

## **AQA GCSE Religious Studies**

**Mapping of the suite of AQA GCSE Religious Studies Specifications  
against the content of the Curriculum Directory draft Levels of**

**Attainment and the aims of the Bishops' Conference  
Department for Catholic Education and Formation:**

**14-19 Guidance**

Further copies of this Mapping document are available from:

The Religious Studies and Classics Section, AQA, Devas Street, Manchester M15 6EX

or

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## **Introduction**

The AQA Religious Studies Specifications have been carefully drawn up to enable candidates of all faiths or denominations, or of none, to accredit their knowledge and understanding in Religious Studies. It acknowledges the varying needs of maintained schools, independent schools and faith schools and differences which may arise from local studies and practices in different places. The teams of examiners drawing up the specifications come from both the AQA (NEAB) and AQA (SEG) traditions and have many years experience in teaching at GCSE level. Some have taught in Roman Catholic, Church of England, maintained or independent schools, some have detailed knowledge of other faiths and all have a wide range of experience in drawing up specifications which meet the needs of Agreed Syllabuses and specific guidance provided by faith communities.

AQA takes careful note of the requirements of its centres and their requests and comments. It also receives information and documentation from The Catholic Bishops' Conference Department for Catholic Education and Formation, the Church of England Board of Education, Local Authorities and Faith Communities in order to be as fully informed as possible when establishing specifications. It is a clear intention to enable all candidates, from any tradition or none, to have equal access to Specification A *Christianity*. It is expected that the various options in this Specification will help centres to make decisions which will best accredit the specific knowledge and understanding of their candidates.

### **Note to Roman Catholic centres**

AQA's GCSE Religious Studies Specification A *Christianity* addresses the four areas of study identified in the Catholic Bishops' Conference, Curriculum Directory (1996), namely Revelation, Church, Life in Christ and Celebration. It is also attentive to the draft Levels of Attainment and has taken cognisance of the aims rehearsed in the recently published Bishops' Conference Department for Catholic Education and Formation (Curriculum Guidance June 2006). AQA has mapped the main curriculum requirements against the different options in Specification A and these are set out in the grid which follows. AQA intends that the grids will assist centres in showing how the substance of the faith, referred to in the Bishops' Conference document, is examined within the papers of the Specification.

**Note from Fr. Joseph A Quigley, National Religious Education Adviser for England and Wales, The Catholic Bishops' Conference Department for Catholic Education and Formation**

The Catholic Education Service through its work with QCA is committed to helping examination boards write examination specifications in religious education which meet the needs of the Catholic community. We are delighted by the care AQA has taken in revising its current specification in religious education and look forward to working with AQA in the future.

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## **GCSE Religious Studies Specification A *Christianity* Mapping of the Curriculum Directory draft Levels of Attainment and the aims of the Bishops' Conference Department for Catholic Education and Formation: 14-19 Guidance**

The table is based on any combination of papers that Roman Catholic Schools might reasonably offer when delivering AQA GCSE Religious Studies Specification A (i.e. Options 1B and 2B, Options 1C and 2B and Options 1D and 2B).

<b>ROMAN CATHOLIC CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK</b>	<b>PAPER 1B <i>CHRISTIAN BELIEF AND PRACTICE WITH REFERENCE TO THE ROMAN CATHOLIC TRADITION</i></b>	<b>PAPER 1C <i>THE CHRISTIAN LIFE AND ST MARK'S GOSPEL</i></b>	<b>PAPER 1D <i>CHRISTIANITY AND THE SYNOPTIC GOSPELS</i></b>	<b>PAPER 2B <i>EFFECTS OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC TRADITION UPON ASPECTS OF CHRISTIAN LIFESTYLE AND BEHAVIOUR</i></b>
<b>THE SUBSTANCE OF FAITH</b>	The role and importance of The Apostles' Creed.	Beliefs about the Person and Work of Jesus, as recorded in St. Mark's Gospel.	Teaching of Jesus in the parables, life of Jesus.	The centrality of the sacraments in the life of the Roman Catholic Church.
<b>THE MYSTERY OF GOD</b>	What is meant by the Oneness of God and the Trinity.	The nature of God revealed in the Person of Jesus, his ministry and teaching, e.g. the Baptism.	Evidence of God's power through the miracle narratives.	The nature of God revealed through scripture, for example the Parable of the Prodigal Son.
<b>HIS SAVING WILL...</b>	How judgement and the world to come reflect the love of God and his wishes for all humanity.	Jesus' teaching on the nature of resurrection and the Kingdom of God. Beliefs about Jesus' death and Resurrection and the Eucharist.	The miracle narratives, resurrection of Jesus.	Roman Catholic belief about heaven and life after death. The Eucharist as a memorial sacrifice of Jesus who was sent to save and redeem us.

