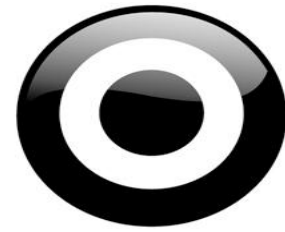




# SACRE REPORT

2012-2013



**Oldham**  
Council



## Contents

### Page

1. Title page
2. Contents and introduction
3. Officers for 2012-2013
4. Spirited Arts 2012
5. Professional development and Complaints
6. Finance and Summary of result
7. Oldham Examination Results 2012

## Introduction

In 2011-2012 Oldham presented its report differently, as a DVD entitled **Good RE in a diverse borough**. With the help of Oldham Council and The City Learning Centre, Oldham the format for a traditional SACRE report was used as a platform for highlighting major themes relating to the delivery of RE in the borough. Through a training event in March 2011 the process for writing a new Agreed Syllabus was also initiated and plans for regular meetings for RE teachers in Oldham were put in place. Copies of the DVD are still available. A survey of needs was proposed and distributed to all schools.

A major goal of SACRE in 2011-12 was raising SACRE's profile. With the support of Michael Jameson (Executive Director) and officers of Oldham Council the outlook for SACRE in the year ahead was very positive with funding secure and in place enabling delivery of the Development Plan. This was in the context of significant budget challenges in Oldham. SACRE continues to highlight and develop understanding that Religious Studies in Oldham is a valued contributor to the drive to raise standards and makes a very positive contribution to the growth of understanding between Oldham's communities.

Oldham SACRE was also heartened by the developments at a national level including the work of the All Party Parliamentary Group investigating Religious Education in Schools and the launch of the RE Quality Mark. Additional members were drawn from a range of schools and religious and non religious foundations increasing diversity in membership and adding significant expertise. The SACRE determined to review its constitution in the future following the publication of the Agreed Syllabus. Recent remarks about Spiritual Social Moral and Cultural aspects of the curriculum prompted Oldham SACRE to plan a launch of the Agreed Syllabus and refresh its own profile with the help of HMI Alan Brine and also begin the recruitment of RE Champions from Oldham Schools.

## **OLDHAM SACRE ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2012-2013.**

Chair: Graham McGuffie (Committee D)  
Vice Chair: Peter Butler (Committee A)

Chair of the Agreed Syllabus Conference 2012-2013 Ms Lesley Parry (Committee C)

### **Meetings:**

There were 3 SACRE meetings between September 2012 and July 2013

- 15<sup>th</sup> November 2012 Earl Mill Business Centre
- 27<sup>th</sup> February 2013 Failsworth School Failsworth
- 4<sup>th</sup> July 2013 Lees Suite Oldham Council Civic Centre
- 

There were regular meetings of the Agreed Syllabus Conference (ASC) at Newman College Chadderton, and at Failsworth School Failsworth, and the Teacher Network at the City Learning Centre South Chadderton.

Thanks were to Mr Mike McGhee, (Headteacher) Mr John Meagher (Headteacher) Ms Lesley Parry (Assistant Head) and Mr David Barter Head of Performance Schools and Learning Settings, for their support assisting the planning and writing groups for the Agreed Syllabus. The target date for the publication of the Oldham's Agreed Syllabus was calculated to be September 2013 to allow schools 12 months planning time for implementation in 2014.

