

Curriculum Information for Parents

Key Stage 5 Religious Studies (Philosophy and Ethics)

Learning Leader Contact Information		Phone: 01604 862125 or 01908 563468	Email: Kieran.hart@ ewsacademy.org.uk
Examination Board	OCR	Specification Code	H573

Subject Content

The course is split into three (equally weighted) distinct branches, each with their own 2 hour exam at the end of Year 13.

These are the branches of study, and a sample of the units that each includes:

Section 1: Philosophy of Religion

- Ancient Greek Philosophy and Metaphysics.
- The nature of the soul, mind and body
- Arguments about the existence or non-existence of God
- The nature and impact of religious experience
- The challenge for religious belief of the problem of evil
- Ideas about the nature of God
- Issues in religious language.

Section 2: Religion and Ethics

- Normative ethical theories (including Utilitarianism, Situation Ethics, Kantian Ethics, Virtue Ethics, and Natural Moral Law.
- The application of ethical theory to two contemporary issues of importance
- Ethical language and thought
- Debates surrounding the significant idea of conscience
- Sexual ethics and the influence on ethical thought of developments in religious beliefs.

Section 3: Developments in Christian Thought

- Religious beliefs, values and teachings, their interconnections and how they vary historically and in the contemporary world
- Sources of religious wisdom and authority
- Practices which shape and express religious identity, and how these vary within a tradition
- Significant social and historical developments in theology and religious thought
- Key themes related to the relationship between religion and society.

Additional Equipment Required:

It is advisable that students purchase their own copy of the textbooks for the course, to help them with their note-taking and revision.

Assessment Details

There are 3 exams (one for each branch of the course) at the end of Year 13. Students will be required to write 3 substantial essays in each, answering 3 out of 4 possible questions per paper.

What can I do to support my child at home?

Encourage regular revision, from the start of the course, as the course is 2 years long and students will not have time to go back over all material in the classroom. Students will also be set regular homework and should be encouraged to complete it.

Students should also be encouraged to engage in current affairs and critically evaluate the responses to events and ideas, whilst forming their own considered viewpoint.

Curriculum Information for Parents

Recommended resources for the course:

OCR Religious Studies 1, by Michael B. Wilkinson and Michael Wilcockson.

OCR Religious Studies 2, by Michael B. Wilkinson and Michael Wilcockson.

Teaching Staff Contact Details

Name	Role	Email	Tel
Mr Kieran Hart	Learning Lead for RS (Teaches the Philosophy branch and half of DCT).	Kieran.Hart@ewsacademy.org.uk	N/A
Mrs Charlotte Gordon	Teacher of RS and Progress Lead for Key Stage 3 on North Site. (Teaches the Ethics branch and half of DCT).	Charlotte.Gordon@ewsacademy.org.uk	N/A
Additional Information:			