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<p><b>THE CENTRAL PLACE OF JESUS...</b></p> <p><b>OUR SAVIOUR...</b></p> <p><b>ALWAYS PRESENT IN HIS CHURCH...</b></p>	<p>How the incarnation of Jesus reflects the love of God and is the starting point of salvation.</p> <p>The meaning of the crucifixion, resurrection and ascension, how these facts bring salvation to all people.</p> <p>The Person and work of the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Christ, works in the Church through the outpouring of his gifts. How all believers form the Church, the Body of Christ, doing the work of Christ on earth. How the Communion of Saints shows the outpouring of these gifts through all ages. How the Church is militant, suffering and glorious.</p>	<p>The Person, Work and Teaching of Jesus, and their meaning for Roman Catholics today.</p> <p>The Person of Jesus as Saviour, the salvific meaning of the Passion, Resurrection and ascension of Jesus.</p> <p>The ministry and teaching of Jesus relating to the Christian Community and its meaning for Roman Catholics today.</p>	<p>The incarnation of Jesus, birth, baptism, messianic importance (Caesarea Philippi).</p> <p>Meaning of the baptism, crucifixion, resurrection, post resurrection appearances and ascension.</p> <p>Meaning, challenge, cost and rewards of discipleship in living the Christian life.</p>	<p>The teaching of Jesus and its ongoing relevance for modern disciples. The Risen Christ, present in the Eucharist.</p> <p>The presence of the risen Jesus in the Eucharist and in those who do His will. The parable of the Sheep and the Goats.</p> <p>Religious Vocation: the ongoing work of those who choose Holy Orders, members of Religious Congregations and the laity. The Church as 'The People of God'.</p>



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<p><b>THE SOURCE OF OUR FAITH...</b></p>	<p>How the Bible is the Word of God in which all beliefs of the Church are reflected and to be found.</p> <p>How Mary, Mother of God is a guide and role model for all believers.</p>	<p>The authority of St. Mark's Gospel.</p> <p>The example of Jesus, the Apostles and others (e.g. the widow in the Temple) in St. Mark's Gospel.</p>	<p>Synoptic Gospels.</p> <p>Jesus' life and the development of the disciples' understanding of his role and mission.</p> <p>Temptations. Suffering the trial of Jesus.</p>	<p>The importance of Scripture and Tradition in the Roman Catholic Church.</p> <p>The example of Jesus in the gospel passages as a model of discipleship. How Christian vocation reflects the example of Jesus.</p>
<p><b>THE LIFE AND TEACHING OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH</b></p>	<p>How the Magisterium is the teaching authority of the Church. How the role of the Pope as successor to Peter leads to him being a spiritual guide for all believers. How the bishops advise the Pope on teaching matters in their role as successors to the Apostles.</p>	<p>The role of the Twelve, their mission and the implications of their work for Roman Catholic organisation and mission today.</p> <p>Roman Catholic beliefs and teachings about Baptism and the Eucharist.</p> <p>The significance of the Roman Catholic Church of Jesus' teaching on the Kingdom of God and discipleship.</p>	<p>AO3 questions on the application of understanding of the meaning of faith today. Applying the challenges of Jesus in his day to today.</p>	<p>Life as a sacrament. The purpose and effects of the seven sacraments.</p> <p>The teaching of the Church on moral issues.</p> <p>The Ten Commandments and the Sermon on the Mount, including the Beatitudes.</p>

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<p><b>THE ULTIMATE QUESTIONS OF LIFE</b></p>	<p>What is meant by Judgement and the world to come and how these ideas give depth to the way life is lived. How the Death rites reflect what Catholics believe about life after death.</p>	<p>The meaning of the death and Resurrection of Jesus for his followers. Jesus' teaching on the Kingdom of God, as recorded in St. Mark's Gospel.</p>	<p>Judgement and the world to come. Suffering and healing. Kingdom of Heaven.</p>	<p>Questions about the beginning and sanctity of life. Questions about quality of life. The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick and teaching about life after death.</p>
<p><b>THE CHURCH'S RESPONSE THROUGH DOCTRINE</b></p>	<p>How the interpretation of the Bible shapes the Church's decisions on matters of faith and doctrine. How the Magisterium applies the Bible to modern concerns.</p>	<p>Beliefs about the authority of St. Mark's Gospel.</p>	<p>Recognising that the teachings and life of Jesus are mediated through human understanding.</p>	<p>Church documents on various issues such as abortion, war, euthanasia, contraception, the role of the laity. Vatican II and the Encyclicals of Popes such as John XXIII, Paul VI and John Paul II. Declaration on Euthanasia, Humanae Vitae and Declaration on Procured Abortion as an example of the response of the Church to Contemporary Moral Issues.</p>

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<p><b>THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN RELIGIOUS BELIEF, PERSONAL FAITH AND LIVED EXPERIENCE</b></p>	<p>The role of worship as an expression of belief. How places of worship reflect the different ways belief can be expressed through worship. How the Lord's Prayer shows the way to pray and bring together the community of believers. The role of private worship for a personal development of the relationship with God. How pilgrimage brings people together to share and develop their faith and helps believers to share with those less fortunate than themselves. How Holy Communion is an expression of unity and can bring believers together. How rites of passage show and enhance the belief of the individual and, through them, the whole Body of the Church.</p>	<p>The significance of the ministry and teaching of Jesus for Christian life today. The meaning of the Commission for the Church. The importance of prayer, worship, Baptism and the Eucharist.</p>	<p>Discipleship Response of those Jesus came into contact with. Response of those in Jesus' circle. Care for minorities and the teaching of justice through the parables.</p>	<p>The application of scripture and tradition to everyday moral issues. The relationship between sickness and healing. The continuing relevance of the Sacraments to Roman Catholic faith and experience. The lived experience of faith through vocation; religious life, the laity, marriage and Holy Orders.</p>

