

# Philosophy and Ethics

## About the course

Success in this subject demonstrates an open, analytical mind and a mastery of reasoning and critical-thinking skills. The course is complementary to a wide range of other AS/A2 courses; it is "student friendly" and deals with everyday life issues.

It provides an excellent basis for a wide range of University courses.

As with most other A levels, it is not job specific.

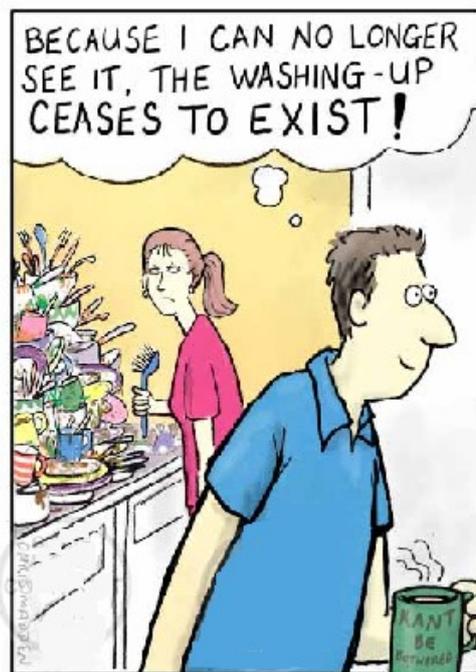
### WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

There is no advantage or disadvantage to a student whether they are committed to a particular faith, or are committed to an atheistic view of the world. It is an advantage for students to have a lively interest in contemporary social/moral issues, religious and cultural beliefs, current affairs, and the political decision-making process in a modern democracy. Students must be prepared to read and debate across a wide range of issues and ideas. They need to be able to pose difficult and intriguing questions, and to be able to apply knowledge gained in one aspect of the course to questions asked in another.

The course consists of two components:

**Component 1: Philosophy and Ethics** covers topics such as philosophy of religion, the design, cosmological and ontological arguments for the existence of God, evil and suffering, miracles, life and death, ethical theories, meta ethics, free will and moral responsibility, and Bentham and Kant.

**Component 2: Christianity** is concerned with sources of wisdom and authority, the afterlife, expression of religious identity, religion, gender and sexuality, religion and science, and religion and religious pluralism.



WHO SAID PHILOSOPHY HAD NO PRACTICAL USES?

***An unjust peace is better than a just war***

***Cicero***

## How it will be assessed

The course is entirely assessed by external written examination.

In the summer of Year 13 students will sit a three hour paper for each component, each carrying 50% of the final mark.

## What it prepares you for

The breadth of academic study required by this course, and the disciplines and attitudes developed are very highly valued by universities, colleges and employers. Career areas include Medicine, Nursing, Law, Social Work, Education, Journalism, Careers Service, Business, Banking or Politics.

