

# **RELIGIOUS STUDIES**

## **AT ADVANCED LEVEL (A/S AND A2)**

### **Summary of Subject Content**

AS Level Religious Studies is an ethics based course. It builds upon some of the issues discussed at G.C.S.E and looks at different ethical theories and contemporary moral issues. The department aims to provide a course which is interesting and relevant to the lives of our students today.

### **First Year**

#### **AS: Unit A      Religion and Ethics 1- one 90 minute paper**

##### **Topics include**

1. General introduction to morality and ethics
2. Utilitarianism
3. Situation ethics
4. The Religious teaching on nature and value of human life through one religion

#### **Unit B:      Religion and Ethics 2- one 90 minute paper**

##### **Topics include:**

1. Kant and ethics
2. Natural Law and ethics
3. Religious/non-religious views on creation
4. The environment: local and worldwide.

### **Second Year**

#### **A2 Unit 3A:      Religion and Ethics**

##### **Topics include:**

1. Libertarianism, free will and determination
2. Virtue ethics
3. Religious views on sexual behaviour and human relationships
4. Science and Technology

#### **Unit 4B:      Religion and Contemporary society**

##### **Topics include:**

1. Challenges to religion such as fundamentalism
2. Attitudes to sexual behaviour and family life
3. Interfaith issues and dialogue

## **Why study Religious Studies A' Level?**

Many employers (especially the police, armed forces and caring professions) regard Religious Studies as a good qualification. It involves a lot of thinking and discussion and shows that you are aware of other people's beliefs and the nature of the society in which you live. It helps you think through some of the big issues of life about which adults argue about all the time!

Religious Studies gives you well developed skills in analysis and evaluation, independent research, ICT, a sound understanding of the world around us and the key contemporary moral issues that we encounter.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES IS NOT ABOUT MAKING YOU 'RELIGIOUS'. It is about enabling you to think for yourself about religious, moral and ethical issues.