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<p><b>AWARENESS OF AND RESPECT FOR OTHER RELIGIONS AND WORLD VIEWS</b></p>	<p>How Protestant and Orthodox places of worship and eucharistic worship reflect the differences of belief and practices and how these should be respected.</p>	<p>Differing views on the authority and interpretation of St. Mark's Gospel and on Sunday observance.  Differing beliefs about Baptism, e.g. infant and believers' baptism.  Differences in celebration and interpretation of the Eucharist.</p>	<p>Opportunities to express more than one viewpoint and understanding.</p>	<p>Different Eucharistic practices. Differing responses to various moral issues. For example views of other Christian denominations on abortion, euthanasia and contraception.  Differing attitudes of different nations to issues such as War and Capital Punishment.</p>

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<p><b>ATTAINMENT TARGET 1</b> <b>LEARNING ABOUT RELIGION</b> <b>(1) BELIEFS</b></p>	<p>How The Apostles' Creed expresses the Christian faith. The meaning of the following ideas: The Oneness of God and the Trinity The incarnation of Jesus The crucifixion, resurrection and ascension The Person and work of the Holy Spirit The Church as the Body of Christ The Communion of Saints Judgement and the world to come.</p>	<p>The authority of St. Mark's Gospel as the word of God The Person of Jesus as Son of God, Son of Man, Saviour and Messiah The meaning of Jesus' Passion, Death and Resurrection The nature of the Kingdom of God Baptism and the Eucharist</p>	<p>Life of Jesus Teachings of Jesus through the parables Work of Jesus – miracles Meaning of the incarnation, baptism, messianic importance of Jesus Jesus as a man of authority The Kingdom of God realised and eschatological Judgement.</p>	<p>Baptism as an entry to the faith. Eucharist as a memorial thanksgiving for the sacrifice of Jesus for us. Confirmation as the completion of initiation and the obligation to be a witness. Marriage as a living sign of God's love for his people. Holy Orders as a call to serve God. Reconciliation as a mirror of the unconditional love and forgiveness of the heavenly Father. Anointing the sick as a preparation for death or an aid to recovery.</p>

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<p><b>TEACHINGS</b></p>	<p>How the Church expresses its teachings through the Magisterium. How the role of the Pope as successor to Peter and as a spiritual guide is the guarantee of the truth of the Church's teachings. How the Teaching ministry is the combined authority of the Pope and the bishops.</p>	<p>The role of the Pope and bishops in relation to Jesus' call, mission and commission of the Twelve  The teachings of the Roman Catholic Church on the Person and Work of Jesus.</p>	<p>Jesus' teachings on the Kingdom of God, justice, care for minorities.  Forgiveness.  Understanding the challenges and rewards of discipleship.</p>	<p>The importance of the Magisterium in teaching on moral issues such as abortion, contraception, divorce, euthanasia and responding to the needs of the poor.</p>
<p><b>SOURCES</b></p>	<p>How The Bible is the source of all Christian beliefs. How the different interpretations of the Bible could cause problems for believers and how the Magisterium can resolve these problems.</p>	<p>St. Mark's Gospel and interpretations of it.</p>	<p>Synoptic gospels and interpretations of them.</p>	<p>The scriptures, Old and New Testaments. The teaching authority of the church as demonstrated through Vatican II and various Papal Encyclicals.</p>

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<p><b>(II) CELEBRATION</b></p>	<p>How worship help believers to celebrate and express their belief. How places of worship are designed to enhance worship. How the Lord's Prayer helps believers to build up the relationship with God. How private worship develops the individual's commitment. How pilgrimage can be a communal celebration of faith. The role of liturgical festivals as expressions of the beliefs of the Church.</p>	<p>Worship The significance of Sunday and ways in which it is used.</p>	<p>Incidents in the life of Jesus, e.g. triumphal entry into Jerusalem. The importance of prayer within the Christian life. Reactions of those to Jesus – particularly at the miracles.</p>	<p>Features of the rites of the sacraments that aid understanding of their purpose and meaning; words, signs and symbols.</p>
<p><b>RITUAL</b></p>	<p>How Holy Communion and rites of passage help the believers to express their faith and build up the relations within the Church community.</p>	<p>Baptism and the Eucharist.</p>	<p>Last supper as a possible model for Holy Communion.</p>	<p>Sacraments of initiation (Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation), Vocation (Marriage and Holy Orders) and Healing (Reconciliation, Anointing the Sick).</p>

