

# Public Document Pack



Cyngor Sir  
**CEREDIGION**  
County Council

Neuadd Cyngor Ceredigion, Penmorfa,  
Aberaeron, Ceredigion SA46 0PA  
[ceredigion.gov.uk](http://ceredigion.gov.uk)

01.11.2023

Dear Sir / Madam

I write to inform you that a Meeting of the Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education in Ceredigion (SACRE) will be held HYBRID - NEUADD CYNGOR CEREDIGION, PENMORFA, ABERAERON / REMOTELY VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE on Thursday, 9 November 2023 at 9.30 am for the transaction of the following business:

1. **Prayers**
2. **Apologies**
3. **To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held on 05 July 2023 and consider any issues arising from those minutes. (Pages 3 - 6)**
4. **Membership**
5. **Aled Rumble - presentation on - Religion, Values and Ethics (5 minutes)**
6. **Update on the numbers studying RE**
7. **WASACRE meeting update – there will be a response to the consultation and identifying bespoke professional learning opportunities for members (Pages 7 - 24)**
8. **Any Other Business**

Members are reminded to sign the Attendance Register

A Translation Services will be provided at this meeting and those present are welcome to speak in Welsh or English at the meeting.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L Edwards'.

**Miss Lowri Edwards**  
**Corporate Lead Officer: Democratic Services**

**To: Chairman and Members of Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education in Ceredigion (SACRE)**

The remaining Members of the Council for information only.

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Minutes of a Meeting of the **STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION IN CEREDIGION** held Hybrid/Chamber  
**Wednesday, 05 July 2023**

**PRESENT:**

Representing Ceredigion County Council: Councillors Keith Evans,  
and John Roberts

Representing Teacher Association: Miss Joyce Howells (NASUWT) (Chair)

Religious Denominations: Mrs Anna Uruska- – The Catholic Church,  
Rev Dr John Tudno Williams- Presbyterian Church of Wales, Rev Aled Davies  
The Presbyterian Church of Wales

Co-opted Members: Mr Lyndon Lloyd MBE

Representing Primary Sector: Mrs Non Jones McEvoy

Also in attendance: Mrs Mary Davies, Corporate Manager – School Improvement  
School Services and Mrs Dana Jones, Democratic Services and Standards  
Officer

(1:30pm- 3:10pm)

**1 Prayers**

The Meeting commenced with Rev Aled Davies leading the Committee in prayer.

It was reported that this would be the last meeting for Rev Aled Davies as he would be leaving the area; as he has been appointed as a Reverend for The Presbyterian Church of Wales in London. All present thanked him for his work and wished him well for the future.

**2 Apologies**

Councillor Ifan Davies, Keith Henson, Ceris Jones together with Mrs Alwen Roberts, Prof Densil Morgan, Rev Mark Ansell and Professor Catrin Williams apologised for their inability to attend the meeting.

**3 To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held on 31 March 2023 and to consider any matters arising from those Minutes**

It was AGREED to confirm as a true record the Minutes of the Meeting of the Standing Advisory Council held on 31 March 2023.

**Matters arising**

None.

**4 Welcome new members**

An update was provided on the membership of the committee to include the Representatives from the Religious Denomination, Local Authority and Co-opted Members. It was also reported that Ms Medi James had withdrawn her interest in becoming a Member of the Committee due to changes in her circumstances, therefore a further letter would be sent to the Quakers requesting a new member to attend on their behalf.

A letter would also be written to The Presbyterian Church of Wales requesting a new Member to represent them on SACRE. It was suggested that Rev Guto Gwynfor could be an option.

5 **Correspondence**

A letter had been received from Mr Colin Partridge outlining his background as requested. It was agreed to invite him to the next meeting of the committee.

6 **Relationship and Sexuality Education (RSE)**

The Chairman welcomed to the meeting Mrs Laurie Hughes, Wellbeing Advisory Teacher to provide information on the recent changes to Sex Education and the introduction of RSE in Curriculum for Wales(CfW). This was to ensure that as a Local Authority (LA) they had suitable RSE policy that could be adopted and adapted by schools to support them in embedding the new curriculum and provide support, information, consistency and clarity. She presented the following information in her power point presentation:-

- Background
- What is RESE?
- Policy Content
- Current Situation
- Support to Schools

Following discussion on the content of the presentation, it was AGREED to note the information provided and that a balanced approach and cooperation between children, parents, and the extent community was required on this issue.

7 **Update regarding numbers studying Religious Education**

Consideration was given to the numbers studying Religious Education. Member of the opinion that the figures were positive, and it was agreed that this data could be used to evaluate the position in relation to the number studying the subject in future years.