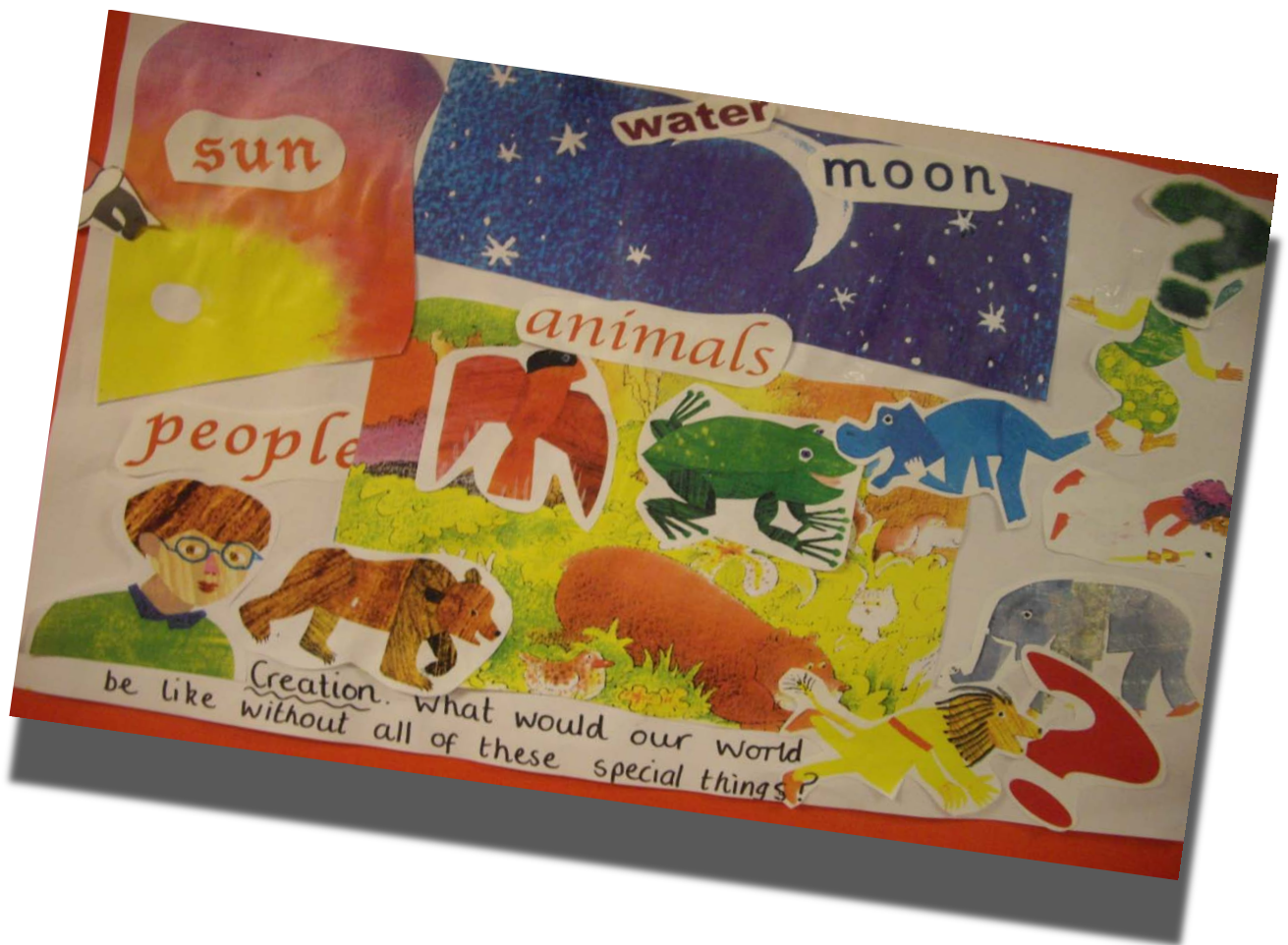
### ***The Locally Agreed Syllabus Support for maintaining standards in RE***

For the whole of the 2012-13 academic year, support for RE in Oldham was provided by a consultant, funded for 10 days per year by Oldham Council. This consultant support was provided by a professional who had supported SACRE for several years when still employed by the council. This involved convening and chairing teacher network meetings, leading training sessions on RE for schools, reporting to SACRE, helping to organise events such as Conferences and Network meetings, monitoring provision and standards in schools and leading on the implementation of a new syllabus.

This support from an independent consultant will continue for the school year 2013-14. Additionally, Oldham Association of Headteachers has provided extra resources for supporting the maintenance of standards. Their representative Ms Lesley Parry attended SACRE regularly

Teachers do not generally report directly to SACRE on a regular basis, they have, however liaised with the consultant through the FIRST CLASS network and have

provided ongoing mutual specialist support to colleagues in schools through the RE Conference site.



