



# PARK HIGH SCHOOL

## Philosophy and Ethics

Exam Board: OCR

Course Specification: [H573](#)

Qualification obtained: OCR A Level in Religious Studies

---

Lead Teacher: Ms Shah

Email: [s.shah@parkhighstanmore.org.uk](mailto:s.shah@parkhighstanmore.org.uk)

---

### Subject Overview

In philosophy of religion learners will study philosophical issues and questions raised by religion and belief. These include arguments regarding the existence or non-existence of God, the nature and influence of religious experience and the problems of evil and suffering. They will also explore philosophical language and thought through significant concepts and the works of key thinkers, illustrated in issues or debates in the philosophy of religion.

Religion and ethics is characterised by the study of ethical language and thought, with exploration of key concepts and the works of influential thinkers. Ethical theory will also be applied to issues of importance; namely euthanasia, business ethics, and sexual ethics.

Developments in religious thought provides an opportunity for the systematic study of one religious tradition Christianity. This will include the exploration of religious beliefs, values, teachings, and practices that shape religious identity, as well as sources of wisdom and authority. Also central are the ways in which religious traditions have developed over time, and religious responses to challenges and significant contemporary social issues.

**Percentage Exam:** 100%

#### Progression Routes:

As a humanities-based subject philosophy & Ethics will open a range of pathways post-18 including law, forensic, social work, arts, teaching and medicine.

#### **GCSE Subject Exam results minimum requirements:**

- A Grade 5 in *Philosophy and Ethics* AND a Grade 5 in *English Language*
- At least 6 other GCSE subjects with Grade 4s. These must include *English Language* AND *Mathematics*.

#### **Complementary learning:**

- English
- Psychology
- History
- Sociology
- Business Studies

#### **Student Quote:**

*"It allows us to think creatively with finding our way around philosophical arguments and encourages us to always look to see the bigger picture"*

## Year 12

### Topics covered:

Philosophy and Ethics A level is split into three components which are equally weighted.

Philosophy of Religion – philosophical issues and questions raised by religion and belief

- Ancient Greek influences
- The Problem of Evil
- Religious experience
- Arguments based on reason
- Arguments based on observation
- Soul, Mind and Body

Religion and Ethics – the study of ethical language and thought

- Natural Moral Law
- Situation Ethics
- Kantian Ethics
- Utilitarianism
- Euthanasia
- Business Ethics

Developments in Christian Thought – systematic study of Christian beliefs, values, teachings and practices

- Augustine and human nature
- Death and the afterlife
- Knowledge of God's existence
- The person of Jesus Christ
- Christian moral principles
- Christian moral action

## Year 13

### Topics covered:

Philosophy and Ethics A level is split into three components which are equally weighted.

Philosophy of Religion – philosophical issues and questions raised by religion and belief

- The Nature and Attributes of God
- Religious language: Negative, Analogical or Symbolic
- Twentieth-century perspectives and philosophical comparisons

Religion and Ethics – the study of ethical language and thought

- Meta-ethical theories
- Conscience
- Sexual Ethics

Developments in Christian Thought – systematic study of Christian beliefs, values, teachings, and practices

- Liberation theology and Marx
- The Challenge of Secularism
- Gender -Theology and Society
- Religious pluralism – society and theology

## Assessment

Is 100% Exam.

Unit Code	Unit Title	Assessment Details	Weighting
H573/01	Philosophy of Religion	Written Examination: 120 marks, 2hr	33.33%
H573/02	Religious Ethics	Written Examination: 120 marks, 2hr	33.33%
H573/03	Developments in Religious Thought	Written Examination: 120 marks, 2hr	33.33%

## Additional information

### Course specific equipment:

- Three Lever Arch Folders
- Dividers
- Plastic wallets
- Lined paper

### Essential Reading Material:

OCR Religious Studies A Level Year 1 and AS

ISBN: 978-1471866692

OCR: AS and Year 1 Student Book: Christianity, Philosophy and Ethics

ISBN: 978-0198392859

Religious Studies Bundle - Philosophy of Religion, Ethics, Religious Thought: OCR Revision Guides New Spec Year 1 – Peter Baron

### Recommended resources:

#### Websites:

[www.peped.org](http://www.peped.org)

[www.ocr.org.uk](http://www.ocr.org.uk)

[www.philosophybites.com](http://www.philosophybites.com)

[www.ethicsonline.co.uk](http://www.ethicsonline.co.uk)

[www.churhctimes.co.uk](http://www.churhctimes.co.uk)

#### Novels:

Sophie's World

The Sage Train

Sophie's Choice

A Man for all Seasons

The Brothers Karamazov

#### Books:

Bible Matters – Peter and Charlotte Vardy

God Matters - Peter and Charlotte Vardy

Ethics Matters - Peter and Charlotte Vardy

The Puzzle of Christianity – Peter Vardy

Justice – Michael Sandel

Christian Theology – Michael Wilcockson

### Enrichment:

Philosophy and Ethics conferences – to be confirmed

Darwin Day conference – to be confirmed