teaching with Eduqas

Visit [eduqas.co.uk/switch](https://www.eduqas.co.uk/switch) and complete the Register Your Interest form. This helps us better support you through the switching process.

2

Ask your Exams Officer if your centre is registered with Eduqas

If not, they will need to contact us at centres@wjec.co.uk to register. Once your centre is registered, your Exams Officer can provide you with access to our Portal, which you will need to complete key processes and access exclusive resources.

3

Visit your qualification page for everything you need to get started

You can find this by going to [eduqas.co.uk/qualifications](https://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications) and searching for your subject. Here you'll find links to everything you need to start teaching with Eduqas:

- Your specification
- Guidance for teaching
- Contact details for your Subject Officer
- Free digital teaching resources
- Training opportunities
- Key dates for your qualification
- Past Papers and Mark Schemes

Now you're ready to start teaching with Eduqas – but if you need more guidance, contact our Support Team on hereforyou@eduqas.co.uk, or discover training opportunities at [eduqas.co.uk/professionallearning](https://www.eduqas.co.uk/professionallearning)

OUR FREE ONLINE RESOURCES



Blended Learning Modules

Each of our interactive online Blended Learning Modules covers a key topic, providing clear lesson objectives for learners before setting a range of tasks such as questions to answer on-screen, prompts for written work and downloadable practice exam questions.

Teachers can use our Blended Learning resources alongside traditional teaching methods in the classroom, or set them as online self-study exercises for learners to tackle at home.

Exam Walkthroughs

Exam Walkthroughs offer learners the opportunity to explore mock assessment papers through a narrated presentation full of helpful tips.

This resource is designed to help learners develop their exam technique and familiarise themselves with the structure and style of our exam papers.



OUR FREE ONLINE RESOURCES



Knowledge Organisers

Our Knowledge Organisers collect all the key information on a topic of study into an easy-to-digest format.

They're an ideal self-study or revision tool for learners, but they can also be useful for teachers in the classroom as the basis of quizzes or discussions.

Explore our full range of resources:
www.eduqas.co.uk/resources



PROFESSIONAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Eduqas offers a comprehensive range of professional learning opportunities to help you teach with confidence.

Our expert-led training programme provides all the support you need to enhance your teaching and successfully deliver our qualifications.

Assessment Feedback Package

Our Assessment Feedback Package is an opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of how assessments are marked or moderated.

This integrated suite of resources and training includes:

- Free access to Principal Examiner reports
- Free Online Assessment Feedback sessions
- Paid face-to-face training events
- Free access to scripts

Learn more: [eduqas.co.uk/professionallearning](https://www.eduqas.co.uk/professionallearning)



ACCESSING SUPPORT

Our **Regional Support Team** operates across the UK, and is available to help you teach Eduqas qualifications with confidence.

As an Eduqas teacher, you can access their support for free online or in-person at a time and place that suits you.

Each member of the team is an experienced former teacher who understands the challenges of the classroom.

They can provide you with all the support you need to help your learners succeed, including:

- help switching to Eduqas
- expert insight into your specification
- answers to your questions on assessment
- guidance on accessing our free digital resources, and more.

Contact the team:
hereforyou@eduqas.co.uk

MEET YOUR GCSE RELIGIOUS STUDIES REPRESENTATIVE



Dave Jones

Dave has extensive experience in the secondary education sector, having delivered and managed a variety of courses from KS4 to Initial Teacher Training. Dave's classroom experience is primarily focused on Humanities subjects, such as Religious Studies:

"The role of Regional Representative gives me the privilege of meeting with teachers both in person across the country and online to provide support, advice, and guidance on our various qualifications.

I find great joy in visiting a wide variety of educational settings and find it particularly fulfilling when a meeting successfully aids teachers in delivering their subjects more effectively. After all, we're all working towards the same goal: ensuring that students get the opportunity to realise their full potential."

Thinking of switching? Contact Dave at hereforyou@eduqas.co.uk or [request an informal online chat through our booking page](#).

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GCSE RELIGIOUS STUDIES

SPECIFICATION COMPARISON TOOL

ROUTE A COMPARISON

Compare our GCSE Religious Studies Route A specification to nearest equivalent specifications of the other main exam boards using the table below.

Feature	Eduqas Route A	AQA Spec A
Components	1. Philosophy & Ethics (2hrs) 2. Christianity (1hr) 3. World Faith (1hr)	1. Religion, Beliefs, Teachings & Practices (1hr 45*) 2. Thematic Studies (1hr 45)
Textual Studies Option	X	✓
Christianity	✓	✓
Catholic Christianity	X (Available in Route B)	✓ (More focus in Spec B)
Islam	✓	✓
Judaism	✓	✓
Hinduism	✓	✓
Buddism	✓	✓
Sikhism	✓	✓
Separate Assessment Objectives (AOs) per Question	✓	✓
Short Course Option	✓	✓
Spelling, Punctuation, and Grammar (SPaG) Details	First AO2 question on each of Comp 1 & Comp 2	All AO2 questions

OCR	Pearson Spec A	Pearson Spec B
1. Beliefs, Teachings & Practices (1hr) 2. Religion, Philosophy & Ethics (1hr)	1. Study of Religion (1hr 45) 2. Study of Second Religion (50mins) 3. Philosophy & Ethics or Textual Study (50mins)	2 components chosen from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Religion & Ethics (1hr 45) Religion, Peace & Conflict (1hr 45) Religion, Philosophy & Social Justice (1hr 45)
X	✓	X
✓	✓	✓
X	✓	✓
✓	✓	✓
✓	✓	✓
✓	✓	✓
✓	✓	✓
✓	✓	✓
X	✓	✓
X	✓	✓
Comp 1: First extended question on each religion; Comp 2: First two extended questions	Paper 1: Two AO2 questions, Paper 2: One AO2 question, Paper 3: One AO2 question	Two AO2 questions per paper

* split into 2 papers: advisory split of 50 min per paper

ROUTE B COMPARISON

The nearest equivalent specification to our GCSE Religious Studies Route B is the AQA Specification B Non-Textual Route. The table below aligns the components of each to illustrate similarities and differences between the two.

