



NOWER HILL HIGH SCHOOL



PHILOSOPHY, RELIGION AND ETHICS A LEVEL - AQA

Who is the course for?

Students who want to be able to develop skills in logical reasoning and analytical thinking, in order to arrive at coherent conclusions about controversial and challenging issues.

What can it lead to?

PRE is a rigorous academic subject that relates to many further education degree courses, and careers in Law, Journalism, Social Work, Research, Psychology, Bio-Ethics, any related disciplines involving problem solving.

What are the entry requirements?

You do not have to have studied PRE at GCSE but if you did a grade 5 or above would be essential. You would also benefit from having strong essay writing skills and a grade 5 or above in English.

How will I be taught?

You will be taught using a variety of methods including debate, research and using readings, booklets and online sources.

How will I be assessed?

A Level

- 2 exams at the end of the two-year A-level course each worth 50% of the A-level
- Exams require you to write essays showing knowledge, understanding and critical analysis

Grades awarded at AS will not make any contribution to grades at A-level.

Date(s) of Assessment: May / June.

What will I study?

Philosophy

- The Design, Cosmological and Ontological Arguments for the existence of God and challenges
- The Problem of Evil and Suffering and responses
- Religious experience and challenges
- Religious Language
- Miracles
- Self, death and the afterlife

Ethics

- Situation Ethics, Natural Law Theory and Virtue Ethics (Normative ethical theory)
- Issues of human life and death (Embryo research, cloning, designer babies, abortion, euthanasia, capital punishment)
- Issues of animal life and death (for food, intensive farming, blood sports, scientific procedures and for organ transplants)
- Meta ethics
- Free will and determinism
- Conscience
- Bentham and Kant

Study of Islam

The study of religion requires students to bring their own opinion of the content covered and to focus on religion's influence on individuals and societies in the 21st Century

- Islamic sources of authority
- Self, death and afterlife
- Good conduct and key moral principles (Jihad, Shari'ah Law, the embryo and the unborn child, warfare, weapons of mass destruction, the environment, animal life)
- God (Tawhid, Sufi concepts)
- Expressions of religious identity (The 5 Pillars, Sunni and Shi'a differences, Hajj in the 20th Century, the London Mosque)
- Islam, gender and sexuality
- Islam and science
- Islam and the challenge of secularisation
- Islam, migration and pluralism

