

Course information for Parents**Year: Year 12 and 13 A Level****Subject: Religion, Philosophy and Ethics**

Faculty Area	Character Faculty – Philosophy and Ethics	Director of Faculty contact information	M Bonnett - HoD
Examination Board	OCR	Specification Code	OCR A Level Religious Studies: H173 QAN 601/8868/6

Subject Content

This is the new A-Level specification for Religion, Philosophy and Ethics and is taught as a full A level linear exam with all examinations at the end of year 13. This new specification is broken into 3 units, each of which will be taught by a different subject specialist. Unit 1: Philosophy of Religion will be taught by Mr Bonnett and explores issues of belief, life after death, philosophy of language and religious experiences. Unit 2: Religious Ethics will be taught by Miss Woollard and explores Normative and Deontological Ethics as well as a range of Applied Ethical issues. Unit 3: Developments in Christianity will be taught by Mr Gibbins and explore the changing nature of Christianity and the impact of secularism, feminism, socialism and history.

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

All students will be required to have an A4 lever arch file for each of the 3 Units complete with dividers which will be labelled following the contents page. It is important that students keep their work in order and submit their folders for review each term. Folders will need to include: PLCs and Markschemes, the Specification, Key word banks, each topic in the Unit, exam questions and DIRT.

Assessment Details:

This is the new A-level and is taught as a linear course with all assessments at the end of year 13. Students will sit three 2-hour exams, each containing a choice of 4 essay questions, of which they will choose 3. Each essay is marked out of 40 with a total paper being out of 120.

A student's final A level will be calculated from these three papers – each one being worth a third of the overall marks.

Students will also be assessed in class with end of topic tests and homework will be set regularly with one essay a fortnight for each of the three Units. Results from tests and essays will be shared with the students and form part of their PR data.

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 critical analysis, focusing in particular on the arguments in favour and against points and how these are argued.

Students should also make sure that they have a copy of the specification, whether in a hard format or electronic, so that they can map their progress against the syllabus and use this to help them with their PLCs.

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

<http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/as-a-level-gce-religious-studies-h173-h573-from-2016/> (a full copy of the exam specification)

Apps:

Gojimo – Religious Studies
The Revision App (Apple and Android)

Books:

A Level is a broad and diverse curriculum and students should be making the most of additional reading

Home Study & Independent Learning **Parental Support Information**

opportunities. Each student has a copy of the 3 PLCs (one for each unit) and at the bottom of these sections is a comprehensive Reading List.

Endorsed OCR Textbooks:

OCR A-Level Religious Studies For A Level Year 1 and AS by Michael B Wilkinson, Michael Wilcockson, Hugh Campbell ISBN: 978 1 4718 6669 2

OCR A-Level Religious Studies for A Level Year 2. Not yet released.

Oxford A-Level Religious Studies for OCR: Christianity, Philosophy and Ethics AS and Year 1 by Libby Ahluwalia, Robert Bowie. ISBN: 978 0 19 839285 9

Oxford A-Level Religious Studies for OCR: Christianity, Philosophy and Ethics Year 2. Not yet released.

Teaching Staff Contact Details

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