

A Level Religious Studies (Philosophy & Ethics)



Exam Board: AQA

Entry Requirements: grade 6 or above in English Language or English Literature.

Why choose Religious Studies?

If you have ever questioned the reasons we are here, the nature of truth, the reasons people make decisions, or whether there is an afterlife, then this subject is for you. We value open minded critical thinking and encourage heated debate, as well as fostering a deep respect for the different philosophical and religious systems which have and do influence society today.

What does the course involve?

Philosophy of Religion and Ethics: A foundation in Religious Philosophy. Many famous Philosophers have had something (negative *and* positive) to say about religion and religious belief, so you'll be exploring many famous philosophers, both ancient and modern. These include, Kant, Descartes and Hume, as well as Richard Dawkins. Topics include the arguments for the existence of God, criticisms of religious belief, and the challenge of science. The study of Ethics highlight that philosophy and religion are not just 'thinking' subjects. They have real impacts on the way in which decisions are made throughout life. As well as learning key philosophers' views, you'll understand how these ethical theories are developed and you'll apply them to real life situations such as abortion, euthanasia and genetic engineering.

Study of Religion (Christianity): Students study the religious beliefs, teachings, values and practices of Christianity and the different ways in which these are expressed in the lives of individuals, communities and societies. Alongside a study of ethical theories, students will consider not just the foundations of Christian belief, but how this impacts on the day to day lives Christians of different denominations.

You will be assessed via two terminal examinations in 2020, as well as in-school assessment.

Where will Religious Studies lead me post Sixth Form?

Most degree and career areas will value the skills of analysis and argument that you develop, but particularly in personnel, management, the caring professions and law. You will be able to write excellent argumentative responses to questions and will reach an undergraduate level of argument, analysis and independent thinking, valuable in nearly all degree subjects.

Religious Studies combines well with anything but it goes particularly well with Psychology, English and History.

For more details please contact Mr. Pike: matthew.pike@sirthomasfremantle.org