8 **E-sgol presentation**

The Chairman welcomed to the meeting Mr Llifon Ellis, Strategic Head of e-ysgol to make a presentation on E-sgol. Members thanked him for an informative presentation.

9 **WASACRE**

An update on the recent WASACRE meeting was provided by the Corporate Manager – School Improvement School Services. It was agreed to note the current position.

**10 Request for items/Forward Work Programme**

- To request information from Professor Catrin Williams on the resources on offer by universities to assist with the new curriculum
- An update by Miss Nia Jones on Aberaeron Year 9 pupils' trip to Poland
- Pupils address the committee on their experience of studying RE
- Update on Relationship and Sexuality Education (RSE)

Mr Lyndon Lloyd MBE stated that Ceredigion had the highest number of children in poverty. It was reported that Mr Gareth Lewis, Deprivation and Rural Challenges Co-ordinator was responsible for this work in the authority and to contact him direct with his concerns.

**11 Date of next meeting**

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on Thursday, 09 November 2023 at 930am.

**Confirmed at the Meeting of the Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education in Ceredigion (SACRE) held on 09 November 2023**

**Chairman:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

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WASACRE is putting together an exciting programme for its 2024 conference which will include free online interactive seminars, in addition to the physical conference day event. We would like to hear from your SAC about the kind of seminars you would like to be included.

We would be grateful to receive your responses through an online questionnaire (links below). Closing date: 30 November.

<https://forms.office.com/e/u6HV5uNHY2> (Copied the questionnaire attached below for members without access to online material)

Wales Association of SACREs

1. What is the name of your local authority?

2. Rate the following seminar suggestions for **practitioners** in your local authority (from 1 being not very relevant to 5 being very relevant).

1 2 3 4 5

What does RVE look like in the early years setting?

Approaches to RVE curriculum design

Progression in RVE: integral skills development

Progression in RVE: Assessment

Approaches to pedagogy in RVE

1 2 3 4 5

Objective, critical and pluralistic RVE     Philosophy for Children (P4C) in RVE     Non-religious philosophical convictions     Tackling the take up crisis: raising the profile of Religious Studies GCSE and A Level     Providing meaningful RVE in the Special school     

3. Rate the following seminar suggestions for **SAC members** in your local authority (from 1 being not very relevant to 5 being very relevant).

1 2 3 4 5

What does an effective SAC look like?     New SAC members: All you need to know     

4. Rate the following seminar suggestions for **RVE Advisors and LA representatives** in your local authority (from 1 being not very relevant to 5 being very relevant).

1 2 3 4 5

Annual Report writing     Constituting an effective SAC: developing new terms of reference and codes of conduct     

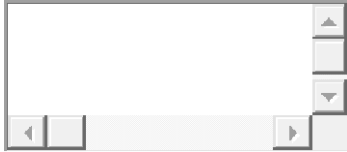
5. Rate the following seminar suggestions for **NQT and ITE Students** in your local authority (from 1 being not very relevant to 5 being very relevant).



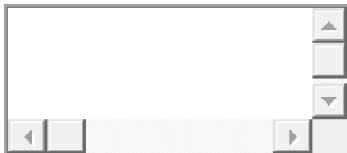
1 2 3 4 5

What is RVE in the Curriculum for Wales

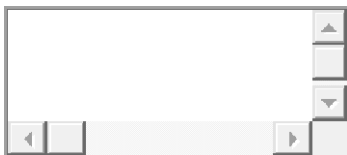
6. Do you have any other seminar suggestions that have not already been included for **practitioners** in your local authority? Please provide ideas below.



7. Do you have any other seminar suggestions that have not already been included for **SAC members** in your local authority? Please provide ideas below.



8. Do you have any other seminar suggestions that have not already been included for **RVE Advisors and LA representatives** in your local authority? Please provide ideas below.



9. Do you have any other seminar suggestions that have not already been included for **NQT and ITE Students** in your local authority? Please provide ideas below.

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10.If you would like to share any other comments relating to the seminars, please do so here. Thank you!

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**From:** A Parry (Llanishen High School) <ParryA274@Hwbcymru.net>

**Sent:** 25 October 2023 16:34

**To:** Smc.taniaapsion <Smc.taniaapsion@gmail.com>

**Subject:** WJEC Consultation on Religious Studies GCSE Proposals

Dear Clerks to SACRE/ SACs,

The consultation on the proposed new GCSE Religious Studies qualification (first teaching 2026) is being opened today on the WJEC website. It is important for practitioners to be aware of the consultation and to share their views on the proposals through the online survey.