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<p><b>(III) SOCIAL PRACTICES</b></p>	<p>How marriage and confirmation reflect and enhance the believer's commitment to the community.</p>	<p>Jesus' teaching on values relating to daily life.</p>		<p>Marriage, Ordination, Family life, role of Lay people in the church, Christian values and discipleship in everyday life. Attitudes to dealing with criminals. Issues of discrimination due to disability or gender.</p>
<p><b>MORAL PRACTICES</b></p>		<p>Jesus' teaching on the Greatest Commandments.</p>	<p>Parables of judgement on forgiveness and condemnation. Reaction to the teaching of Jesus on social justice. Stewardship.</p>	<p>Teaching on Marriage, divorce, annulment, responsible parenthood, sexual relationships, contraception, abortion, euthanasia and the use of capital punishment. Jesus' teaching in the Sermon on the Mount as a guide to living a moral life.</p>



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<p><b>(III) SOCIAL PRACTICES WAY OF LIFE</b></p>		<p>Baptism and the Eucharist as initiation into the Christian community and sustaining the Christian throughout life. Jesus' teaching on discipleship, being like a child, etc. and its application to today's Christian lifestyle.</p>		<p>The sacraments as a way of life and ongoing encounter with God. The teaching of the Church as the guide to a moral life.</p>
<p><b>ATTAINMENT TARGET 2 LEARNING FROM RELIGION (I) ENGAGEMENT WITH OWN BELIEFS AND VALUES</b></p>	<p>How Baptism and Confirmation strengthen the faith of the individual.</p>	<p>The meaning of Baptism and the Eucharist and the teaching of Jesus for Christians today.</p>	<p>Response of followers today to the teaching of Jesus.</p>	<p>Exploration of the purpose, effects, meaning and importance of the sacraments. Evaluation of the relevance and meaning of Sacraments for Roman Catholics today.</p>

<p><b>ROMAN CATHOLIC CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK</b></p>	<p><b>PAPER 1B</b> <b>CHRISTIAN BELIEF AND PRACTICE WITH REFERENCE TO THE ROMAN CATHOLIC TRADITION</b></p>	<p><b>PAPER 1C</b> <b>THE CHRISTIAN LIFE AND ST MARK'S GOSPEL</b></p>	<p><b>PAPER 1D</b> <b>CHRISTIANITY AND THE SYNOPTIC GOSPELS</b></p>	<p><b>PAPER 2B</b> <b>EFFECTS OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC TRADITION UPON ASPECTS OF CHRISTIAN LIFESTYLE AND BEHAVIOUR</b></p>
<p><b>ENGAGEMENT WITH OTHERS' BELIEFS AND VALUES</b></p>	<p>How non-Catholics have differing attitudes and practices about the Eucharist.</p>	<p>Beliefs of other denominations in relation to Baptism and the Eucharist. Different views on the significance of Jesus' Person, ministry and teaching.</p>	<p>Opportunities to offer more than one point of view on the teachings, understanding and interpretation of them.</p>	<p>Different attitudes to various moral issues such as nuclear war, contraception, responding to poverty, involvement in the life of the Church, ordination of women, celibacy. Differences in attitudes of Roman Catholics to these issues. The relationship between religious law and state law.</p>
<p><b>(II) ENGAGEMENT WITH QUESTIONS OF MEANING AND PURPOSE</b></p>	<p>How the different interpretations of the Bible can raise issues about the ultimate truth. How belief in life after death can give shape, direction and purpose to the way a believer lives.</p>	<p>Views on the authority of St. Mark's Gospel as the word of God Questions relating to Jesus' teaching on the nature of resurrection and the Kingdom of God.</p>	<p>Interpretation of the synoptic tradition. Kingdom of heaven.</p>	<p>Questions about the beginning, the end and life after death. Questions about the sacredness and value of human life. The meaning of Vocation.</p>

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<b>The framework of religious education for the 14-19+ phase (central core)</b>				
<b>CATHOLIC CHRISTIANITY</b>	How the idea of the Church as the body of Christ affects the believer's commitment to the Church. How the teaching authority of the Church (the Pope and the Bishops) guides Roman Catholics in their beliefs and actions. How the rites of passage and the sacraments are signs of belonging to the community and strengthen this commitment. How worship, prayer and pilgrimage strengthen the community dimension of faith.	The authority of Mark's Gospel in the Roman Catholic Church. The significance for Roman Catholics of the Person of Jesus and his suffering, death and Resurrection. Beliefs about life after death. The present and future dimensions of the Kingdom of God, the importance of prayer, faith and commitment and what discipleship entails for Roman Catholics. The implications of the work of the Twelve as portrayed in Mark's Gospel for Roman Catholic organisation and mission. The significance for Roman Catholics of Sunday, of the Eucharist and of baptism as the first rite of initiation.	Baptism Discipleship Living the Christian life Jesus' teaching and worship, e.g. the Last Supper / Eucharist tradition Jesus as Lord and Messiah Prayer Christian leadership Healing Kingdom of Heaven realised and eschatological Care for minorities and the underprivileged, the nature of Christian love.	The Sacramental life of the Church. The meaning, importance, purpose and effects of the sacraments in the Roman Catholic Tradition. The response of the Roman Catholic Church to moral issues. Roman Catholic teaching on issues such as contraception, abortion, capital punishment, war, euthanasia. The response of Roman Catholics to the challenge of the Gospel through vocations. Lay ministry, marriage, ordination and religious life.

