Your notes

KS3 Religious Education: revision notes

Big questions and worldviews

Contents

1. What is religion?
2. Belief and non-belief
3. Religion in the UK and Guernsey
4. Big questions
5. Key terms
6. Quick questions
7. What to do next

What is religion?

- A **religion** is a set of beliefs and practices, usually about God or gods, the meaning of life and how to live. **Religions** share features such as beliefs, sacred texts, places of worship, festivals, symbols and communities.
- A **worldview** is the way a person understands the world and what matters. Everyone has one, religious or not.

Belief and non-belief

- Theism: belief in God or gods. **Monotheism** means belief in one God (Christianity, Islam, Judaism, Sikhism).
- **Atheism**: the belief that there is no God. **Agnosticism**: the view that we can't know whether God exists.
- **Humanism** is a non-religious **worldview**. Humanists use reason, evidence and kindness to decide how to live, and believe this is the only life we have.

Religion in the UK and Guernsey

- In the 2021 census for England and Wales, about 46% of people said they were Christian and about 37% said they had no **religion**. Other large groups were Muslims, Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists and Jews.
- Guernsey has many churches, from the medieval parish churches to modern ones, and people of many faiths and none.

Big questions

- **Ultimate questions** have no simple answer: Why are we here? Does God exist? What happens when we die? Why is there suffering?
- Different **religions** and **worldviews** give different answers. In RE, you explain these views and give your own, with reasons.

Key terms

Religion	A set of beliefs and practices, often about God and how to live.
Worldview	The way a person understands the world and what matters.
Monotheism	Belief in one God.
Atheism	The belief that there is no God.
Agnosticism	The view that we can't know whether God exists.
Humanism	A non-religious worldview based on reason and kindness.
Ultimate question	A big question about life that has no simple answer.

Quick questions

Cover the answers and test yourself: remembering is what makes it stick.

1. What is monotheism?
2. What is an atheist?
3. What is agnosticism?
4. What is humanism?
5. Which is an ultimate question?
6. About what percentage of people in England and Wales said they were Christian in 2021?
7. Which religion is NOT monotheistic?
8. What is a worldview?

Answers

1. Belief in one God
2. Someone who believes there is no God
3. The view that we can't know whether God exists
4. A non-religious worldview based on reason and kindness
5. What happens when we die?
6. About 46%
7. Buddhism
8. The way a person understands the world and what matters

What to do next

Practise 10 questions on this topic

Try 3 exam questions, with mark schemes

Read the lesson, one step at a time

Free revision for GCSE and KS3 at lycolearn.co.uk. Some notes are for one exam board only, and say so in brackets.

Your notes