In 2012-2013 a number of Oldham schools entered the work of pupils in the Spirited Arts Competition and some of the entries were also offered for use in the Oldham Agreed Syllabus.

More details can be found at <http://www.natre.org.uk/spiritedarts/2014.php>

**Thanks** to The Blue Coat School, St Agnes CE School, Greenfield St Mary's, Bare Trees Primary School, St Thomas' CE Leesfield, Greenhill Primary School for their support

### **Professional Development 2012-13**

Professional development in RE has continued in 2012-13 with support from Oldham Council

### **GCSE Results for 2012**

*(See Appendix)*

### **Complaints concerning RE**

There have been no complaints concerning RE.

### **Complaints concerning Collective Worship**

There have been no complaints received about collective worship.

### **Determinations**

No requests for a determination were received in 2012-2013

### **Links with other agencies**

Oldham SACRE remains a member of NASACRE

The Manchester Diocese is represented by Mr J Wilson

The Salford Diocese is represented by Mr and Mrs L Thorne

The consultant serving SACRE has continued to make links with the Trans-Pennine AREIAC, and reports back SACRE on various matters.

The Vice Chair of SACRE is the representative of the Oldham Secondary Headteachers. Oldham Primary Schools are represented through Mrs Gillian Kay

The Vice Chair is a senior examiner in Religious Studies for AQA

Mrs C Hill, The Assistant Director for Schools and Settings in Oldham attends SACRE  
Mr D Barter attends SACRE as Head of Performance, Schools and Learning Settings

At a local level SACRE has links with the Oldham Schools and continues to develop links with other groups including the Inter Faith Forum and Rochdale SACRE and the Oldham Community Cohesion Team.

Oldham Inter-faith Forum communicates regularly with the Chair of SACRE highlighting events such as Holocaust Memorial Day and Festival of Light.

Members of Oldham SACRE continue to express a desire for stronger links with other SACREs in the region. An opportunity to take this idea forward came in March 2012, when Oldham SACRE invited Rochdale SACRE members and teachers to join them for their Training Day "Good RE in a Diverse Borough" followed by a presentation from Lat Blaylock, the acclaimed RE educator.

### **Professional and Administrative Support**

Throughout 2012-13 Oldham SACRE was supported by an the Clerk to SACRE Mrs Karen Holmes assisted by an administrative officer and the independent educational consultant employed by the council for 10 days

### ***Finance***

The SACRE budget covers basic running costs, permits members to represent Oldham at national conferences. This budget was increased slightly for the school year 2012-13. Additionally finance was agreed for the development of the new Agreed Syllabus as explained elsewhere,

The Council has agreed to fund 14 days a year for an educational consultant to support the work of SACRE and assist transition during the period of the writing of the new Agreed Syllabus and has indicated continuing support through to 2014.

### ***Summary of GCSE and GCE results:***

- 13% increase in entries for full course GCSE
- 16% increase in entries for short course GCSE
- Increase in Grades A\*-C to 72% (63.7% in 2011) for GCSE full course
- Decrease in Grades A\*-C from 53.9% in 2011 to 42.4% in short course
- The number of pupils at Entry Level (KS4) has fallen
- The pass rate GCE A Level A\*-E was 100%. This is above the national average
- The pass rate GCE AS Level was 89%. This is above the national average
- The number sitting A & AS Level Religious Studies declined 2012

# Religious Studies GCSE and GCE Oldham

**Secondary Schools 2012 November 2012**  
(provisional)



## GCSE

### Full Course

987 pupils completed a full course in GCSE Religious Studies in 2012. Following a dip in 2011, 2012 showed a 13% increase in entries, representing 32% of the total eligible cohort. Nationally, 34% of pupils completed the full course.