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<p><b>The framework of religious education for the 14-19+ phase (central core)</b></p>				
<p><b>TWO OTHER PRINCIPAL RELIGIONS, ONE ABRAHAMIC AND ONE OTHER</b></p>		<p>The significance for Jews of the Sabbath: the 4<sup>th</sup> Commandment and oral tradition.</p>	<p>Understanding of the Judaic Background to the Synoptic Gospels. Judaism in the time of Jesus. Principal Festivals – particularly Passover. Sabbath, the role of the Temple, the synagogue. The Rabbi. Torah and the differences between haggadah and halakah. Messianic tradition and belief. The importance of the Hebrew Scriptures in worship and understanding.</p>	<p>Links between the Eucharist and the Jewish Passover. Christianity as an extension and new expression of the Jewish Faith.</p>

<b>ROMAN CATHOLIC CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK</b>	<b>PAPER 1B CHRISTIAN BELIEF AND PRACTICE WITH REFERENCE TO THE ROMAN CATHOLIC TRADITION</b>	<b>PAPER 1C THE CHRISTIAN LIFE AND ST MARK'S GOSPEL</b>	<b>PAPER 1D CHRISTIANITY AND THE SYNOPTIC GOSPELS</b>	<b>PAPER 2B EFFECTS OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC TRADITION UPON ASPECTS OF CHRISTIAN LIFESTYLE AND BEHAVIOUR</b>
<b>The framework of religious education for the 14-19+ phase (central core)</b>				
<b>MORAL EDUCATION</b>	How the Bible and the Magisterium guide the individual in moral decision making. How the sacraments and rites of passage reflect the Roman Catholic attitude towards issues connected with the start of life, abortion, sex and relationships, divorce, the treatment of and attitude towards, the sick and dying.	The meaning for Christian lifestyle of Jesus' teaching on wealth and love of neighbour and of Mark's accounts of Judas' betrayal and Peter's denials.	The moral framework of Christian love in action. The challenges of the parables. Identifying right motives and actions in the Christian life. Justice. Forgiveness. Maintaining the law (deontology) against the needs of others. Motive. Truth claims and their validation.	The role of the Magisterium in guiding Roman Catholics through doctrine. Teachings on issues of perennial importance such as contraception, abortion, capital punishment, war, euthanasia. Reference to the teaching of various Popes, Vatican II documents and the Catechism of the Church as sources of authority underpinning beliefs.

<p><b>ROMAN CATHOLIC CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK</b></p>	<p><b>PAPER 1B CHRISTIAN BELIEF AND PRACTICE WITH REFERENCE TO THE ROMAN CATHOLIC TRADITION</b></p>	<p><b>PAPER 1C THE CHRISTIAN LIFE AND ST MARK'S GOSPEL</b></p>	<p><b>PAPER 1D CHRISTIANITY AND THE SYNOPTIC GOSPELS</b></p>	<p><b>PAPER 2B EFFECTS OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC TRADITION UPON ASPECTS OF CHRISTIAN LIFESTYLE AND BEHAVIOUR</b></p>
<p><b>The framework of religious education for the 14-19+ phase (central core)</b></p>				
<p><b>SECULAR WORLD VIEW</b></p>	<p>How the Roman Catholic attitude to religious and moral issues contrast with the views of those who do not have a religious dimension to their outlook and morals.</p>	<p>Secular assessment of the authority of Mark's Gospel, of the Person of Jesus and his teaching. Secular explanations of the miracles recorded by Mark and of the empty tomb.</p>	<p>Interaction between Christian standards of behaviour and others.  The interaction between Christian action and secular action – similarities and differences.  Commitment to make a difference identified in the miracles and parables.</p>	<p>The different views of non-Roman Catholics and non-Christians to life and living. Secular attitudes to war, marriage and family life, matters of life and death, responding to the needs of others including the poor.</p>
<p><b>PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION</b></p>	<p>How the existence and nature of God is reflected in the Creeds and in Church teaching. How the issues of the use of religious language and ideas concerning revelation are dealt with by Roman Catholics. How the underlying values of life and life after death are dealt with by the Roman Catholic religion.</p>	<p>The nature of God as reflected in the Person, teaching and actions of Jesus.  The question of miracles.  Beliefs about life after death.</p>	<p>Nature of proof in miracle narratives.  Existence of God demonstrated through the Gospel tradition and interpretation.</p>	<p>The meaning and distinctive features of membership of the Roman Catholic Church. The part played by Scripture and tradition in determining the nature and mission of the Church. The ongoing presence of the Holy Spirit in the Church, guiding believers.</p>

**GCSE Religious Studies Specification B *World and Philosophical Perspectives on Religious Issues***  
**Mapping of the Curriculum Directory draft Levels of Attainment and the aims of the Bishops' Conference**  
**Department for Catholic Education and Formation: 14-19 Guidance**

