

GCSE: PHILOSOPHY AND ETHICS - Option

The 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 Mrs L Sidney