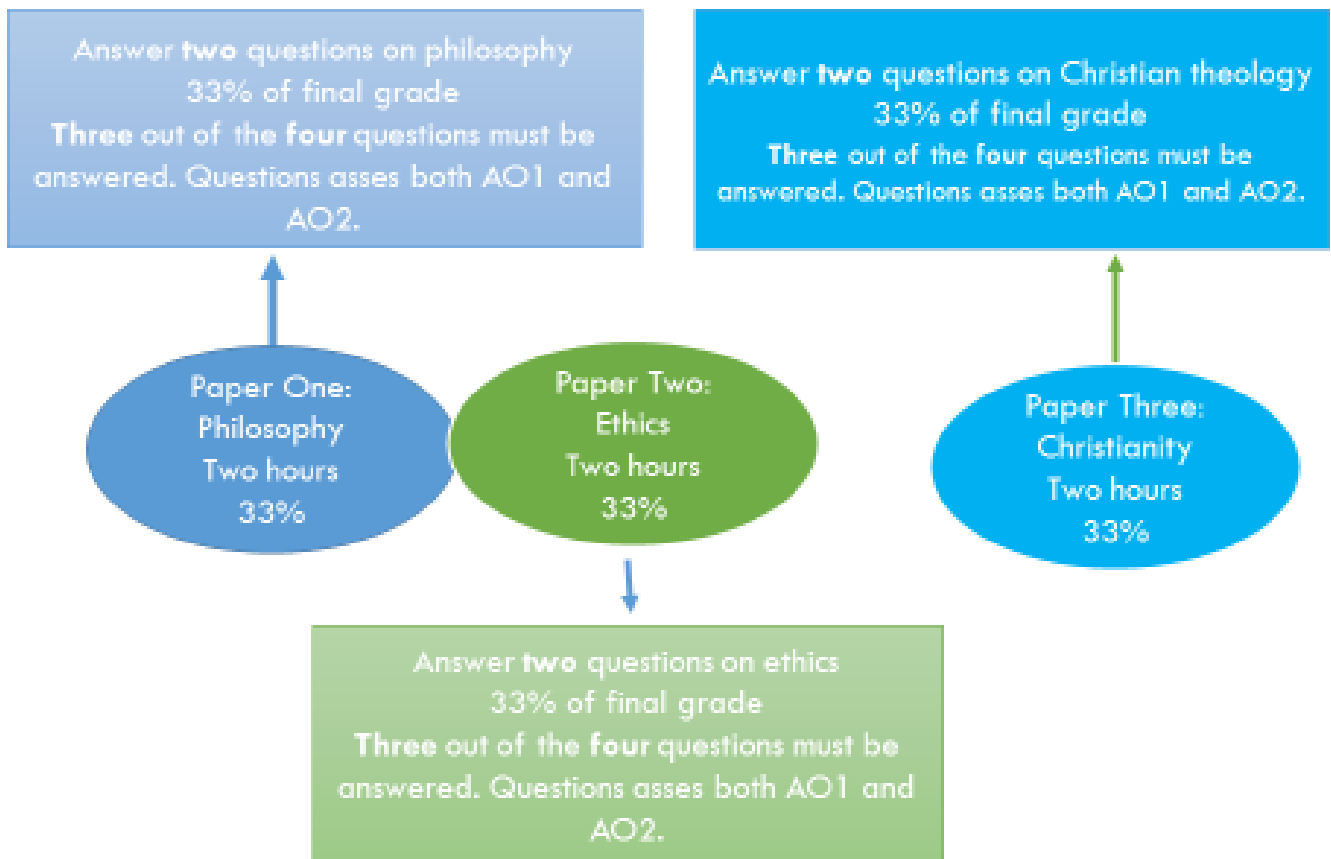


# Tarporley Sixth Form College

## Religious Studies A Level



### The 'Helicopter overview' of Religious Studies A Level



### Programme of Study

**Exam Board: OCR**  
**100% Exam**  
**3 papers**

<b>NAME:</b>	
<b>TARGET GRADE</b>	
<b>ASPIRATIONAL GRADE</b>	

## Assessment Objectives

<b>AO1</b> <b>40%</b>	<p><b>Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of religion and belief, including:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• religious, philosophical and/or ethical thought and teaching</li> <li>• influence of beliefs, teachings and practices on individuals, communities and societies</li> <li>• cause and significance of similarities and differences in belief, teaching and practice</li> <li>• approaches to the study of religion and belief.</li> </ul>
<b>AO2</b> <b>60%</b>	<p><b>Analyse and evaluate aspects of, and approaches to, religion and belief, including their significance, influence and study.</b></p>

## Topics of Study

<b>Paper 1</b>	<b>Component 01: Philosophy of Religion</b>	<p>Students study philosophical language and thought, and issues and questions raised by belief:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ancient philosophical influences</li> <li>• the nature of the soul, mind and body</li> <li>• Arguments about the existence or non-existence of God</li> <li>• The nature and impact of religious experience</li> <li>• The challenge for religious belief of the problem of evil</li> <li>• Ideas about the nature of God</li> <li>• Issues in religious language.</li> </ul>
<b>Paper 2</b>	<b>Component 02: Religion and Ethics</b>	<p>Students explore key concepts and the works of influential thinkers, ethical theories and their application:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Normative ethical theories</li> <li>• The application of ethical theory to two contemporary issues of importance</li> <li>• Ethical language and thought</li> <li>• Debates surrounding the significant idea of conscience</li> <li>• Sexual ethics and the influence on ethical thought of developments in religious beliefs.</li> </ul>