Oldham	A*-C%	A*-G%	A*-A%	Ungraded%
All Pupils	72	97.8	29.18	2.2
Girls	78.9	99.1	38.23	0.9
Boys	62.8	96	17.06	4

The percentage of pupils achieving A\*-C has increased to 72% since 2011, which is in line with the national average of 72.5%. Over one quarter of pupils gained grade A\*-A.

### Short Course

766 pupils completed a short course in GCSE Religious Studies in 2012, an increase of 16% since 2011. This represents 25% of the total eligible cohort, and brings the number of completions in Oldham more in line with the national average of 30%.

Oldham	A*-C%	A*-G%	A*-A%	Ungraded%
All Pupils	42.4	87.9	13.84	12.1
Girls	49.3	91.8	16.34	8.2
Boys	36.5	84.4	11.68	15.6

The percentage of pupils achieving A\*-C has fallen 11.3% since 2011, and is now 7.9% lower than the national average (50.3%). However, there has been improvement in achievement of grades A\*-A in recent years, with this figure rising from 7.3% in 2008 to 13.84% in 2012.

### Entry Level

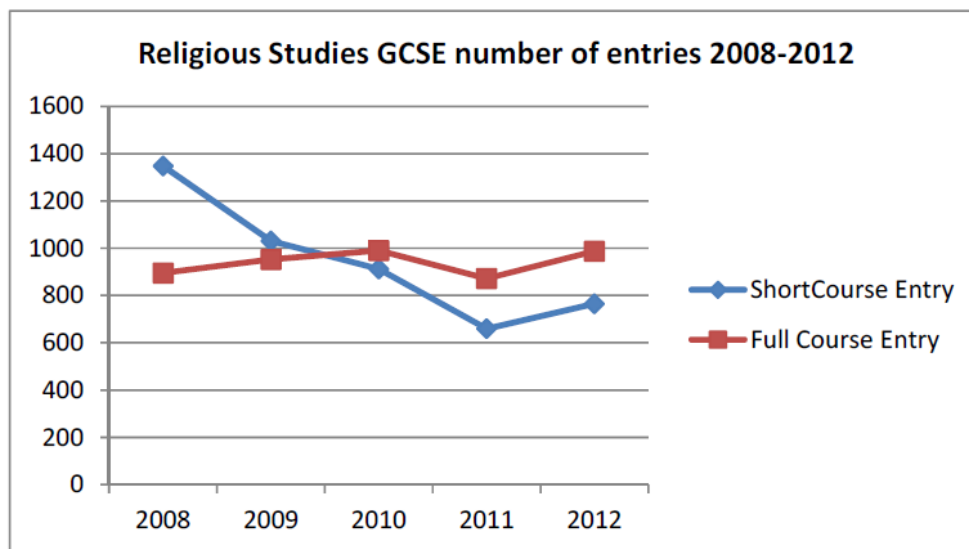
9 pupils completed an entry-level certificate in Religious Studies in 2012. This represents 0.3% of the total eligible cohort, a fall from 2009. All achievement was at level 2.



## Trends Over Time

GCSE Full Course	%A*-C Oldham	Annual change	%A*-C National	Variance Oldham/National	Entry
2008	73.2		70.5	2.7	895
2009	76.7	3.5	73	3.7	952
2010	73.1	-3.6	72.1	1	990
2011	70.8	-2.3	72	-1.2	872
2012	72	1.2	72.5	-0.5	987

GCSE Short Course	%A*-C Oldham	Annual change	%A*-C National	Variance Oldham/National	Entry
2008	45		51.4	-6.4	1348
2009	34.3	-10.7	52.5	-18.2	1031
2010	49.7	15.4	52.3	-2.6	912
2011	53.7	4	50.6	3.1	660
2012	42.4	-11.3	50.3	-7.9	765



## GCE A Level

47 pupils completed an A Level Religious Studies course in 2012, 27 less than in 2011.

Oldham	%A*-A	%A*-B	%A*-E
All Pupils	34	55.3	100
Girls	39.4	60.6	100
Boys	21.4	42.9	100

Nationally, the overall pass rate was 99.9% and the percentage achieving A-B grades was 51.9%.