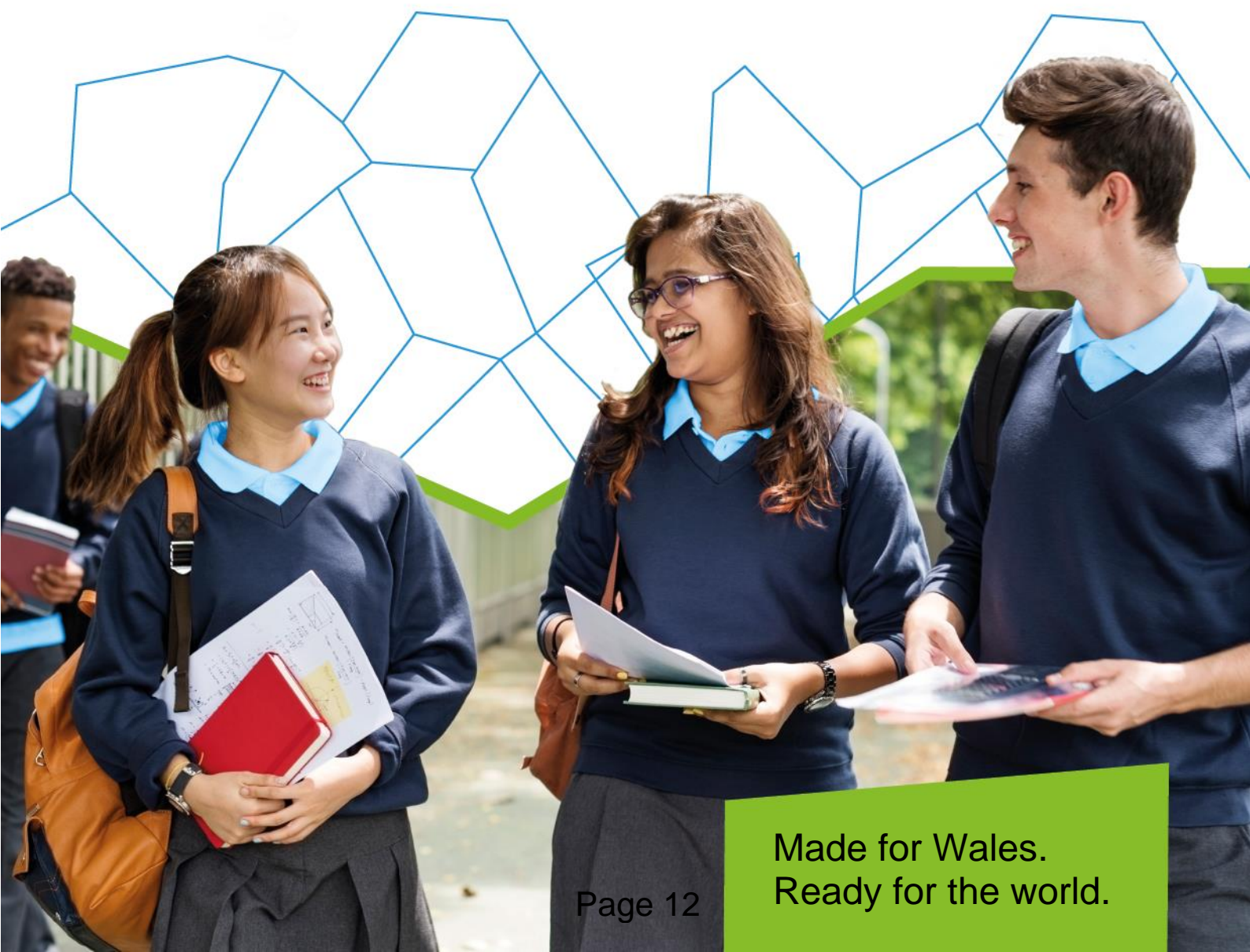
Therefore, please can you share the links below with your SACRE/SAC and teaching practitioners.

Link to consultation document: [gcse-religious-studies-qualification-outline-consultation-version-e.pdf \(wjec.co.uk\)](https://www.wjec.co.uk/media/10000000/gcse-religious-studies-qualification-outline-consultation-version-e.pdf)

Link to feedback survey: [Made-for-Wales GCSEs and related qualifications: subject outline consultation GCSE: RELIGIOUS STUDIES Survey \(surveymonkey.co.uk\)](https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/survey/Made-for-Wales-GCSEs-and-related-qualifications-subject-outline-consultation-GCSE-RELIGIOUS-STUDIES)

**(PLEASE NOTE THAT THE QUESTIONNAIRE WILL BE CONSIDERED AT THE MEETING OF THE SACRE ON THE 09 NOVEMBER, UNABLE TO COPY THE QUESTIONNAIRE AS YOU NEED TO RESPOND ON FIRST PAGE TO MOVE ON TO NEXT)**

# GCSE Religious Studies Qualification Outline – Consultation Version



Made for Wales.  
Ready for the world.

## Introduction

This document provides a high-level overview of the proposed WJEC GCSE Religious Studies Qualification.

