



## PHILOSOPHY & ETHICS (AQA)

**Level of Study: A-Level**

### Description of Course

All learners will study two components;

Component 1: Philosophy of Religion and Religious Ethics.

Component 2: Religion and Dialogues-A study of religion-Christianity.

### Skills Required

Critical thinking, deduction, inference and evaluation are key skills needed for success in Philosophy and Ethics. Sound, effective and confident written and verbal communication are also essential.

### Entry Qualifications

The AQA A-Level Philosophy and Ethics course builds on existing knowledge and evaluative skills established at GCSE. Learners will be introduced to a more advanced approach to Religious Studies, and will develop a deeper understanding of the beliefs, teachings and philosophical perspectives they study.

Vital requirements are an enquiring mind and a grade 6 or higher in English Language and Humanities.

### Method of Assessment

Two 3 hour written papers at the end of Year 13. Each examination will assess one of the two components. Each paper accounts for 50% of the final A-Level.

#### Component 1:

**Philosophy of Religion:** Students will study philosophical issues and questions raised by religion and belief. They will also explore philosophical language and thought, and the works of key thinkers, as illustrated in issues or debates in the philosophy of religion.

**Religion and Ethics:** Topics include normative ethical theories and key ethical concepts, as well as developments in the way these ideas are applied to significant issues in religion and belief. These will be illustrated in issues or debates in religion and ethics, and also by the application of ethical theory to current moral issues.

#### Component 2:

**Religion and Dialogue:** This unit provides an opportunity for the systematic study of one religious tradition (Christianity). This will include exploration of religious beliefs, values and teachings, sources of wisdom and authority. It will also include religious practices and the different ways in which these are expressed in the lives of individual, communities and societies. Dialogue between Christianity, Philosophy and Ethics will also form a key component of this unit of work.

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### Educational Progression and Career Opportunities

On completion of our Philosophy and Ethics course, many students will have acquired a diverse range of skills, including critical thinking, enhanced synthesis and evaluation to name a few. Many students progress to University for further study in the subject or others such as politics, law and history. Career opportunities are vast and varied. Many graduates use their Religious Studies qualifications to pursue careers in a variety of areas including education, journalism, sociology, law, social work and medicine. Many more pursue community-based roles, aspects of welfare, social care and counselling, plus local and central government policymaking and administrative departments.