

DEPARTMENT**RMPS****TITLE OF COURSE****RMPS Core****LEVEL****National 4 or 5****RECOMMENDED ENTRY LEVELS****Completion of Broad General Education in S2 to Level 3 or 4****Why Study National 4 and 5 RMPS?**

It is compulsory for all learners in Scotland to complete learning in Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies. Undertaking RMPS contributes to learners understanding of the society in which they live and work by helping them learn about, and from, religious beliefs, non-religious viewpoints and their own experiences. In addition RMPS develops skills in critical thinking and develops tolerance and open-mindedness. From session 2017-18 all core RMPS pupils will have the opportunity to attain the full National 4 course. In addition those more able pupils who wish to complete the National 5 assignment and estimate exam will then be entered for the full National 5 course award, sitting the National 5 examination.

COURSE CONTENT:**S3: Morality and Belief**

In S3 learners will develop an understanding of medical ethics and the religious and moral responses to that issue. They will be expected to investigate the issues and be able to express their views in a reasoned manner.

S3: World Religion: Buddhism

Learners will study the Buddhist religion and its impact, relevance and significance through studying some key beliefs and practices found in Buddhism, and the contribution these make to the lives of Buddhists.

S4: Added Value Unit

All learners will investigate an aspect of a religious, moral or philosophical issue of interest to them. They then produce their findings e.g. in a presentation, essay, report, poster or talk.

S4: Religious and Philosophical Questions

In S4 learners will develop an understanding of the philosophical arguments surrounding the Existence of God, examining the problem of suffering, teleological and cosmological arguments about God.

METHODOLOGY:

During the course, you will develop the skills gained in the S1/2 course. You will participate in class discussion and debate. There will be opportunities to use ICT to enhance learning. There will also be visiting speakers in both S3 and S4.

ASSESSMENT:

Learners will complete unit assessments at National 4. It is anticipated there will be a significant number of pupils who will pass at National 5 level.

The opportunity exists for those pupils who successfully pass the three unit assessments at National 5 level to then complete the National 5 RMPS assignment and external exam. The assignment builds on the work completed in the National 4 Added Value Unit and the learners write a discursive essay under timed examination conditions which is marked by the SQA. This accounts for 20% of the overall grade.

To gain the overall course award the learner would then sit the National 5 exam which lasts for 2 hours and 20 minutes. Questions relating to the course content of S3/4 would be examinable.