It is based on Qualification Wales's Approval Criteria (key sections are included in Appendix 1). Our qualification **must** meet these requirements.

The qualification outline will provide a guide for the development of the Specification and Sample Assessment Materials (SAMs).

## Qualification Overview

The GCSE Religious Studies qualification will support the Curriculum for Wales by:

- Supporting the statements of what matters<sup>1</sup>, giving learners the opportunity to:
  - gain a deeper understanding of the concepts underpinning humanities, and their application in local, national and global contexts
  - understand human experiences better
  - learn how various worldviews and factors can influence their own and others' perceptions and interpretations
  - develop an appreciation of how contexts influence the constructions of narratives and representations
  - develop an understanding of the complex, pluralistic and diverse nature of societies
  - appreciate the interplay between a range of factors, including religious and non-religious beliefs and worldviews
  - develop a common understanding of the ethnic diversity, identities, experiences and perspectives of their local area, Wales and the wider world
  - explore and develop a tolerant and empathetic understanding of the varied beliefs, values, traditions and ethics that underpin and shape human society.
- Supporting the principles of progression<sup>2</sup> by encouraging learners to:
  - ask increasingly sophisticated enquiry questions
  - engage with an increasing breadth and depth of knowledge and underlying concepts
  - make supported judgements in more complex contexts
  - build an increasingly clear and coherent understanding of the world around them
  - move on to more focused awareness of the lives of others, in their own social context and elsewhere in the world
  - use evidence to construct and support an answer, and relating that to representation and interpretation of enquiry results.

The construct of GCSE Religious Studies qualification is based on the Welsh Government subject specific considerations for Religious Studies<sup>3</sup>. The qualification will:

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<sup>1</sup> <https://hwb.gov.wales/curriculum-for-wales/humanities/statements-of-what-matters/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://hwb.gov.wales/curriculum-for-wales/humanities/principles-of-progression/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://hwb.gov.wales/curriculum-for-wales/humanities/designing-your-curriculum/#specific-considerations-for-this-area>

- provide opportunities to understand religious and non-religious beliefs, teachings, practices, philosophical convictions, values and experiences from a local, national and international perspective
- provide opportunities to seek answers to ultimate philosophical questions, such as the purpose and meaning of life
- provide opportunities to explore the foundations of religious and non-religious viewpoints and the influence of religious and non-religious philosophical convictions on our pluralistic and diverse society over time
- equip learners with the skills to explore philosophical and moral issues, reflect on their own beliefs and values, and the beliefs and values of others
- provide opportunities to develop empathy, creativity, curiosity, resilience, tolerance, a sense of cynefin and human experiences within the natural world.

The GCSE Religious Studies qualification will also be based on the following broad underlying concepts, several of which run across units with different levels of breadth and depth:

- Beliefs
- Community
- Cynefin
- Philosophical convictions
- Practices
- Teachings
- Values
- Worldviews
- Ultimate questions
- Good and evil
- Ethics
- Human rights
- Life after death
- Stewardship
- Religious/non-religious views
- Diversity
- Identity and belonging
- Faith in action
- Pluralism

## Proposed Qualification Structure<sup>4</sup>

<b>Unit 1: Religious and non-religious beliefs, teachings and practices</b>
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Written examination

30% of qualification

<b>Unit 2: Faith and belief in action</b>
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Non-examination assessment

20% of qualification

Marked by the centre and moderated by WJEC

<b>Unit 3: Human experiences and the world</b>
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Written examination

30% of qualification

<b>Unit 4: Human rights</b>
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Non-examination assessment

20% of qualification

Marked by WJEC

This will be a unitised qualification.

Aside from Unit 1, which is an introductory unit, and Unit 4, which is a terminal unit, there is no hierarchy or teaching order implied for Units 2 and 3.

## Unit Information

Unit 1 - Religious and non-religious beliefs, teachings and practices

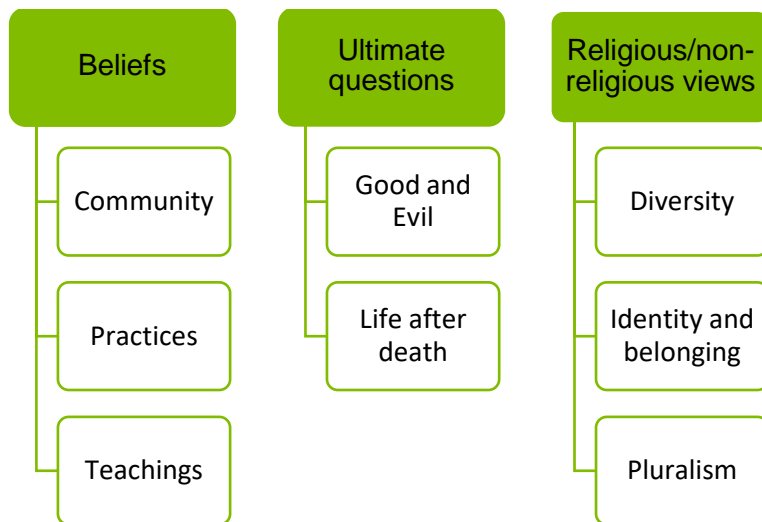
<b>The purpose of this unit is to:</b>
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- explore religious and non-religious beliefs and worldviews
- develop understanding of varied beliefs, values, traditions and ethics
- learn how various worldviews and factors can influence their own and others' perceptions and interpretations.

