

## Course Outline:

A GCSE in Humanities is an ideal way to study key concepts from History, Geography and RE.

Learners will focus on the two world religions of Christianity and Islam, studying the concepts, attitudes, values and practises that shape and represent their beliefs.

Learners will explore key geographical themes including people, places, population and migration as well as natural and man-made disasters such as earthquakes, nuclear meltdowns, hurricanes and tsunamis.

Learners will investigate key historical themes surrounding the mid-20th century in the UK, including WW2, the introduction of the welfare state, lifestyle changes in 1960s and the nationalisation of industry.

## Assessment:

The course is divided into 4 units each worth 25%

### Unit 1: Human Perspectives on the Environment – Patterns and Places

This unit is assessed through a 1 hour exam in summer 2016. This unit is the geography centred module and focuses on the ways that environmental, geographical, economic, social, cultural, political, historical, moral and religious factors influence people's lives and their interaction with the natural environment in a variety of ways. Learners will develop enquiry and critical thinking skills through discussion of issues that are important, real and relevant to the world in which they live.

### Unit 2: Human Perspectives on the Past – Society in change: the United Kingdom, 1939-1974

This unit is assessed through a 1 hour exam in summer 2016. This unit concentrates on history and the theme of change in the UK in the recent past. It considers the ways that historical, political, moral, cultural, religious, economic, social and geographical factors interact to shape and change aspects of UK society. It examines the issues that have affected the quality and nature of human life. It considers the experiences of war, economic, political and social issues, changes in culture and lifestyle and how people have contributed to society.

### Unit 3: Human Perspectives on Beliefs and Rights – Christianity and Islam in today's world.

This unit is assessed through a 1 hour exam in summer 2016. In this unit we focus mainly on the interaction of religious, spiritual and moral beliefs and their effect on human responsibilities. Learners will be able to relate to people of different cultures and faiths within their own community and from the wider world. Learners will focus on the key

beliefs, values and activities of Christians and Muslims through a study of the daily lives and annual rituals associated with their religions as well as an examination of their holy books and beliefs.

#### Unit 4: Contemporary themes and issues – conflict and co-operation

This unit will be assessed through Controlled Assessment in Autumn 2015. Learners will create a piece of extended work on the subject of terrorism and its effect on peace and co-operation in the modern world. Learners will be expected to describe the methods used by terrorist groups, explain why terrorist groups have emerged, analyse the impact of terrorism on society and evaluate the success of counter-terrorism initiatives. The controlled assessment will allow learners to actively engage in the process of humanities in order to develop as effective and independent thinkers with enquiring minds.

#### Your Future

A GCSE in Humanities is valued by both employers and colleges as it enables learners to gain a broad and detailed understanding of elements of History, Geography, Citizenship and Religious Education. As a full course GCSE it is accepted by sixth form colleges and can lead to further studies such as A-Levels in History, Geography, Religious Education, Politics and Sociology.