



# ERASMUS DARWIN ACADEMY

*Excellence for All*

## GCSE Philosophy and Ethics

### Aims

GCSE Philosophy and Ethics provides a combination of the core requirement of Religious Studies, combined with relevant and mandatory Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) topics along with the opportunity to ask ultimate questions and engage in discussions on modern and historical issues. It enables students to develop vital personal skills of forming and evaluating arguments, debate and diplomacy. As a core subject, all students cover the course, with a range of differentiated opportunities including different resources, groupings and paced tasks.

### The Course

Students will follow the AQA Religious Education examination. The GCSE will require the students to know two religions in depth – Buddhism and Christianity, as well as discuss other major religions and their views on philosophical and ethical issues. The course will be split into two parts: 'Study of Religions' and 'Philosophical and Ethical studies in the Modern World' and gives students the opportunity to develop their own opinions and core skills in literacy and analysis.

Year 10	Buddhist Beliefs	Buddhist Beliefs	Crime and Punishment	Peace and Conflict	Christian Practices	Christian Practices
Year 11	Buddhist Practices	Buddhist Practices	Christian Beliefs	Religion and Life	Relationships and Family	Revision for GCSE Exams

### Assessment

GCSE Philosophy and Ethics is assessed by an examination at the end of Year 11 with no controlled assessment. Throughout the course students are assessed both formatively (throughout a unit of work) and summatively (at the end of a unit of work) in lessons. Assessment is currently focused on the Assessment Objectives of knowledge, understanding and evaluation. At each stage, peer and self-assessment are strongly encouraged, to enable students to familiarise themselves with the levels of assessment that are expected and the student-adapted mark schemes. Students will also sit mock examinations for both all aspects of the course in line with other subjects.

### Choose this course if..

- You are a deep thinker who likes to discover answers to 'Big questions' like:
  - How do we know things?
  - Is there a physical reality?
  - Are things 'right' or 'wrong' because of the consequences or because they are intrinsically right or wrong?
- You want to join in one of the oldest subjects of study
- You want to use your investigative, analytical and critical evaluation skills

### Post 16 Opportunities and Careers

A Level Philosophy and Ethics combines elements covered in the GCSE course but at an advanced level. More focus is given to ethical theories such as Utilitarianism, Situation Ethics and ancient Greek philosophy and ultimate questions such as whether an afterlife exists. Students are examined in three examinations at the end of the course. A Level Philosophy and Ethics is highly regarded by employers for its skills-based learning and is appropriate for any students looking to explore opportunities in a wide variety of careers such as: NGO's, business, entertainment, teaching, the 'Arts', public sector/civil service – politics, the law, banking & investment and many more.

### Exam Board Information

**AQA**  <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/religious-studies/gcse/religious-studies-a-8062>

### Contact

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