This unit will be based on the following concepts and possible content:

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<sup>4</sup> Specification content will be driven by an emphasis of beliefs, teachings and practices of religious rather than non-religious content due to the nature of subject



Unit 1 will be assessed via examination, available in the summer series. An examination will be made available for the first cohort in summer 2026. It will include a mix of question types that will target AO1, AO2 and AO3. It is likely, due to the introductory nature of this unit, that there would be an emphasis on knowledge and understanding and that AO1 is therefore likely to receive the highest weighting, with the rest of the assessment divided equally between AO2 and AO3. The duration of the examination is likely to be 1 hour and 30 minutes. There will be no optionality in this unit, however, centres can choose a religion that they would like the learners to study. Learners will answer questions on religious and non-religious beliefs as well as generic questions that can be applied to the centre's chosen religion.

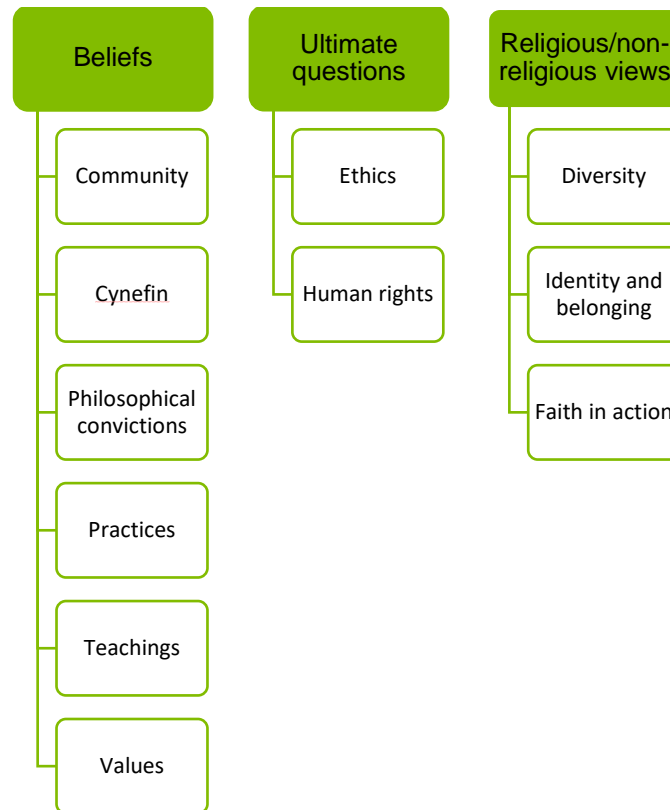
## Unit 2 - Faith and belief in action

### The purpose of this unit is to:

- explore religious and non-religious beliefs, philosophies and worldviews
- critically reflect on their own and others' beliefs, values and attitudes in a local, national and/or global context
- develop an understanding of the complex, pluralistic and diverse nature of societies.

This unit will be based on the following concepts and possible content:





This unit will take the form of non-examination assessment. Tasks will be released in September for submission in the following summer series; tasks will first be available in September 2026 for submission in summer 2027. This unit will target AO2, AO3 and AO4. AO4 is likely to receive the highest weighting because of the application of skills element of the non-examination assessment.

