

5 GCSE and A-Level

As reported last time, the new GCSE and A Levels are being taught in schools from this September. The government brought out a document stating the subject content of both exams at the start of last year. The main awarding bodies then based their new syllabuses around this. Secondary schools will have chosen an awarding body by now and started teaching.

Nationally, this summer saw 24 966 entries for RS A Level in England and Wales, which is an increase of 6.8% on 2015. It is also an increase of 124% since 2003, which is more than any arts, humanity or social science subject.

There was a decrease of 2% on RS AS Level entries this year. There has been a 14.1% decrease in AS Level entries in all subjects.

Last year had the highest number of students taking RS GCSE full course since 2002 in England and Wales. 284,057 students took this exam, which is an increase of 0.1% on 2015. 22.9% fewer took RS GCSE short course in 2016 than in 2015. This raises concerns about the amount of students who are given the opportunity to study RS at KS4.