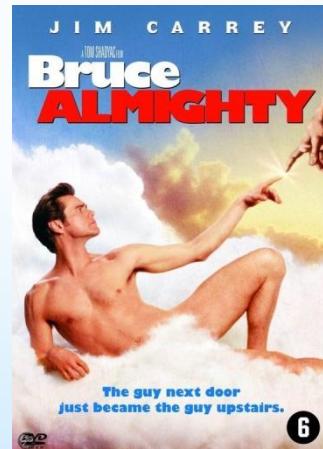


# GCSE R.S.

- \* **What do we study in GCSE R.S?**
- \* Why do we do it?
- \* How can it help me?



# GCSE R.S. - Why do we do it?

- \*Core R.S. is a legal requirement in every school in the UK
- \*We think – if you have to sit in an R.S. classroom, you should get a qualification in it



# GCSE R.S. – how can it help me?

## Get the grade:

- \* For many students at Thirsk, their GCSE grade in RS is one of their best grades.
- \* Try hard, do well. Simple!
- \* Last year (2025), more students at Thirsk got a good pass (level 5 or above) in RS than in any other core subject – English, maths or science



**A good grade in R.S. could help you get:**

- a) An apprenticeship
- b) Into 6<sup>th</sup> form college at Thirsk
- c) Into a different college



# GCSE R.S. – how can it help me?

## 2. Explore the ultimate questions

- \* As well as a great chance of a good grade, in RS you also explore many of the issues and challenges that life inevitably involves:
- \* **Is the death penalty right?**
- \* **Is there any life after death?**
- \* **Is it ever right to go to war?**
- \* **Should euthanasia be legalised?**



96 % of year 11 said RS was “worthwhile and useful for life”, regardless of whether they are religious or not.



# What do we study?

Your AQA GCSE RS involves 8 topics

## Religion:

1. Christian beliefs
2. Christian practices
3. Buddhist beliefs
4. Buddhist practices

## Themes

5. Human rights & Equality
6. Life: abortion, euthanasia & animal testing
7. War & Justice
8. Crime & Punishment

**There is no coursework. You will sit 2 exams at the end of year 11**

## Why this course?

1. We have to teach the Christian units – plus you will probably know quite a bit of this already
2. We asked students what they wanted to learn about for the 2<sup>nd</sup> religion – Buddhism was the clear winner.
3. Past students said the 4 themes we have chosen were their favourites.



# GCSE RELIGIOUS STUDIES

## In summary:

- RS is a core subject – all students take a full GCSE in it
- There is no tiered paper – all students can attain the full range of grades
- There is no coursework – it is assessed by exams at the end of year 11
- The current syllabus is AQA: Philosophy and Ethics – Christianity & Buddhism
- The course involves the study of Christianity and Buddhism, and 4 thematic units:
  - i. Equality & Human Rights
  - ii. War & Justice
  - iii. Crime & Punishment
  - iv. Life (abortion, & euthanasia)
- Our students consistently gain very good results.
- Any questions? Contact your RS teacher.

