

# Philosophy, Ethics and Religion - A Level

Contact Person: Mr I Jones

## Course Outline:

Philosophy, Ethics and Religion at Nailsea is an engaging and thought-provoking course exploring three key branches of religious studies: Christianity, philosophy and ethics.

Component 1 looks at Christianity, how Christian beliefs have developed in the 2000 years since the time of Jesus; structured around complex, intellectual questions like; what does Christianity have to say about the gap between the rich and the power? What gender is God?

We go on to look at the Philosophy of Religion. This component starts by considering arguments for the existence of God in the modern and postmodern age, including atheists like Dawkins and Harris. We have all the questions, we just need you to consider them. Can we believe in God through reason and rational thought? Does the physical world tell us anything about the likelihood of God's existence?

It's the study of Ethics for component 3, where we ask two basic questions. What does it mean to do or be good? Who decides what is good? Do we believe the certainty of a deontological or instead opt for the teleological or situational principle – be prepared to find out!

Essentially, this course offers a rewarding opportunity to consider deep questions about existence, ethics, and religious beliefs, while equipping you with essential skills for further academic pursuits and personal growth.

Students are given the opportunity to develop critical skills such as reasoning, debating and empathy. Students have to decide what they think on some key theological, philosophical and ethical issues which develops skills and capacities that go beyond the study of one A Level and equips them with the complex nature of the world around them. In short, it prepares them for life.

## Progression Post-18

Universities and employers consider Religious Studies as a subject that develops high level thinking skills, equipping students with analytical and critical ability.

Religious Studies is a rigorous academic course that requires students to think philosophically, use skills similar those required in the study of history and do empathise with others who may have different religious beliefs from their own.



**Qualification:** A Level **Examination:** 100%

**Examination Board:** OCR