

**Course information for Parents****Year: KS3 – Year 7 and 8****Subject: Philosophy and Ethics**

<b>Faculty Area</b>	Character Faculty – Philosophy and Ethics	<b>Director of Faculty contact information</b>	M Bonnett - HoD
<b>Examination Board</b>	N/A – Year 7	<b>Specification Code</b>	N/A – Year 7

**Subject Content**

**Year 7:** The year 7 Philosophy and Ethics course is designed to introduce your child to the exciting world of religion, belief, faith, questioning and understanding. Over the course of the year students will explore 5 main topics, each designed to develop skills of evaluation, analysis and understanding. Students will cover: What is P and E (which establishes the nature of the subject and some key questions about faith and the world), Judaism (which will establish the history of the 3 main monotheistic religions), The Life of Jesus (exploring who this figure is and why his life has had such an impact on both religious and non-religious people), Sikhism (which explores the social and moral teachings of the Guru's found within) and Equality (which will focus on acceptance, understanding and compassion). Each topic will be assessed through a written essay-style question, allowing students to practice this vital skill before they move into their GCSE years.

**Year 8:** The year 8 Philosophy and Ethics course is designed build upon the knowledge gained in year 7 and focus further on skills development. Over the course of the year students will explore 5 main topics, each designed to develop skills of evaluation, analysis and synthesis. Students will cover: Crime and Punishment (which explores the relationship between society and responsibility as well as 'just' punishments), Animal Rights (which will examine the differences between humans and animals and explore how we use them), Is there a God (exploring the arguments in favour and against the existence of God), Islam and the Media (which explores the central teachings of Islam and then how they have been shown in recent events in the media) and Buddhism (which will focus on the different Buddhist moral teachings). Each topic will be assessed through a written essay-style question, allowing students to practice this vital skill before they move into their GCSE years.

**Additional Equipment Needed** (Ingredients, headphones, PE kit, etc.)

All students will be supplied with an exercise book in their first lesson and will need no other equipment apart from their standard stationary

**Assessment Details:**

Each topic will be assessed by a final written essay which will be assessed against the 5 E grading system. This essay will be preceded by a skills lesson focusing on evaluation and analysis and students will be supported in structuring, writing and reflecting on their written work. For this assessment students will be required to use their book work to create a coherent and driven argument. The aim of these assessments is to better prepare our youngest learners for when they move into their GCSE studies. Students will also be assessed formatively within lessons (through class activities) and this will form part of their PR grade

**What can I do to support my child at home?**

Philosophy and Ethics is about helping students understanding the world that they live in. To best support them with this, try and encourage your child to watch the news and take part in a discussion about it – this will help develop their wider understanding and their skills of discussion

**Recommended resources for the course:****Websites:**

[http://www.bbc.co.uk/learning/subjects/religious\\_studies.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/learning/subjects/religious_studies.shtml)

**Teaching Staff Contact Details**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Role</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Tel</b>
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Home Study & Independent Learning **Parental Support Information**

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