



Religious Studies

One year AS/Two year A level.

Understanding both religious and non religious perspectives on life is very important as these beliefs shape, inspire and motivate individuals, societies and nations. This course will help you to consider a diversity of view points and understand why people hold such varied and sometimes opposing ideas.

Requirements:

The College minimum to start an advanced level course is one grade B and four grade Cs at GCSE. The student will also be expected to meet the Average Points Score for this subject.

This subject will focus on:

- studying moral issues – sexual ethics such as relationships, family, sexuality;
- issues about war and peace;
- whether there are good arguments to support the existence of God;
- the Design and Cosmological argument; and
- why people choose to reject religion.

You can expect to:

- develop and understand philosophical and religious terms and concepts;
- learn how to understand and analyse what is meant by an argument;
- what makes strong and weak arguments (this skill is extremely useful and relevant to all A Level study);
- develop a philosophical approach to ideas along with an understanding of the role of faith and belief;
- participate in discussions and debate which helps develop communication skills and empathy for the views of others; and
- carry out an in-depth research based investigation.

Method of assessment:

Assessment is by examination.

Progression:

Religious Studies is highly valued by top universities as it is recognised as a traditional A Level with a highly academic content and approach.

A variety of options will be available to you. This subject covers a wide range of skills which are transferable to many vocational areas especially those concerned with understanding and caring for people such as teaching. The philosophical skills equip you for careers which demand analytical skills such as law.

Students often comment that taking Religious Studies has made them think more deeply and carefully about a range of interesting and often contemporary issues. It has contributed to their emotional and spiritual intelligence not just their intellectual development.

Other information:

In 2009, 50% of students at A2 achieved an A/B grade and the course achieved an overall pass rate of 92%.