

**CCEA Entry Level in Religious
Studies March Series 2023**

Principal Moderator's Report

religious
studies

Foreword

This booklet outlines the performance of candidates in all aspects of this specification for the March 2023 series.

CCEA hopes that the Chief Examiner's and/or Principal Moderator's report(s) will be viewed as a helpful and constructive medium to further support teachers and the learning process.

This booklet forms part of the suite of support materials for the specification. Further materials are available from the specification's microsite on our website at www.ccea.org.uk.

Contents

Principal Moderator's Report:	3
Contact details:	5

ENTRY LEVEL- Religious Studies

Principal Moderator's Report

Internal Assessment Overview

It was wonderful to see a 25% increase in the number of centres entered for Religious Studies Entry Level in 2023. On behalf of the moderation team, it is great to see the continued interest in and development of this course. It was very encouraging to see the number of centres who have continued to incorporate this course into their teaching programme. It was most pleasing this year to see that centres have gained a solid understanding of the requirements of the specification and taken on board the advice that was offered to them in the centre reports last year. This has resulted in an increase in the number of candidates gaining the top level.

As in previous years, it was great to see that centres entered candidates across all ten available units. The most popular units were the Easter Story (Unit 2), The Parables of Jesus (Unit 1), Christian Marriage (Unit 9), and Religious Festivals (Unit 4).

The moderation team were delighted with the high standard of internal moderation within centres, which ensured that the vast majority of candidates were awarded the correct levels. This year a smaller number of adjustments were made, when the portfolios were reviewed at post moderation. It is worth noting that the vast majority of adjustments were upgrades to a higher level, where the moderation team felt that the candidates had fulfilled the necessary requirements for each learning outcome. Last year, a number of centres were downgraded on Unit 10 Issues of Life and Death, where candidates did not refer to a case study which was one of the assessment criteria. However, in 2023, centres have clearly followed advice from the moderation team and ensured that their candidates made reference to a case study thereby ensuring a Level 3 award.

The majority of centres opted to use the assessment tasks produced by CCEA. These have been revised and updated and are now available on the CCEA website.

There was a wide range of strategies and activities incorporated into the assessment tasks which included powerpoint presentations, festival cards, diary accounts and story boards.

The annotation provided by most centres was clear and concise, indicating where students had met each of the assessment criteria. This was usually indicated by a short comment and recording 1.1, 1.2, 2.1, 2.2, 3.1, 3.2 at the relevant place.

The moderation team was most impressed by the way the portfolios of work were collated. This was of great help to the process of moderation.

On behalf of the moderation team may I congratulate staff and students for their hard work which resulted in a very constructive and rewarding teaching and learning experience for all involved.

Centres are reminded that at Entry Level 3, the learning outcomes 3.1 and 3.2 require candidates to provide some depth and development. An explanation must contain more than a one sentence response.

The moderation team were pleased with the variety and quality of work produced by centres. We look forward to your continued participation in this course which provides candidates with an engaging and enriching learning experience.

Contact details

The following information provides contact details for key staff members:

- **Specification Support Officer: Arlene Ashfield**
(telephone: (028) 9026 1200, extension: 2291, email: aashfield@ccea.org.uk)
- **Officer with Subject Responsibility: Anne Hughes**
(telephone: (028) 9026 1200, extension: 2174, email: ahughes@ccea.org.uk)