<b>ROMAN CATHOLIC CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK</b>	<b>MODULE 1 <i>THINKING ABOUT GOD AND MORALITY</i></b>	<b>MODULE 2 <i>KEY BELIEFS, ULTIMATE QUESTIONS AND LIFE ISSUES</i></b>	<b>MODULE 3 <i>FAITH STUDIES AND ETHICS IN TWO RELIGIONS</i></b>	<b>MODULE 4 <i>TRUTH, SPIRITUALITY AND CONTEMPORARY ISSUES</i></b>
<b>THE SUBSTANCE OF FAITH</b>	Nature of God.	The nature of God; Salvation and Eternal Life; the life, teaching and example of Jesus; the crucifixion and the resurrection and its purpose and significance; the Bible and its importance.	Importance of elements of worship.	The nature of truth and spirituality.
<b>THE LIFE AND TEACHING OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH</b>	Teachings of the Church relevant to personal and social behaviour and issues, and social responsibility.	The importance of the Christian faith for believers today. Liturgical and non-liturgical worship including the Eucharist. Teachings of the Church relevant to personal and social behaviour and issues, and social responsibility.	Catholic worship; Catholic attitudes to all issues, including personal behaviour and social responsibility.	Membership of a faith community. Tradition Teachings of the Church relevant to personal and social behaviour and issues, and social responsibility Ways of expressing spirituality in society. Work of religious organisations, e.g. Roman Catholic Church.

<p><b>ROMAN CATHOLIC CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK</b></p>	<p><b>MODULE 1 THINKING ABOUT GOD AND MORALITY</b></p>	<p><b>MODULE 2 KEY BELIEFS, ULTIMATE QUESTIONS AND LIFE ISSUES</b></p>	<p><b>MODULE 3 FAITH STUDIES AND ETHICS IN TWO RELIGIONS</b></p>	<p><b>MODULE 4 TRUTH, SPIRITUALITY AND CONTEMPORARY ISSUES</b></p>
<p><b>ULTIMATE QUESTIONS OF LIFE, AND THE CHURCH'S RESPONSE THROUGH DOCTRINE</b></p>	<p>Existence of God; concept of religious duty (environment, helping others, procreation) as demonstration of devotion and thanksgiving to God. The question of suffering and evil. Revelation of God. Nature and characteristics of God. The sanctity of life.</p>	<p>Evidence for and against the existence of God / belief in God, arguments from design, religious experience and revelation taking into account the nature and characteristics of God as perceived by the Catholic Church. The question of suffering and beliefs about life after death. The sanctity of life.</p>	<p>Concept of religious duty (environment, helping others, procreation) as demonstration of devotion and thanksgiving to God. The sanctity of life.</p>	<p>Concept of religious duty as demonstration of devotion and thanksgiving to God. Search for meaning in life, answers to ultimate questions.</p>
<p><b>THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN RELIGIOUS BELIEF, PERSONAL FAITH AND LIVED EXPERIENCE</b></p>	<p>Impact of faith on behaviour, explored generally and through specified ethical issues. (Second group of Units – Morality; Abortion; Sex, marriage and divorce; Prejudice and Discrimination; War and Peace; Wealth and Poverty; The Natural World).</p>	<p>Impact of faith on behaviour, explored generally and through specified ethical issues. Abortion; Prejudice and Discrimination; War and Peace; Attitudes towards animals and the care of the Planet.</p>	<p>How people worship and the importance of this in all its aspects; how behaviour and action is affected / influenced by personal belief through such issues as – Protest, Pressure Groups and Minority Rights; Abortion, Sex, Marriage and Divorce; Prejudice and Discrimination in Society; Animal Rights; and the Environment.</p>	<p>Impact of faith on behaviour, explored generally and through specified ethical issues. Matters of life – fertility treatments, medical research; Matters of death – role of family and community, caring for terminally ill, euthanasia; Drug abuse; Media and Technology; Crime and Punishment; Wealth and Poverty. Ways of expressing spirituality in society. Membership of a Faith Community, e.g. Roman Catholic Church.</p>