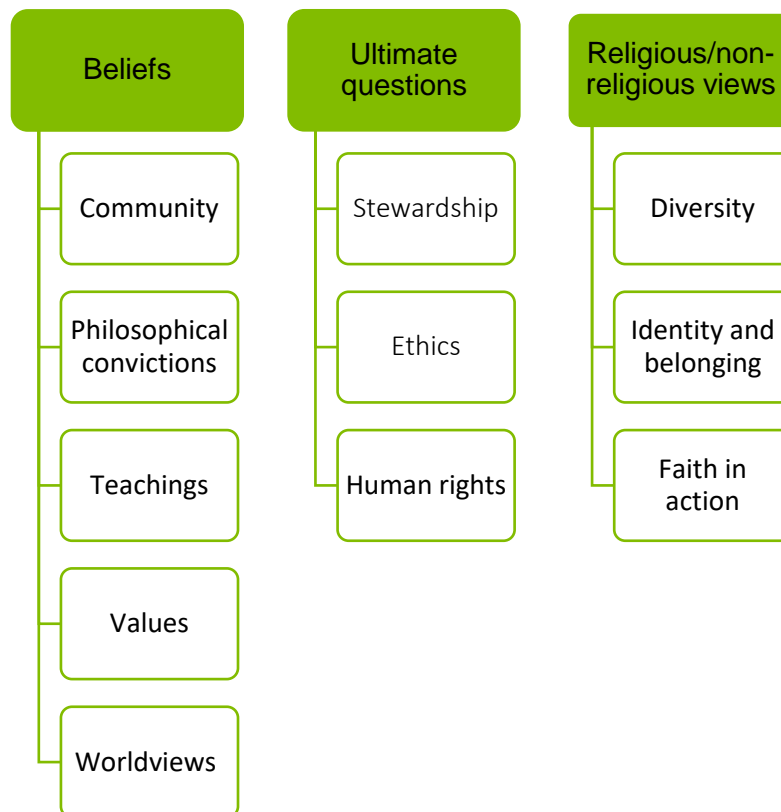
The non-examination assessment will follow an enquiry format. WJEC will set a theme for the non-examination assessment. Learners will explore the set theme and reflect on their own personal beliefs based on that theme. Learners will then investigate other people's beliefs on the set theme on a local and/or national and/or global scale. Finally, learners will reflect on their own beliefs after considering the beliefs of others. Themes will change annually. Non-examination assessments will be marked by the centre and moderated by WJEC. It is likely that there will be a low level of control at the research and investigation stage and a high level of control during the formal assessment stage. The time allowed for the assessment is yet to be determined. There will be no optionality in this unit, however, centres will choose a religious or non-religious belief that they would like the learners to study. Learners can approach the set theme through the religious and/or non-religious viewpoint they have studied. The non-examination assessment **must** be submitted digitally.

## Unit 3 - Human experiences and the world

**The purpose of this unit is to:**

- understand human experiences and the natural world
- develop an understanding of factors that can influence their own and others' perceptions and interpretations
- learn how various worldviews and factors can influence their own and others' perceptions and interpretations
- explore how and why interpretations may differ
- develop an appreciation of how contexts influence interpretations
- develop a critical understanding of a range of interpretations and representations derived from a variety of evidence.

This unit will be based on the following concepts and possible content.



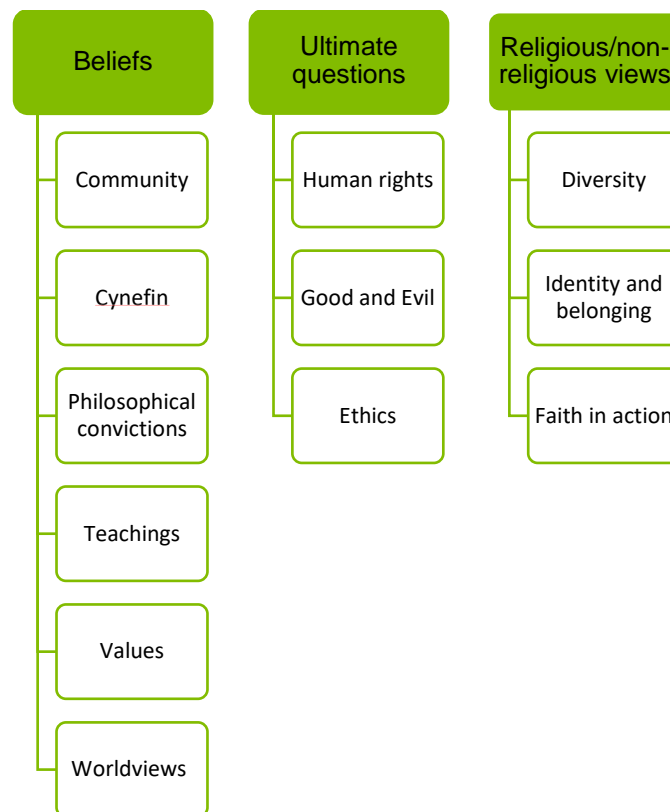
Unit 3 will be assessed via an examination, available in the summer series. An examination will be made available for the first cohort in summer 2026. It will include a mix of question types that will target AO1, AO2 and AO3. There will be an increased amount of AO3 in this unit compared to Unit 1 because of the emphasis on learners to analyse, evaluate and make judgements. Learners will explore questions in relation to human experience and the world. The duration of the examination is likely to be 1 hour and 30 minutes. There will be no optionality in this unit, however, learners can answer questions in the context of a religious or non-religious belief the centre has chosen to study.

