**A Level Philosophy & Ethics**

**What will I need to study this course?**

To study Philosophy and Ethics, students should possess an inquisitive, tolerant, and resilient mindset that welcomes challenges. It's advantageous to have achieved at least a grade 5 in a GCSE Humanities or English Literature, although prior study of Philosophy and Ethics at GCSE level is not mandatory.

**What will I study?**

The course is divided into three units:

**Unit 1: Philosophy of Religion**

* Students explore philosophical questions such as 'how do I know something is real?' and 'do I have a mind as well as a body?'
* They engage with the ideas of philosophers like Plato, Aristotle, Descartes, and Ryle.
* The existence of God is critically examined through philosophical arguments.

 **Unit 2: Ethics**

* Students investigate the moral dimensions of human actions, questioning whether actions like lying, stealing, and killing are inherently wrong (as posited by Aquinas and Kant) or if outcomes should determine morality (as proposed by Fletcher, Bentham, and Mill).
* Ethical theories are applied to contemporary issues such as Business Ethics and Euthanasia, fostering critical analysis and evaluation.

**Unit 3: Development in Christian Thought**

* Students delve into key issues within Christian theology and ethics.
* Topics include the concept of human nature as inherently sinful, the criteria for entry into heaven, and the role of the Bible as a moral guide for Christians.

**How is the course assessed?**

The course is assessed through three two-hour written exams, each carrying equal weight.



**Where next?**

Philosophy and Ethics is highly respected by universities and employers for its emphasis on critical thinking, analytical skills, and evaluative reasoning. It serves as a valuable foundation for further studies in Philosophy, Theology, Ethics, Law, and various other humanities and social sciences disciplines at university.

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree/philosophy>

*Exam Board: OCR*

*QAN Code: 601/8868/6*