<b>ROMAN CATHOLIC CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK</b>	<b>MODULE 1 THINKING ABOUT GOD AND MORALITY</b>	<b>MODULE 2 KEY BELIEFS, ULTIMATE QUESTIONS AND LIFE ISSUES</b>	<b>MODULE 3 FAITH STUDIES AND ETHICS IN TWO RELIGIONS</b>	<b>MODULE 4 TRUTH, SPIRITUALITY AND CONTEMPORARY ISSUES</b>
<b>AWARENESS OF AND RESPECT FOR OTHER WORLD RELIGIONS AND WORLD VIEWS</b>	Candidates must study an additional faith, in relation to attitudes to all ethical issues covered (Second group of Units – Morality; Abortion; Sex, marriage and divorce; Prejudice and Discrimination; War and Peace; Wealth and Poverty; The Natural World).	Candidates are advised to study an additional Christian denomination or they have the option of answering Sections B, C and D by using another world religion in addition to the Roman Catholic tradition.	Candidates must study an additional faith, in relation to worship and attitudes to all ethical issues covered.	Candidates must study an additional faith, in relation to attitudes to all ethical issues covered.
<b>DIGNITY OF HUMAN LIFE AND WORK</b>	Personal behaviour and integrity in Units such as Sex, Marriage and Divorce; Prejudice and Discrimination; Abortion.  Social behaviour and integrity, following Christian duty of service in Units – Prejudice and Discrimination; War and Peace; Wealth and Poverty; The Natural World.	The sanctity of life – personal behaviour and integrity in topics such as suffering, abortion, prejudice, war and peace.  Social behaviour and integrity, following Christian duty of service in topics such as suffering, abortion, prejudice, war and peace, care for the Planet and animals.	Abortion; Sex, Marriage and Divorce; Prejudice and Discrimination.  Prejudice and Discrimination; Protest, Pressure Groups and Minority Rights. Care for the planet and animals.	The sanctity of life – embryology, genetic engineering, caring for elderly, terminally ill, euthanasia, pornography, unemployment, etc.  Christian duty of service in units on Matters of death; drug abuse; broadcasting; crime and punishment; rich and poor in society, etc. Work of religious voluntary groups, e.g. CAFOD
<b>THE IDEA OF SERVICE OF OTHERS FOR THE COMMON GOOD</b>				

<b>ROMAN CATHOLIC CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK</b>	<b>MODULE 1 THINKING ABOUT GOD AND MORALITY</b>	<b>MODULE 2 KEY BELIEFS, ULTIMATE QUESTIONS AND LIFE ISSUES</b>	<b>MODULE 3 FAITH STUDIES AND ETHICS IN TWO RELIGIONS</b>	<b>MODULE 4 TRUTH, SPIRITUALITY AND CONTEMPORARY ISSUES</b>
<b>The framework of religious education for the 14-19+ phase (central core)</b>				
<b>CATHOLIC CHRISTIANITY</b>	A study of its attitudes to all elements would be totally acceptable in the GCSE.	Worship, teaching and practice in the Roman Catholic faith are relevant to all sections of the specification.	Worship in the Roman Catholic faith. Teaching in relation to any ethical issue.	A study of its attitudes to all elements would be totally acceptable in the GCSE.
<b>TWO OTHER PRINCIPAL RELIGIONS, ONE ABRAHAMIC AND ONE OTHER</b>	One other religious tradition should be studied for the moral elements of this course, allowing candidates to reference a different faith.	The specification gives the flexibility to use one or two religions in answering Sections B, C and D. Up to three religions may be used in the paper as a whole.	One other religious tradition must be studied for this module, hence worship in one other tradition. Also any ethical issue must be discussed through two religions, so Roman Catholic could be one of these.	One other religious tradition must be studied for this module.
<b>MORAL EDUCATION</b>	Second group of Units – Morality; Abortion; Sex, marriage and divorce; Prejudice and Discrimination; War and Peace; Wealth and Poverty; The Natural World.	Sections C and D - Abortion; War and Peace; Religion and Prejudice; Human attitudes to animals; Care for the Planet.	Section B – Human Relationships; Abortion; Animal Rights; the Environment; Protest, Pressure Groups and Minority Rights; Prejudice and Discrimination.	The Units on Matters of Life; Matters of Death; Drug Abuse; Media and Technology; Crime and punishment; Rich and Poor in Society.
<b>SECULAR WORLD VIEW</b>	Scientific understandings of origins and development of the universe and life; the secular understanding / interpretation of suffering and evil, and of religious experience; secular attitudes to all ethical issues.	Scientific understandings of origins and development of the universe and life; the secular understanding / interpretation of suffering and evil, and of religious experience; secular attitudes to all ethical issues.	Secular attitudes to all ethical issues on the course.	Secular attitudes to all ethical issues discussed in the specification.

<b>ROMAN CATHOLIC CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK</b>	<b>MODULE 1 THINKING ABOUT GOD AND MORALITY</b>	<b>MODULE 2 KEY BELIEFS, ULTIMATE QUESTIONS AND LIFE ISSUES</b>	<b>MODULE 3 FAITH STUDIES AND ETHICS IN TWO RELIGIONS</b>	<b>MODULE 4 TRUTH, SPIRITUALITY AND CONTEMPORARY ISSUES</b>
<b>PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION</b>	First four Units – Existence of God; Suffering and Evil; Nature of God; Revelation.	Existence of God; Suffering; Nature of God; Revelation.		First section on Truth and Spirituality.

Whether the module requires one or more traditions to have been studied, it would be appropriate to present Christianity entirely through the Roman Catholic perspective for one of them. Hence the bulk of a Short or Full GCSE would be in Roman Catholic terms.

