

A LEVEL SUBJECT INFO 2023-24

Philosophy and Ethics (Religious Studies)	
Exam Board	OCR
Course Entry Criteria	6 in GCSE Religious Studies
Essential skills	Your grade at GCSE is not necessarily a good indicator for aptitude at A level. The emphasis at A level is on your ability to assess and evaluate different arguments /ideas. Paper 1: Philosophy of Religion: Content overview Philosophical issues and questions;
	Ancient philosophy: Plato and Aristotle; The nature and influence of religious experience; Problems of evil and suffering. The philosophical arguments for God's existence; linguistic philosophy; atheism and critiques of religion.
	Paper 2: Religion and Ethics: Content overview Significant concepts in issues or debates in religion and ethics; situation ethics, utilitarianism and Kantian ethics; Application of ethical theories to business ethics. Conscience; Ethical language; Medical ethics: beginning and end of life issues and sexual ethics.
	Paper 4: Study of Religion Christianity: Content overview Religious beliefs, values and teachings; Jesus divine, teacher or liberator? Afterlife, Soul, Mind and Body. Moral principles and actions; Bonhoeffer. Religion and society; secularisation, feminist theology, black theology, liberation theology.
	Assessment overview an externally-assessed written examination comprising three Papers. Students answer 3 essay questions from a choice of 4.
University requirements	Typical grade requirements to study a Religious Studies/Philosophy degree are as follows:
	Oxbridge: A*A A Russell Group: A*A A–A B B Non Russell Group: B B B – C C C
Related courses and careers	Religious Studies is an academic subject that is well respected by universities and an excellent grounding for any Arts or Social Science based degree course. It will enable you to develop the kind of skills which will enhance your study of other subjects. The ability
	to articulate ideas and evaluate their strengths and weaknesses is one that is transferable and highly applicable to any career which involves communication, including Law, Public Relations, Education, Advertising, Marketing, Management Consultancy and Medical careers.
	Students go on to study philosophy at university in its own rights and alongside subjects such as Law, Sociology, Psychology, English, History and Languages. As well as subjects such as the Creative Arts, Engineering, Medicine and Law.