

# **Religious Studies (A Level)**

### What will the course involve?

This A Level offers students the opportunity to explore key ideas, concepts, themes and practices within philosophy, ethics and religion.

The first strand of the course involves the in-depth study of Christianity, covering religious figures, sacred texts, religious life, social and historical developments, and religious identity.

The second strand, Philosophy of Religion, involves the study of arguments for the existence of God; challenges to religious belief; and religious experience.

The third strand, Religion and ethics considers whether we really have free will, and covers theories relating to ethical decision making.

The over-arching aim of this course is to help students to become knowledgeable and reflective, critical and creative thinkers - able to approach academic work and intellectual discourse confidently and effectively and to write with clarity and purpose.

#### How will I be assessed?

There will be three exams of equal weighting at the end of the second year

#### What skills will I develop?

This course will allow you to develop a set of skills which are highly prized by both universities and employers. These skills include social skills such as debate and communication and more independent skills such as research and analysis. You will learn to evaluate written material from a variety of different perspectives, but will also need to be organised and reflective.

## Where can the study of Religion, Philosophy and Ethics lead?

A strong pass in Religious Studies will be valued in the same way as other strong literacy focused A levels such as English, History and Psychology by employers and universities where it opens the door to the study of a wide variety of subjects at degree level, including:

- Religious Studies
- Philosophy
- Theology
- History
- Psychology
- Sociology

## Where can I get more information?

For further information about studying Religion, Philosophy and Ethics at Archbishop Blanch Sixth Form contact: Miss E Rothwell, Head of Religious Studies.