## Unit 4 - Human rights

**The purpose of this unit is to:**

- investigate an ethical and/or moral, human rights issues from religious and non-religious viewpoints
- develop an awareness of their own rights, the rights of others and develop a commitment to justice.

This unit will be based on the following concepts and possible content:



This unit will take the form of non-examination assessment. The non-examination assessment will target AO2, AO3 and AO4. The focus is likely to be on AO2 and AO4 receiving the highest weightings because of the application of knowledge/understanding and skills of the non-examination assessment. Learners will follow an enquiry process, using engaging stimulus materials, such as an article or extract from a news report, provided by WJEC. The stimulus materials will promote awareness of learners' rights and the rights of others, enabling them to explore and develop a tolerant and empathetic understanding of the varied beliefs, values, traditions and ethics that underpin and shape human society. Stimulus materials and tasks will be released in September for submission in the following summer series; they will first be available in September 2026 for submission in summer 2027. The non-examination assessment will be set and marked by WJEC. The time allowed for the non-examination assessment is yet to be determined. It is likely that there will be a low level of control at the research and investigation stage and a high level of control during the formal assessment stage. There will be no optionality in this unit, however, learners can view the stimulus materials and answer questions in the context of a religious or non-religious belief

the centre has chosen to study. The non-examination assessment **must** be submitted digitally.

## Consideration of manageability, engagement, validity and reliability

In developing this proposed qualification outline, we have considered manageability, engagement, reliability and validity, and how to balance these considerations in the context of the requirements of the Approval Criteria.

The Approval Criteria require 40% of the qualification to be assessed by non-examination assessment; one non-examination assessment will be set by WJEC (Unit 2), internally marked by the centre, and externally moderated by WJEC, and the other (Unit 4) will be set and externally marked by WJEC. This poses some potential manageability challenges. We propose to minimise manageability challenges by releasing tasks for both non-examination assessments in the September of the academic year they are to be submitted, allowing centres the flexibility to spread the assessments and to undertake the non-examination assessment at a time that suits them.

One non-examination assessment (Unit 2) will feature a task where learners investigate other people's beliefs. We foresee some potential manageability issues as centres may have varying access to suitable people in their locality. To aid manageability, we will allow learners to investigate the beliefs of people in other settings i.e., on a local and/or national and/or global scale, for example, online. Furthermore, the other non-examination assessment (Unit 4) will feature stimulus materials and questions provided by WJEC, where all learners have equal access to the stimulus materials. This contrast in style of non-examination assessment, provides a clear balance overall, which is considered an appropriate approach in terms of manageability.

We have yet to determine the assessment time that we will allocate to both non-examination assessments, but this will be a key consideration as we aim to reduce the impact on teaching and learning. We foresee both non-examination assessments featuring a low level of control, at the investigation stage, to enable learners to undertake an authentic enquiry experience, and it is likely that a high level of control will be used at the formal assessment stage. However, to ensure reliability, we will provide guidance on what notes learners are able to use when responding to the assessment tasks. The non-examination assessments will fulfil the requirement of the Approval Criteria that learners can demonstrate a range of appropriate enquiry and investigation skills including the ability to reflect.

We believe that our proposed qualification should provide opportunities for centres to develop an engaging programme of study for its learners, in line with the expectations of the Curriculum for Wales. Unit 1 will cover a broad introduction to Religious Studies, allowing learners to study varied religious and non-religious beliefs, teachings and practices, supporting the statement of what matters 'giving Learners an opportunity to develop an understanding of the complex, pluralistic and diverse nature of societies'. Unit 2 will enable learners to engage with their own faith and beliefs and that of others on a local and/or national and/or global scale, providing learners with a real-world context to their learning, and supporting the statement of what matters 'giving learners an opportunity to develop a common understanding of the diverse perspectives of their local area, Wales and the wider world'. Unit 3 will explore questions in relation to human experience and the world from a religious and non-religious viewpoint, supporting the statement of what matters 'giving

learners opportunity to develop an appreciation of how contexts influence the constructions of narratives and representations'. Unit 4 will allow learners to investigate human rights issues, supporting the statement of what matters to 'engage learners and develop a tolerant and empathetic understanding of the varied beliefs, values, traditions and ethics that underpin and shape human society'.

We believe that the non-examination assessments we proposed for Units 2 and 4 are a valid approach to assessing the purpose and content because they allow learners to demonstrate their skills in appropriate contexts. To ensure the reliability of the non-examination assessments, we will ensure each unit will target the same assessment objective weightings over time. For both units, marking criteria will be developed and for Unit 2, teachers will be provided with a package of support to ensure consistent application of the marking criteria across centres and over time. We will moderate a sample of centre work to provide further assurance of reliability.

