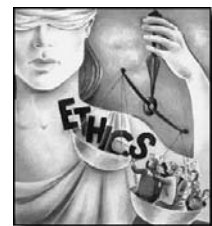


## RELIGIOUS STUDIES GCSE: PHILOSOPHY AND ETHICS

The Religious Studies GCSE is split into two parts: Philosophy and Ethics. The topics studied as part of the course are outlined below.

### ETHICS

**Human relationships:** What are the roles of men and women in the family? Is marriage important? Should we keep sex for marriage?



**Medical ethics:** Is abortion ever justified? Do we have a right to end our life? Should we use animals in medical research?

**Poverty and wealth:** What causes poverty? Should we care about others? How should we use our money?

**Peace and justice:** Is it ever right to fight? How should we treat criminals? Why do we punish?

**Equality:** Are men and women equal? Should we forgive? Why are people racist?

**The media:** How is religion portrayed in the media? Why is the media influential? Should we have freedom of speech?

### PHILOSOPHY

**Beliefs about God:** Does God exist? What is God like? Does God perform miracles?

**Religious and spiritual experiences:** How do religious people worship? Why do people pray? Why is food and fasting important?



**Death and beyond:** Do we have a soul? What happens after we die? Why do we have a funeral?

**Good and evil:** Who is the devil? Why does evil exist? How can we cope with suffering? Why should we behave morally?

**Reason and revelation:** How is God revealed in the world? Why are sacred texts important?

**Religion vs. science:** How did the universe begin? Are humans more important than animals? Should we look after our planet?

Students are encouraged to consider religious and non-religious views on all these issues. We will predominantly be looking at Christianity. You will take part in a variety of activities including class discussion, debate, role play, and group work.

### **Assessment:**

Two written examination papers each of two hours duration.

**For further information please contact Miss L Myers**