Eduqas Route B	AQA Specification B
Component 1: Foundational Catholic Theology	Component 1: Catholic Christianity
<p>Theme 1: Origins and Meaning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beliefs: Creation • Sources: The Bible • Forms: Painting and Symbolism • Practices: Loving and serving in Catholic communities in Britain and elsewhere <p>Theme 2: Good and Evil</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beliefs: Trinity and Incarnation • Sources: Jesus and moral authority • Forms: Sculpture and Statuary • Practices: Popular devotion as practiced in Catholic communities in Britain and elsewhere 	<p>Component 1: Catholic Christianity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation • Incarnation • The Triune God, mission and prayer • Redemption – ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven • Church and the Kingdom of God • Eschatology: Christian life, death and eternity
Assessment	Assessment
<p>A total of 45 marks on each Theme, split:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 mark questions AO1 • 5 mark questions AO1 • 8 mark questions AO1 • 15 mark questions AO2 	<p>A total of 24 marks each on any four of the six topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 mark question AO1 • 2 mark question AO1 • 4 mark question AO1 • 5 mark question AO1 • 12 mark question AO2

Eduqas Route B	AQA Specification B
Component 2: Applied Catholic Theology	Component 2: Perspectives on Faith
<p>Theme 1: Life and Death</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beliefs: Eschatology • Sources: The Magisterium • Forms: Artefacts, music and funeral rites • Practices: Prayer within Catholic communities in Britain and elsewhere <p>Theme 2: Sin and Forgiveness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crime and Punishment • Beliefs: Redemption • Sources: Church • Forms: Buildings • Practices: Sacraments, Mission and Evangelisation in Britain and elsewhere 	<p>Section A: Islam or Judaism</p> <p>Islam</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key Beliefs • Authority • Practices • Worship • Duties and festivals <p>Judaism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key beliefs • The Covenant and the mitzvot • Practices • The synagogue and worship • Family life and festivals
Assessment	Section A Assessment
<p>A total of 45 marks on each Theme, split:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 mark questions AO1 • 5 mark questions AO1 • 8 mark questions AO1 • 15 mark questions AO2 	<p>A total of 48 marks on each religion (answer all questions on chosen religion only):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 mark question AO1 x2 • 2 mark question AO1 x2 • 4 mark question AO1 x2 • 5 mark question AO1 x2 • 12 mark question AO2 x2

ROUTE B COMPARISON (CONT.)

Eduqas Route B	AQA Specification B
Component 3: Study of a World Faith - Judaism	Component 2: Perspectives on Faith (Cont.)
<p>Theme 1: Beliefs and Teachings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The nature of God • Messiah (Mashiach) • Covenant • Life on earth • The afterlife <p>Theme 2: Practices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worship: practices in Britain and elsewhere • The Synagogue • Rituals • Daily life • Festivals: practices in Britain and elsewhere • Covenant 	<p>Section B: Themes</p> <p>Each Theme has 4 dialogues. The issues in each dialogue must also be looked at from different perspectives, Christian and non-religious (such as atheist or humanist) in contemporary British society.</p> <p>Theme A: Religion, relationships and families</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dialogue 1: Relationships and the human condition - love and sexuality: communion and complementarity • Dialogue 2: Perspectives on relationships - marriage, cohabitation, divorce and separation • Dialogue 3: Families and responsibilities - roles of men, women and children within the family • Dialogue 4: Gender, equality and discrimination - equality of women and men <p>Theme B: Religion, peace and conflict</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dialogue 1: Christian perspectives on human violence, justice, forgiveness and reconciliation • Dialogue 2: Christian perspectives on societal war and just war • Dialogue 3: Holy war and pacifism • Dialogue 4: Christian perspectives on terrorism and Christian initiatives in conflict resolution and peace making

Eduqas Route B	AQA Specification B
Component 3: Study of a World Faith - Judaism (Cont.)	Component 2: Perspectives on Faith (Cont.)
	<p>Theme C: Religion, human rights and social justice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dialogue 1: Human rights and religious freedom • Dialogue 2: Perspectives on wealth • Dialogue 3: Perspectives on poverty • Dialogue 4: Prejudice and discrimination
<p>Assessment</p> <p>A total of 30 marks on each Theme, split:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) 2 marks AO1 b) 5 marks AO1 c) 8 marks AO1 d) 15 marks AO2 	<p>Assessment</p> <p>A total of 24 marks on each Theme (answer two of three).</p> <p>Per theme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 mark question AO1 • 2 mark question AO1 • 4 mark question AO1 • 5 mark question AO1 • 12 mark question AO2