<b>Paper 3</b>	<b>Component 03: Developments in Religious Thought</b>	They explore:
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Religious beliefs, values and teachings, their interconnections and how they vary historically and in the contemporary world</li> <li>• Sources of religious wisdom and authority</li> <li>• Practices which shape and express religious identity, and how these vary within a tradition</li> <li>• Significant social and historical developments in theology and religious thought</li> <li>• Key themes related to the relationship between religion and society.</li> </ul>

## Year 12 Topics of Study

Philosophy	Ethics	Christianity
Ancient philosophical influences	Natural Law	Augustine's teaching on human nature
Soul, mind and body	Situation Ethics	Death and the afterlife
Arguments based on observation	Kantian Ethics	Knowledge of God's existence
Arguments based on reason	Utilitarianism	The person of Jesus Christ
Religious Experience	Euthanasia	Christian moral principles
The problem of evil	Business ethics	Christian moral action

## Year 13 Topics of Study

Philosophy	Ethics	Christianity
The nature and attributes of God	Meta-ethical theories	Religious pluralism & theology
Religious language: negative, analogical or symbolic	Conscience	Religious pluralism & society
Religious language: 20 <sup>th</sup> Century perspectives	Sexual ethics	Gender & society
Revision	Revision	Gender & theology
Revision	Revision	The challenge of secularisation
Revision	Revision	Liberation theology & Marx

## **Top Study Tips:**

### **Have a Lever Arch Folder for each unit of work at home – one for Christianity, Philosophy and Ethics**

Use file dividers to organise each topic. File your notes carefully each week – remember to date classwork so you remember the sequence of each lesson. This will make revision easier.

### **Use your Booklets to make cue cards**

For each unit you will get a booklet with key terms / theories / ideas about language. Use the glossaries to make cue cards of linguistic terminology – put the term on one side and the definition on the other - useful now and a great revision aid for later.

### **Type up class notes and add to them.**

This is a great way to consolidate your knowledge, commit things to memory and make your knowledge deeper.

### **Keep revisiting work and topics**

Don't simply file away and forget. Routinely go over last term / year's work.

**Read around and be excited about your subject! Listen to broadcasts on Radio 4 on programmes such as Beyond Belief and The Moral Maze. Go on YouTube and listen to lectures or debates from famous philosophers and theologians. Read the subject A Level Magazine and use our recommendations. Use the library or borrow books from us.**

## **A LEVEL RELIGIOUS STUDIES – PHILOSOPHY AND ETHICS**

### **DISCOVERY LIST**

#### **WHAT IS A DISCOVERY LIST?**

Here you will find recommendations from the Religious Studies department here at Tarporley High School & Sixth Form College which will help you explore the academic discipline at a deeper level and extend your knowledge beyond the classroom.

#### **REFERENCE BOOKS:**

- Oxford A Level Religious Studies for OCR AS and Year 1 Christianity, Philosophy and Ethics (Libby Ahluwalia and Robert Bowie).
- AS and A Level Religious Studies: Philosophy & Ethics through Diagrams: Oxford Revision Guides.

#### **ADDITIONAL READING AND SUPPORT TEXTS:**

- Hodder and Stoughton Series – Foundations for the Study of Religions. (Libby Ahluwalia).
- Heinemann Advanced RS – The Philosophy of Religion and the Study of Ethics. (H J Richards).

## PLACES TO VISIT / EVENTS:

- The Manchester Buddhist Centre. This is a great venue for experiences of mediation and exploring the spiritual aspects of life: <http://www.manchesterbuddhistcentre.org.uk>
- The Liverpool Anglican Cathedral. Fabulous free tours can take place which involves the historical and religious influences of the building, the mass and the religious community.  
<http://www.liverpoolcathedral.org.uk>
- The Houses of Parliament in London. Free tours which explores the Houses of Parliament and the Houses of Law. It details the processes concerning Laws which take place and the ethics of our community. <http://www.parliament.uk>

## PROGRAMMES TO WATCH OR LISTEN TO:

- The Big Questions – BBC 1 Sunday morning at 10am. A religious debate programmes focused on some of the major key Philosophical and ethical modern day issues.  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b007zpll>
- Question Time with David Dimbleby, BBC 1 Thursday 10.30pm. A weekly debate programme focused on political discussions concerning our modern day society.  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006t1q9>
- Moral maze radio 4
- Beyond belief radio 4

## USEFUL WEBSITES:

- OCR – For past papers, exam advice and revision notes. <http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/as-a-level-gce-religious-studies-h173-h573-from2016>
- Rsrevision.com – A comprehensive site focused on revision and subject knowledge content including subject knowledge and resources. <http://rsrevision.com/contents/index.htm>
- Stanford Encyclopaedia of Philosophy - a fantastic research site with lots of additional reading and information concerning key Philosophical concepts <http://plato.stanford.edu>
- BBC Religions and Ethics – a selection of short videos and written information concerning modern day ethical issues. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/sections/big-questions>
- Crash Course philosophy gives a comprehensive guide to the subject matter.  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1A\\_CAkYt3GY&list=PL8dPuualjXtNgK6MZucdYldNkMybYIHKR](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1A_CAkYt3GY&list=PL8dPuualjXtNgK6MZucdYldNkMybYIHKR)
- The school of life offers excellent summaries of key thinkers.  
<https://www.youtube.com/user/schooloflifechannel>
- TED Talks – a vast array of issues are covered excellent context for evaluation  
<https://www.youtube.com/user/TEDtalksDirector>