

WKN RS01

Monday 2 March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Year 9 GCSE Religious Studies Option

I am writing to explain a change that we are making to our curriculum with regards to Religious Studies. Over the last few years, we have taken all our students through the full GCSE Religious Studies course in the Core RS time which is 1 hour per week. The RS Department have achieved excellent results using this course – however, we recognise that this creates additional pressure for some students.

The school is expected as a statutory requirement to give all students an RS provision up to the end of Year 11 and this will still remain within all student timetables from September 2020. We will be giving all students the option of (a) continuing to study GCSE RS up to the end of Year 11, entering the examination or (b) continuing to study RS up to end of Year 11 but without the examination pressure alongside PSHE.

Please can you discuss this decision with your son/daughter and return the attached form to Student Reception by **Friday 13 March 2020**. There is also the Year 9 parents evening this week, Thursday 5 March, if you wish to discuss this with the RS staff. We would recommend that you consider the total number of qualifications that your son/daughter is studying, how they are progressing in RS and other subjects, and how they are currently handling the workload of GCSE study when making your decision.

Please contact rwickenden@southdartmoor.devon.sch.uk with any queries.

Yours faithfully,

Ralph Wickenden

Assistant Principal

Year 9 GCSE Religious Studies Option

Name of Student: _____ Tutor: 9 _____

OPTION A: Continue GCSE RS up to examination in Year 11

OPTION B: Study non-examined RS/PSGE from September 2020

Parent/Carer Signature: _____ Date: _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____