

# A-Level Philosophy & Ethics

EXAM BOARD: AQA

## What does the course cover?

During this course you will learn to consider the big questions regarding good and evil and the nature of the universe. These big questions include:

- What makes an action moral?
- Do the ends justify the means?
- Do humans have the right to manipulate life?
- Are humans the most important creatures on the planet?
- What kinds of sex and sexual relationship are ethical?
- Are we fully responsible for our moral actions?
- What is our conscience?
- What does the word 'good' mean?
- Why do we behave the way we do?
- Does God exist?
- Is there life after death?
- Was the universe designed?
- Is religion evil?
- When does life begin?
- Can we ever talk about God in a meaningful way?
- How reliable is Scripture?
- How do we know something to be true?
- Is it possible to have an experience of God or the divine?
- Is there such a thing as a soul?
- How have changes to our society affected Christianity?
- Does science disprove religion?

## What skills will the course help you develop?

Studying Philosophy & Ethics will help you develop your empathy and ability to look at the world from different perspectives. It will also help you develop your own opinions and to formulate convincing and well-reasoned arguments. As well as this, you will learn to critically assess different viewpoints, analyse ancient and modern texts and interrogate sources. With an emphasis on discussion and written communication, Philosophy & Ethics will help you develop a range of important skills for the future.

## How is the course assessed?

This specification is designed to be taken over two years. This is a linear qualification. In order to achieve the award, students must complete all assessments at the end of the course. This will be assessed by two three hour exams – Paper 1: Philosophy of Religion & Ethics and Paper 2: Study of Religion & Dialogues.

## What are the entry requirements?

Students wishing to study Philosophy & Ethics should have 5 GCSEs A\*-C, including a Grade B in English. A good GCSE in Philosophy & Ethics is helpful, but not necessary. Students will need to have been successful in an essay-based subject they have studied and enjoy writing.

## What do students who study this course go on to do?

Students who study this course have gone on to study a wide range of subjects at university, from sciences to arts subjects. This subject is widely applicable to many different areas, such as law, medicine and the study of religion.

## Who is the staff contact for Philosophy & Ethics?

Mrs Bunn is the lead teacher.