## AS Level

9 pupils completed an AS Religious Studies course, 24 less than in 2011.

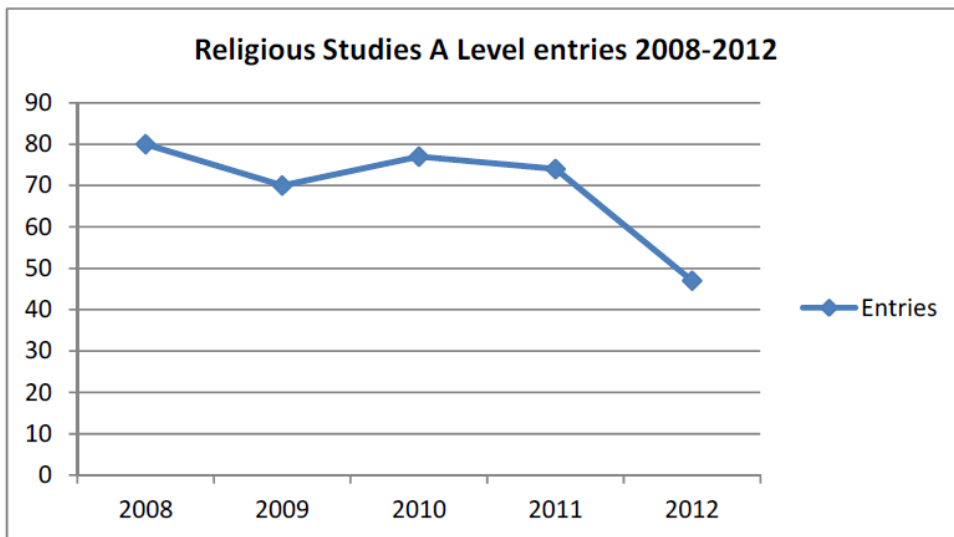
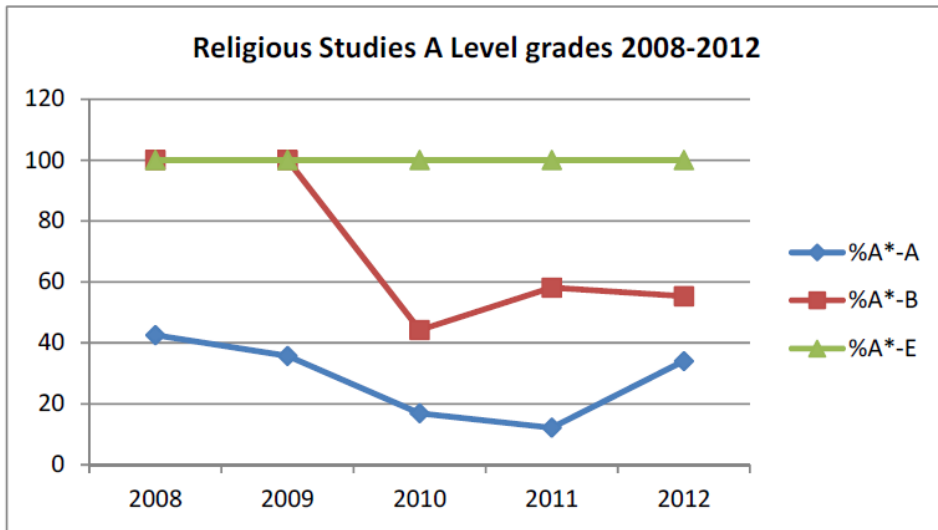
Oldham	%A*-B	%A*-E
All Pupils	33.3	89
Girls	28.6	100
Boys	50	50

