RELIGIOUS STUDIES/ PHILOSOPHY & ETHICS

SIXTH FORM

COURSE TITLE

A Level Religious Studies (Philosophy, Ethics and Theology)

Exam Board: OCR

AIMS OF THE COURSE

The course is designed to develop a greater understanding and appreciation of the disciplines of ethics and philosophy of religion, as well as religious beliefs and teachings. You will develop your skills of critical analysis in order to construct balanced, informed arguments and responses. The course aims to engage you thoroughly and develop an interest in Religious Studies which extends to the world around you.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

Philosophy of Religion: Ancient philosophical influences (Plato and Aristotle); soul, mind and body; arguments for the existence of God; religious experience; the problem of evil; ideas about the nature of God and issues in religious language.

Religion and ethics: Normative ethical theories: natural law, situation ethics, Kantian ethics, utilitarianism, euthanasia, business ethics, meta-ethical theories; sexual ethics and debates surrounding the significant idea of conscience.

Developments in Christian thought: Human nature (Augustine); death and the afterlife; knowledge of God's existence; the person of Jesus Christ; Christian moral principles & action; religious pluralism; gender and society; gender and theology; secularism and Liberation theology (Marx)

HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

There are three exams at the end of Year 13. Each exam is two hours in duration and consists of three essay questions.

WHAT WIDER SKILLS WILL YOU DEVELOP?

A study of Religious Studies will help you to develop knowledge and understanding about ultimate questions and current moral issues.

The course is designed to help you develop an enquiring, critical and reflective approach appropriate to the specialist study of Religious Studies as well as transferable analytical skills of enquiry. It will enable you to reflect on, and develop, your own values, opinions and attitudes as well as enriching your appreciation of individuals and communities and how their beliefs have contributed to society.

WHAT ARE THE FUTURE OPTIONS FROM THE COURSE?

Religious Studies is considered a rigorous academic A Level and is highly regarded by Universities for the skills you will have developed. Oxford and Cambridge put it in their 'top level' list of subjects.
Following the course there are a variety of career opportunities that you could follow including: Law; accountancy; medicine; ethical issues in bioengineering; commerce; industry; politics; research; business management; financial services; politics; journalism and media; social services; Civil Service; education.