We believe that the purpose and content of Units 1 and 3 can be validly assessed by examination, and a mix of question types can help us maximise validity. When we develop assessments, we will ensure that all tasks target the relevant construct, that there is an appropriate balance of content covered over time and that there is alignment between assessment items and learning outcomes. Where appropriate, we will use data available to us on how an assessment has functioned. To ensure reliability, we will make sure that the examined units target the same assessment objective weightings and have a consistent level of demand each series, marking criteria will be developed and assessors will be trained on how to apply them consistently.

We will continue to consider the balance of manageability, engagement, reliability and validity, at each stage of qualification development.

## Appendix 1

### Key information from Approval Criteria

The following information has come directly from Qualifications Wales' [GCSE Religious Studies - Approval Criteria](#) - our qualification must meet these requirements.

#### Purpose

##### 1. GCSE **Religious Studies** must:

- 1.1 be designed primarily for Learners between the ages of 14 and 16
- 1.2 build on the conceptual understanding Learners have developed through their learning from ages 3-14
- 1.3 support teaching and learning by providing appropriately broad, demanding, relevant and engaging content and assessment that relates to and supports the Curriculum for Wales, including its four purposes
- 1.4 allow Learners to develop a strong foundation of knowledge, skills and understanding which supports progression to post-16 study and prepares them for life, learning and work
- 1.5 provide meaningful, fair, and accurate information on Learner achievement within a subject that highlights what Learners know, understand, and can do

#### Aims

##### 2. GCSE **Religious Studies** must:

- 2.1 allow Learners to explore a range of knowledge, skills and understanding in relation to religious studies
- 2.2 provide opportunities for Learners to be assessed in a variety of relevant and meaningful contexts

##### 3. The GCSE Religious Studies qualification must support Learners to:

- 3.1 develop knowledge and understanding of religious and non-religious beliefs, values, teachings, practices, and philosophical convictions
- 3.2 engage with contrasting lived religious and non-religious experiences
- 3.3 develop curiosity about the purpose of life and their contribution to it
- 3.4 explore ways in which religious and non-religious ethical and philosophical convictions have influenced human experience and society
- 3.5 explore evidence from a range of religious and non-religious sources that engage with philosophical, ethical, and moral issues
- 3.6 appreciate the complex, pluralistic and diverse nature of society by understanding the need for tolerance, resilience, and empathy
- 3.7 reflect on their own values, beliefs, and perspectives and those of others
- 3.8 align with aspects of the Religion, values and ethics statutory guidance to enable Learners to
  - 3.8.1 develop an awareness of self in relation to others

3.8.2 make connections to the wider and natural world

3.8.3 develop creativity and curiosity

3.8.4 explore ultimate questions and contemplate meaning and purpose

3.9 make sense of and interpret human experience, the natural world, and their own place within it, from a pluralistic perspective, understanding different religions and non-religious philosophical convictions in their own locality and in Wales, developing their sense of cynefin, as well as in the wider world

## Assessment Objectives

The assessment of the knowledge, understanding and skills required in the qualification must target the following assessment objectives in line with the indicated weightings, within a tolerance of +/- 5 percentage points.

<b>AO1</b>	<b>Demonstrate knowledge and understanding</b> of religious and non-religious beliefs, practices, and teachings	25%
<b>AO2</b>	<b>Apply knowledge and understanding</b> of religious and nonreligious beliefs, teachings, practices, values, and philosophical convictions	25%
<b>AO3</b>	<b>Analyse, evaluate, or make judgements</b> on a variety of ethical and moral issues, including a personal perspective, and exploration of values from religious and non-religious perspectives	25%
<b>AO4</b>	<b>Select, use and apply skills and techniques</b> in practice relevant to the study of Religious Studies	25%

## Scheme of assessment

- The **GCSE Religious Studies** qualification must be unitised.

10. The GCSE Religious Studies must show the range in the proportion of marks allocated to each assessment objective and to each Unit.

11. The GCSE Religious Studies must include the following assessment arrangements:

11.1 There must be two examination assessments that:

11.1.1 are set and marked by the awarding body

11.1.2 account for 60% of the qualification

11.2 The timing of the examinations must be prescribed by the awarding body

11.3 There must be two non-examination assessments that must account for 40% of the qualification:

11.3.1 one non-examination assessment set by the awarding body, internally marked by the Centre and externally moderated by the awarding body

11.3.2 one non-examination assessment set and externally marked by the awarding body

11.3.3 both non-examination assessments must be able to be submitted digitally

12. One examination unit must be available in the summer of 2026 for the first cohort of Learners taking the qualification

13. The awarding body must specify its rules in regard to re-sits and re-submissions for GCSE Religious Studies in accordance with the GCSE Conditions of Recognition