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**GCSE Religious Studies Specification C *World Religions***  
**Mapping of the Curriculum Directory draft Levels of Attainment and the aims of the Bishops' Conference**  
**Department for Catholic Education and Formation: 14-19 Guidance**

<b>ROMAN CATHOLIC CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK</b>	<b>OPTION 2 CHRISTIANITY</b>
<b>THE SUBSTANCE OF FAITH</b>	The principal beliefs outlined in the Apostles' Creed.
<b>THE MYSTERY OF GOD...</b>	The oneness of God and the Trinity The person and the work of the Holy Spirit.
<b>HIS SAVING WILL...</b>	Judgement and the world to come. The meaning of the resurrection and the ascension of Jesus.
<b>THE CENTRAL PLACE OF JESUS...</b>	The meaning of the incarnation.
<b>OUR SAVIOUR...</b>	The meaning of the crucifixion and the resurrection and ascension of Jesus.
<b>ALWAYS PRESENT IN THE CHURCH...</b>	Different ways in which the Holy Communion is celebrated. Through Church leadership, e.g. role of priest and bishop.
<b>THE SOURCE OF OUR FAITH...</b>	The use of the Bible in public and private worship.
<b>MODEL OF CHRISTIAN CONDUCT</b>	Principles from the Sermon on the Mount and the Great Commandments.
<b>THE LIFE AND TEACHING OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH</b>	AO3 questions on the application of understanding of the meaning of faith today. Rites of passage.
<b>THE ULTIMATE QUESTIONS OF LIFE</b>	Questions about matters of life and death, the quality of life. Judgement and the world to come.
<b>THE CHURCH'S RESPONSE THROUGH DOCTRINE</b>	Declarations by various Pope's on euthanasia, abortion, respect and concern for the created world.

<p><b>ROMAN CATHOLIC CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK</b></p>	<p><b>OPTION 2</b> <i>CHRISTIANITY</i></p>
<p><b>THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN RELIGIOUS BELIEF, PERSONAL FAITH AND LIVED EXPERIENCE</b></p>	<p>Application of aspects of scripture to contemporary moral issues. Role of Priest. The Lord’s Prayer. Principles from the Sermon on the Mount “Love God and love your neighbours as yourself”. Personal and community life as a way of expressing one’s faith. Holy Communion and its significance for the community of Christian believers. Significance of Rites of Passage to believers.</p>
<p><b>AWARENESS OF AND RESPECT FOR OTHER WORLD RELIGIONS AND WORLD VIEWS</b></p>	<p>Different ways in which Holy Communion is celebrated in Orthodox and Protestant traditions and reasons why it is not celebrated in some Christian tradition. Awareness of how Christian worship can be confirmed to one form or be a combination of forms. Non liturgical but structured worship and non liturgical and spontaneous worship. Differing responses to contemporary moral issues, e.g. prejudice and discrimination, race and religion wealth and poverty abortion, euthanasia and suicide.</p>
<p><b>ATTAINMENT TARGET 1</b> <b>LEARNING ABOUT RELIGION</b> <b>(I) BELIEFS</b></p>	<p>The principal beliefs outlined in the Apostles’ Creed. The oneness of God and the Trinity. The meaning of the incarnation of Jesus. The meaning of the crucifixion, resurrection and ascension of Jesus. The person and work of the Holy Spirit. Judgement and the world to come.</p>
<p><b>TEACHINGS</b></p>	<p>The role of Church leadership – priest, bishop.</p>
<p><b>SOURCES</b></p>	<p>The Bible as a source of authority and inspiration. The use of the Bible in worship.</p>
<p><b>(II) CELEBRATION</b></p>	<p>Forms of liturgical worship. The Lord’s Prayer and the importance of prayer.</p>

<p><b>ROMAN CATHOLIC CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK</b></p>	<p><b>OPTION 2 CHRISTIANITY</b></p>
<p><b>RITUAL</b></p>	<p>Ways in which Holy Communion is celebrated. Ways of expression as seen through Rites of Passage ceremonies. Liturgical worship. Use of the Bible in worship.</p>
<p><b>(III) SOCIAL PRACTICES</b></p>	<p>The marriage ceremony. The effects of the Sermon on the Mount teaching to Christians’ lives. The importance of the family divorce and annulment of marriage. Role and status of women. Issues connected to discrimination and prejudice, race and religion.</p>
<p><b>MORAL PRACTICES</b></p>	<p>Jesus’ commandments. Teaching on abortion, euthanasia and suicide. Teaching on Justice and equality.</p>
<p><b>(III) SOCIAL PRACTICES</b></p> <p><b>WAY OF LIFE</b></p>	<p>Festival celebrations, communion.</p>
<p><b>ATTAINMENT TARGET 2 LEARNING FROM RELIGION</b></p> <p><b>(I) ENGAGEMENT WITH OWN BELIEFS AND VALUES</b></p>	<p>Responses of Christian followers to Jesus’ teachings. Rites of passage.</p>
<p><b>ENGAGEMENT WITH OTHERS’ BELIEFS AND VALUES</b></p>	<p>Different ways in which Holy Communion is celebrated. Different forms of worship. Varying responses to the relevance and application of Christian belief, e.g. to Personal and community life Family relationships justice and equality, matters of Life and Death.</p>
<p><b>(II) ENGAGEMENT WITH QUESTIONS OF MEANING AND PURPOSE</b></p>	<p>Contrasting beliefs about the authority, inspiration and interpretation of the Bible. Questions about matters of Life and Death. Questions about why we suffer.</p>

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