

AS Philosophy and Ethics Induction

Summer Tasks:

Please complete the following tasks and bring them with you to your lessons in September. These tasks are designed to give you some background information for the course and to get you thinking about some of the big ideas underpinning the course.

1. **Create a timeline** of important events and people related to the development of Western philosophical thought. Include all of those listed below and feel free to add your own. Include some brief information about each entry. It is a good idea to produce your timeline on A4 so that it can be placed in your folder and referred to as necessary as we progress over the course.

The beginning of the universe (estimates according to modern scientific theories)

Creation (according to different Christian interpretations – there may be more than one)

Socrates

Plato

Aristotle

St Augustine of Hippo

John Hick

Irenaeus

St Anselm

Gaunilo

Rene Descartes

Immanuel Kant

Charles Darwin

Richard Dawkins

Richard Swinburne

Frederich Copelston

Sigmund Freud

St Thomas Aquinas

Jesus

Muhammad*

The Buddha

Anthony Flew

Bentham

David Hume

Anthony Flew

John Stewart Mill
Peter Singer
Boethius
Bertrand Russell
Galileo Galilei
Wittgenstein

2. Write a response to the question: **“How do I know what is true?”**. Give your viewpoint and try to include reasons and examples to back it up. Try to include other views and why you do/do not agree with them. No more than a side of A4.

3. Create a presentation on one chosen philosopher from your timeline above. This must include the philosopher’s background/philosophical or ethical concept and assess the philosophical/ethical idea, what issues arise from such ideas? Indicate the positives and negatives of this philosophical or/and ethical idea.

4. Read an introduction to the ‘Philosophy of Religion’ chapter from one of our text books. If possible, highlight and make notes of the key terminology and familiarise yourself with key ideas.