



# Workington Academy - Sixth Form

## Subject: Religious Studies, Philosophy and Ethics

### Why should you study Religious Studies, Philosophy and Ethics?

The philosopher, Socrates, said of the study of ethics that 'We are discussing no small matter, but how we ought to live.'

Religious Studies, Philosophy and Ethics is for you if you enjoy discussion and debate and have an enquiring mind. Be warned what you learn about in Philosophy and Ethics has the potential to change your life.

### Examination Board and Specification Number: To be decided

### Course Content

The course is made up of three components:

**The Study of Religion** – This component provides the opportunity to undertake an in-depth and broad study of your chosen religion, covering themes ranging from religious figures and sacred texts to practices that shape religious identity. This study of religion includes looking at religious approaches to social and ethical issues.

**Philosophy of Religion** – Philosophy is the study of knowledge, and is all about asking ultimate questions about life, death and the universe. This component provides the opportunity to undertake an in-depth and broad study of fundamental philosophical themes, such as the existence of God, the Problem of Evil and life after death.

**Religion and Ethics** – Ethics is the study of right and wrong, and how we make moral decisions. This component provides the opportunity to look at different theories about how we should make ethical decisions. You will also apply these theories to different ethical issues such as crime and punishment and medical ethics.

### Assessment:

There will be a written exam on each component. The exam questions will be essay style questions which will test your knowledge and your ability to evaluate.



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### **Skills Developed, Progression and Possible Future Careers**

Religious Studies has been a popular subject at A/AS level for some time and is recognised as a traditional and rigorous academic subject by Universities. AS/A level Religious Studies opens the way for degree courses in Theology, Comparative Religion, Philosophy, Law, and Sociology. It helps to develop invaluable skills such as critical thinking, building an argument, research, and evaluation. Therefore it is seen as a good basis for a number of career choices including law, journalism, teaching and social work. Increasingly professionals in a number of sectors have to consider the ethical concerns that this course gives you a good grounding in.

Finally, studying Religious Studies is an enjoyable experience, which gives you the space to reflect on what matters to you personally and helps you to reflect on the ultimate questions of life. You do not need to have studied RE GCSE to do this course.