

**FURZE
PLATT**
SENIOR SCHOOL



A-LEVEL RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Why is there suffering in the world?

Can religion flourish in a rising secular society?

Do I really exist?



Do we have a soul?

Do psychology and sociology disprove religion?

How do we gain knowledge of God's Existence?

Does God exist?

So what's the point?

- Religious Studies is an exciting subject which encourages you to think deeply about some of the important questions out there.
- Students will learn how to think analytically, critically and logically.
- Such skills are invaluable in a very wide range of careers from law to medicine (we cover a wide range of medical ethics).
- These skills do not just help out in the world of work – they are important for the world we live in.

The A-Level – 2 year course

1 – Philosophy of Religion

2 hour exam – Summer 2021

2 – Study of a religion: Christianity

2 hour exam – Summer 2021

3 – Religion and Ethics

2 hour exam – Summer 2021

Philosophy of Religion

- You will study:
 1. Ancient philosophical influences (Plato and Aristotle)
 2. Soul, mind and body
 3. Religious experiences
 4. The problem of evil
 5. Arguments for the existence of God (from reason and observation)
 6. Religious language
 7. Theological and philosophical developments
- You will be expected to answer three questions from a choice of four. Each question is out of 40 marks.

Developments in Christian Thought

- You will study:
 1. Beliefs, teachings and ideas about human life, the world and ultimate reality (including death and the afterlife)
 2. The origins and development of Christianity
 3. The diversity of ethics and practice (looking at religious identity and moral principles)
 4. Social and historical developments in Christian thought, such as those influenced by ethics and philosophy
 5. The relationship between religion and society (including gender and society/theology)
 6. Challenges facing religious thought (secularism, science, liberation theology)
- You will be expected to answer three questions from a choice of four. Each question is out of 40 marks.

Religion and Ethics

- You will study:
 1. Normative ethical theories (situation ethics and natural law)
 2. Deontological ethics
 3. Teleological ethics
 4. Applied ethics (euthanasia, business ethics)
 5. Ethical language
 6. Conscience and psychological explanations
 7. Developments in ethical thought
- You will be expected to answer three questions from a choice of four. Each question is out of 40 marks.

What do we expect from you?

- As with any A Level, you will need to show commitment and a strong willingness to work hard. Aside from that, you will need to be enthusiastic, be keen to participate in discussions, have good listening skills and have an ability to think and question for yourself.
- You do not have to be religious! The course is taught without any assumptions being made about staff or student belief.

Religious Studies is a useful stepping stone to many careers where it helps to understand what people believe in and how it affects their lives. For example:

- Medicine
- Law
- Police force
- Journalism
- Health and social science
- Charity work
- Social work
- The armed services
- Teaching
- Politics
- Business

Combinations...

Religious Studies complements many other subjects at A Level:

- History
- Politics
- English
- Psychology
- Science

What next?

- Speak to me if you have any further questions.
- Fill in the application form and we will look forward to seeing you in September!



*"Philosophy is questions
that may never be
answered, Religion is
answers that may never
be questioned"*