



Ethics & Philosophy



What do I need to know?

There is no coursework component to this GCSE, learning leads to an 2 hour exam and two 1 hour examination at the end of Year 11. Students follow units of study from the WJEC Religious Studies GCSE.

The thematic topics we are using to cover the WJEC syllabus are:

In the beginning – creation and evolution perspectives, including causation arguments

What is God like?

The Problem of Evil

Evil and suffering, the solution

Where is the instruction manual (Holy texts)

Read instructions before assembly (Applications of teaching for living)

How does it work – Organised faiths

What are we celebrating – festivals and rites

We're not related! – Family and relationships

Hello and Goodbye – Matters of life and death

How will it end? – Life after death

Sex and relationships will be taught, including contraception, Sexually transmitted infections, domestic violence and consent, and tackling homophobia.

- Students will have an introduction to ethical thinking and begin learning religious and secular theory.
- Focus is given on balancing two key skills: AT1 (Learning about Religion) and AT2 (Learning from Religion)
- Focus is given on improving writing skills and structuring exam answers.

What do students need to do to succeed?

- Act on advice in class and complete all homework tasks as directed.
- Show a readiness to improve extended writing skills.
- Revise for regular practice questions/short focussed practice exams.
- Watch documentaries and films based on the topics and keep up to date with events in the news that relate to ethical issues. Reading a newspaper once a week can give students valuable up to date examples of current issues
- Link learning to fiction and wider reading to improve an understanding of the complexity which surrounds many of these issues. Novels and films will be recommended throughout the GCSE.
- Use revision guides given to students in the run up to the examinations (these are also available on the VLE)
- Attend catch up/ homework drop in sessions at lunch time if any clarification or help is needed. These run for a minimum of one term in Year 11.

For any further information please contact Mr Jones, Curriculum Leader of Beliefs and Values.