

GCSE Religious Studies

Information pack for course
starting September 2025

August 2025



Chinmaya Mission

- Global spiritual organisation
- Mission: To provide to individuals from any background, the wisdom of Vedanta and the practical means for spiritual growth and happiness, enabling them to become positive contributors to society
- Large formal education programme - Chinmaya University, CIRS, Chinmaya Vidyalayas, management training institutes, CIF research centre



What are we offering?

- Chinmaya Academy provides structured courses in the UK
- GCSE Religious Studies (Hinduism and Sikhism)
- From the AQA exam board
- Chinmaya Academy's 3rd cohort begins in September 2025
- Course will be taught in-person
- Catering for students who are starting in Years 9 or 10 in September 2025

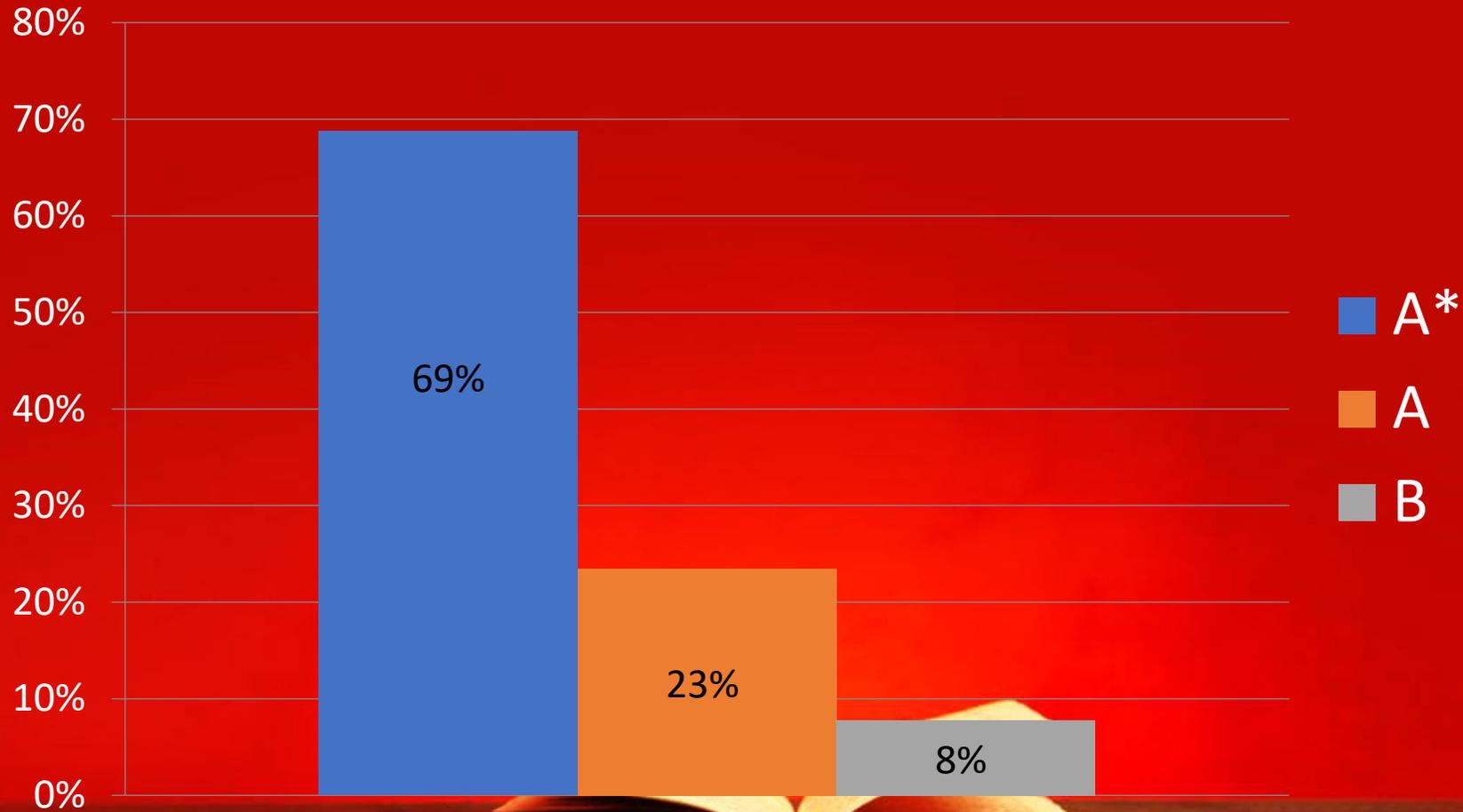


Why this GCSE?

