

CCEA Entry Level in Religious Studies
March Series 2024

Principal Moderator's Report

religious
studies

Foreword

This booklet outlines the performance of candidates in all aspects of this specification for the March 2024 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.

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ENTRY LEVEL RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Principal Moderator's Report

Internal Assessment Overview

The number of schools who entered for Religious Studies Entry Level in 2024 has remained the same. On behalf of the moderation team, it is most encouraging to see the number of centres who have continued to incorporate this qualification into their teaching programme. There is a continued interest in this qualification and 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.

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.

As in previous years candidates were entered across all ten 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 pleased with the increased standard of internal moderation from centres which ensured that the vast majority of candidates were awarded the correct levels. This year no adjustments were made to the levels submitted by each centre.

An encouraging aspect of this year was the widened use of the assessment tasks produced by CCEA. This helped to ensure that candidates had the opportunity to meet each of the assessment criteria. These have been revised and updated and are now available by contacting the Religious Studies Subject Officer at CCEA.

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

Annotation by most centres was clear and concise, indicating where candidates 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 in the work.

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.

Centres are advised that when engaging candidates in oral discussion, it is important to receive some indication of answers which they have provided so that the moderation team can see the evidence.

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

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

Unit 1 The Parables of Jesus

Excellent creative tasks produced by many candidates. This proved to be a very popular unit with centres. Updated tasks from CCEA are available. The majority of candidates were awarded Level 3.

Unit 2 The Easter Story

Excellent use of CCEA Assessment Tasks. There was an excellent response to this unit in terms of quality and variety of tasks. A good number of candidates were awarded Level 3 which was most encouraging.

Unit 3 Places of Worship

All of the candidates who were entered for this unit produced a good standard of work. A high percentage of candidates were awarded Level 3. Good range of creative tasks.

Unit 4 Religious Festivals

Excellent adherence to the criteria in this unit. It really provided candidates with the opportunity to develop their creative skills with activities such as festival cards. Many candidates were awarded Level 3.

Unit 5 Christian Sacraments or Ordinances

This was one of the smaller units in terms of entries. However the standard of work was very good. Candidates were able to meet all of the assessment criteria for this unit. Excellent annotation. Very good use of CCEA resources.

Unit 6 Famous Followers of Religion

Excellent use of CCEA resources. The vast majority of candidates entered for this unit were awarded Level 3.

Unit 7 Religious Charities

This unit continues to attract a steady flow of candidates who engage with the criteria in a positive and constructive manner.

Unit 8 Addiction

A very pleasing improvement this year where candidates have made reference to a case study. The revised CCEA resources come with a case study.

Unit 9 Christian Marriage

Those candidates who used the CCEA resources tended to gain the highest levels as they met all of the learning outcomes.

Unit 10 Issues of Life and Death

More candidates were awarded Level 3 this year as clear reference was made to a case study.

Contact details

The following information provides contact details for key staff members:

- **Specification Support Officer: Arlene Ashfield**
(telephone: 028 9590 6678, email: aashfield@ccea.org.uk)
- **Officer with Subject Responsibility: Donna Finlay**
(telephone: 028 9590 6694, email: dfinlay@ccea.org.uk)