

# Course Description

## Philosophy & Ethics (Religious Studies)

### Course Description

Since the publication of Richard Dawkins' book, the 'God Delusion', never have the ancient arguments surrounding the existence of God been so keenly debated. This course allows you the opportunity to explore these ideas in depth and make your own contribution. The first component encourages you to consider the writings of some of the greatest figures in intellectual history like Plato, Aristotle and Kant. In ethics you will explore how we make moral decisions, including applying this to war and medical ethics. The third component is focused on the developments in religious thought, including beliefs, values and teachings. Both As Level and A Level are made up of the following:

#### Component 1: Philosophy of Religion

- Ancient philosophical influences
- The arguments for the existence of God
- The problem of evil
- The possibility of life after death

#### Component 2: Religion and Ethics

- Normative ethical theories
- Ethical language and thought
- Applied Ethics

#### Component 3: Developments in religious thought

- Religious beliefs, values and teachings
- Sources of religious wisdom and authority
- Practices which shape and express religious identity, and how these vary within a tradition

### Entry Criteria

A GCSE in English Language or Literature at Grade 6 is required, and a GCSE Grade 6 in Religious Studies is preferred but not essential.