

## Philosophy and Ethics A Level (OCR)

### Programme of Study:

#### Year 1:

##### Philosophy

*Ancient philosophers,  
Body, mind and soul,  
Arguments for the existence of God from  
observation and reason,  
Religious Experience  
The problem of Evil*

##### Ethics

*Natural Law  
Situation Ethics  
Kantian ethics  
Utilitarianism  
Applied ethics*

##### Developments in Christian Thought

*Augustine and human nature  
Death and the afterlife  
Knowledge of God's existence  
Jesus  
Christian moral principles  
Christian moral action*

#### Year 2:

##### Philosophy

*The nature and attributes of God  
Religious language*

##### Ethics

*Meta-ethical theories  
Conscience  
Sexual ethics*

##### Developments in Christian thought

*Religious pluralism and theology  
Religious pluralism and society  
Gender and society  
Gender and theology  
The challenge of secularism  
Liberation theology and Marx*

### Assessment

There are three 2 hour exams at the end of the second year.

Paper 1 - Philosophy of Religion

Paper 2 - Religion and Ethics,

Paper 3 - Developments in Christian Thought

### Entry Requirements

A minimum of a Grade 6 or above in GCSE RE. If a student has not studied RE, we expect them to have achieved a grade 6 in a humanities subject and a grade 6 in English.

### Recommended Reading and Subject Enrichment

Students are encouraged to undertake extensive background reading around ethical and moral issues using sites such as BBC News and CNN news to keep up to date with ethical issues such as business practices, abortion and euthanasia. Students should also read academic texts: Stephen Law, *The Philosophy Files*, Richard Dawkins, *The God Delusion*, Peter Vardy, *The Puzzle of Ethics*, Robert Bowie, *Ethical Studies*, William Young, *The Shack*

**Higher Education and Career Pathways** - This course also supports the study of Theology and Philosophy at University. Universities often pair Mathematics with Philosophy at degree level.

Careers may include - Barrister, Solicitor, Marketing executive, Journalist, Policy officer, Psychotherapist, Recruitment consultant, Teacher, Chaplain

**Complementary Subjects** - *History, Sociology, Psychology, Politics and Mathematics.*