- An offering of academic education complemented with spiritual knowledge
- Most schools do not offer this combination
- Your child can opt out of the mandatory GCSE in their school
- CM is a knowledge-based organisation with the authenticity to contribute in this area



Past results (GCSE Hinduism: 2009-14)



Course details

- Intake: 15 students in each location
- Teaching will be at Chinmaya Kirti (Hendon), Sutton and Gloucester. Classes will take place on one Sunday each month in Hendon (6 hours), twice a month in Sutton & Gloucester (3 hours each)
- Exams sat in Hendon/Sutton/Gloucester at local venues in May / June 2027
- 2 teachers for each cohort



Teaching delivery

- Face to face classes, term time only
- Timetable:
 - Hendon: Usually 2nd Sunday of each month, the day will run from 10am-4pm (inclusive of refreshments breaks)
 - Sutton/Gloucester: Usually 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month; the day will run from 9.30am-1pm (inclusive of refreshments breaks)
- Email communication with students only (NO WhatsApp permitted)
- Course will include practical sessions comprising:
 - Group puja
 - External speakers
 - Visits to Mandir and Gurudwara



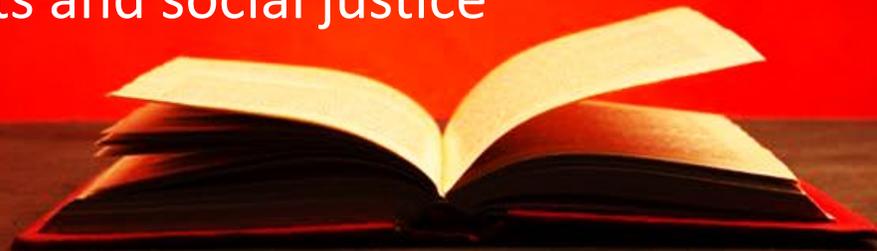
Syllabus

- Paper 1 – beliefs, teachings and practices
 - Hinduism – e.g. the concept of Atman, Diwali & Holi, pilgrimage, Yoga, and cow protection
 - Sikhism – e.g. the Mool Mantra, Sewa, the role of the sangat, life in the Gurdwara, and Vaisakhi



Syllabus

- Paper 2 – thematic studies (4 of 6 are taught and assessed)
 - **Relationships and families**
 - **Religion and life**
 - **The existence of God and revelation**
 - **Religion, peace and conflict**
 - Religion, crime and punishment
 - Religion, human rights and social justice



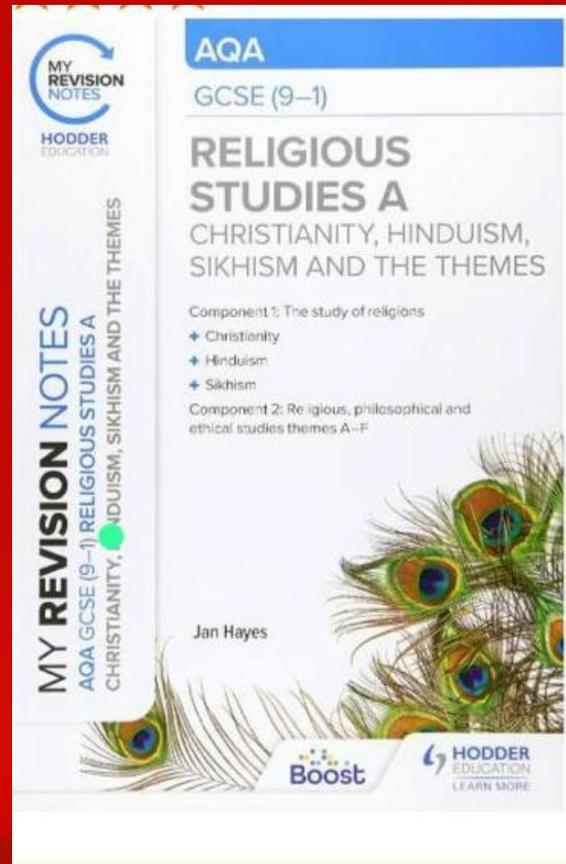
How the course will be taught

- Homework
- Revision sessions (closer to the exam)
- Help with exam prep
- 2 x parents / teacher conference sessions via zoom to discuss individual progress of the student

