



Rewarding Learning  
ADVANCED SUBSIDIARY (AS)  
General Certificate of Education  
2019

## Religious Studies

Assessment Unit AS 5  
*assessing*  
The Celtic Church in Ireland  
in the 5th, 6th and 7th Centuries



SRE51

**[SRE51]**  
**WEDNESDAY 22 MAY, AFTERNOON**

### TIME

1 hour 20 minutes.

### INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Write your Centre Number and Candidate Number on the Answer Booklet provided.  
Answer **one** question from Section A and **one** question from Section B.

### INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The total mark for this paper is 100.

Quality of written communication will be assessed in **all** questions.

Figures in brackets printed down the right-hand side of pages indicate the marks awarded to each question or part question.

### ADVICE TO CANDIDATES

You are advised to take account of the marks for each part question in allocating the available examination time.

## Section A

Answer **one** question from Section A

1 (a) Discuss the portrait of Patrick that emerges from his **Confessio**. [25]

(b) "Very little is known about the arrival of Christianity into Ireland before Patrick."

With reference to the available evidence, evaluate this statement. Justify your answer. [25]

2 (a) "Muirchú's **Life of Patrick** can only be understood in relation to the political and religious circumstances in which it was written."

With reference to this statement, examine why Muirchú's **Life of Patrick** may have been written. [25]

(b) Comment on the view that hagiography is only of interest to the religious believer. Justify your answer. [25]

## Section B

Answer **one** question from Section B

3 (a) Examine the reasons for the change from episcopal to monastic organisation in the Celtic Church. [25]

(b) With reference to other aspects of human experience, evaluate the view that religious belief must always adapt itself to political and social developments. Justify your answer. [25]

4 (a) In what ways was Celtic penitential practice distinctive from the wider church at that time? [25]

(b) “Total forgiveness is idealistic but not impossible.”  
With reference to other aspects of human experience, assess this claim.  
Justify your answer. [25]