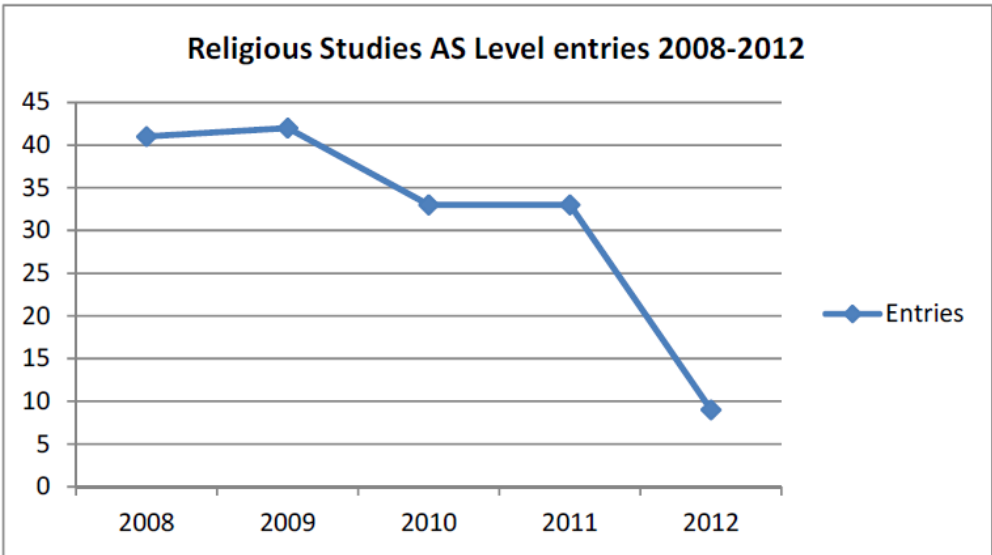
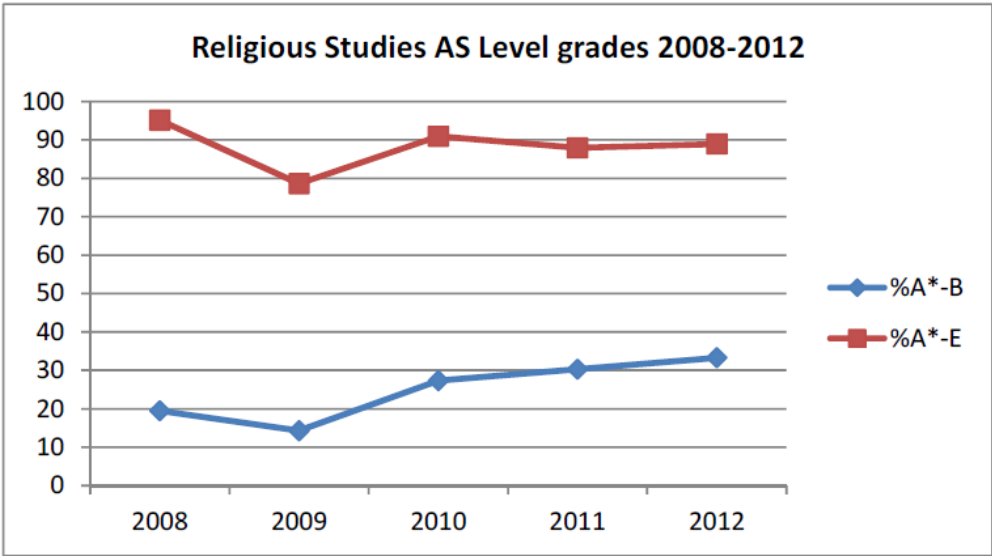
Nationally, the pass rate was 86.4% and the percentage achieving A-B grades was 29.5%.

## Trends Over Time

A Level	%A*-A	%A*-B	%A*-E	Entries
2008	42.5	100	100	80
2009	35.7	100	100	70
2010	16.9	44.2	100	77
2011	12.2	58.1	100	74
2012	34	55.3	100	47