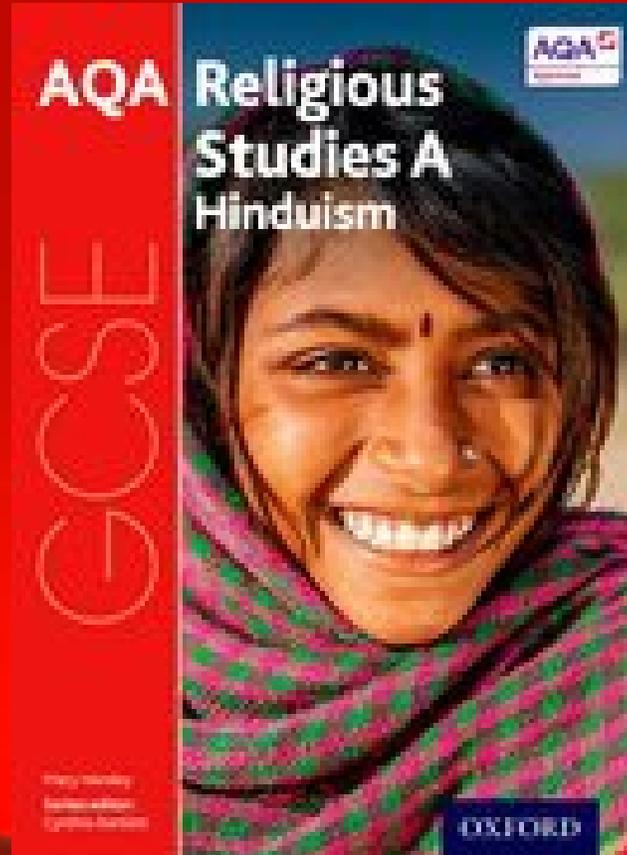


AQA board text books

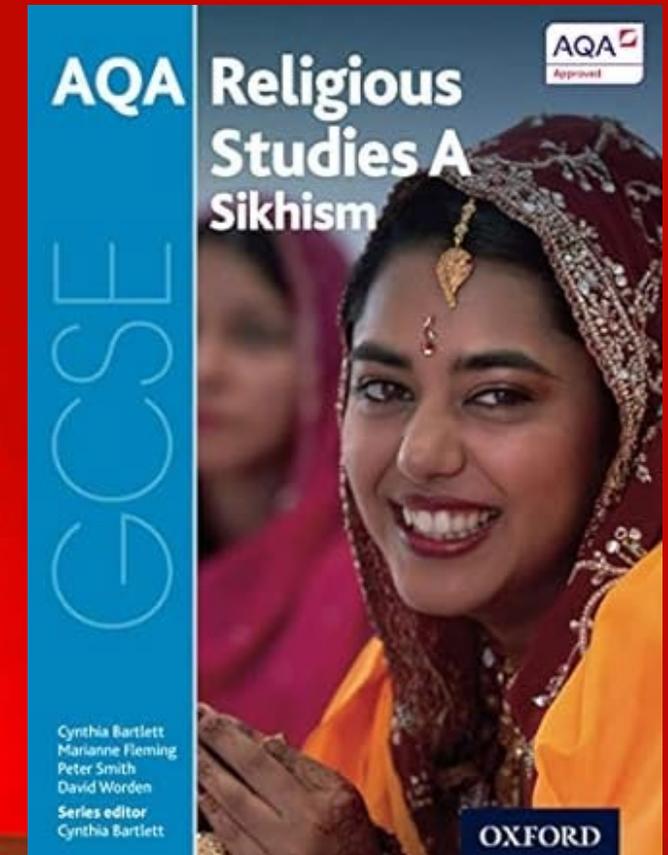
Provided



Optional



Optional



Next steps

- **Course cost:**
 - £150 / term per student (6 terms)
 - Reduced to £120 / term for those in our Junior CHYK programme
- Costs will NOT rise through this course
- Includes exam registration cost, required textbook and revision support.
Parents can buy the other two books if they wish
- **Registration/payment by 6th September 2025, or earlier if capacity is reached.**



Thank you

Please refer to the FAQs provided along with these slides by visiting www.chinmayauk.org/gcse/

Registration for this cohort closes on 6th September 2025

Any further queries - please email: Academy@chinmayauk.org