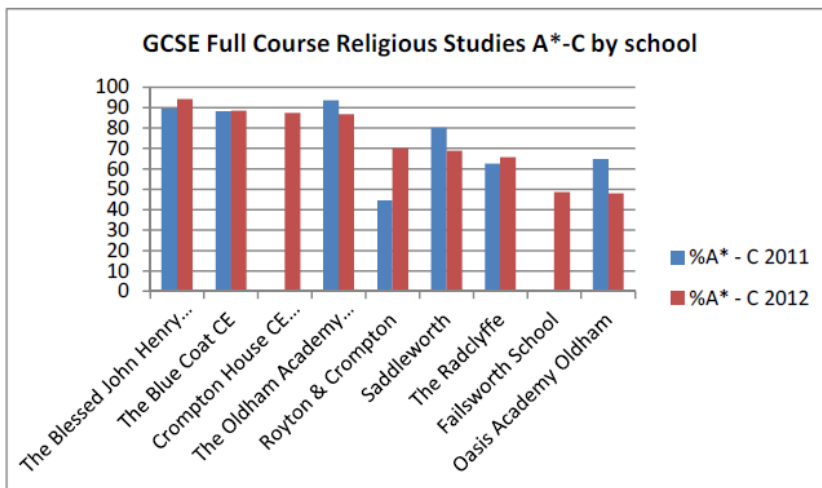
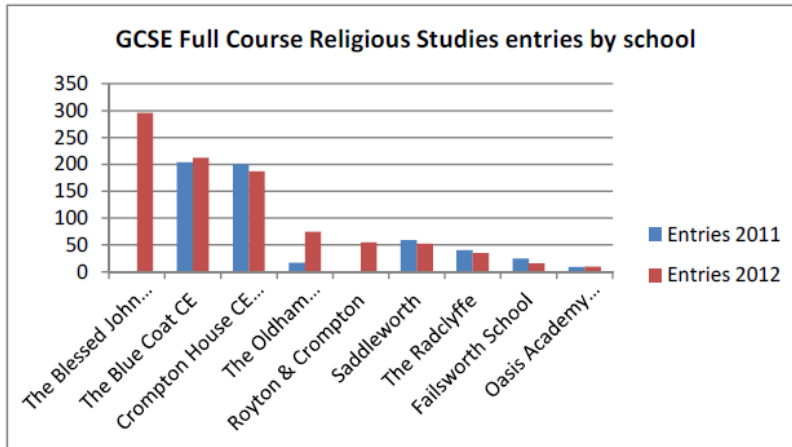
AS Level	%A*-B	%A*-E	Entries
2008	19.5	95.1	80
2009	14.3	78.6	70
2010	27.3	90.9	77
2011	30.3	87.9	74
2012	33.3	88.9	47



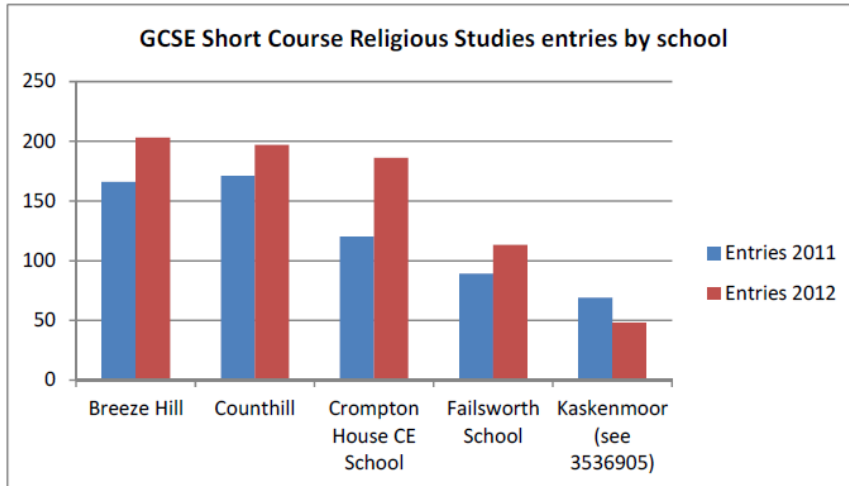


## School-Level Data

Nine secondary schools in Oldham entered pupils for Religious Studies GCSE full course in 2012.



Ten secondary schools entered pupils for Religious Studies GCSE Short course in 2012.



\*Schools with entries below 10 not included

