Clitheroe Royal Grammar School Sixth Form: Transition Pack

Welcome to the Religious Studies Department

We look forward to meeting you and welcoming you to the Sixth Form.

This Transition Pack contains information to support your transition from GCSE to A Level study.

Please read all the documents ready to begin Year 12:

- Independent Learning in Religious Studies
- Useful Online Resources for Religious Studies
- Religious Studies Introductory Tasks

- **Read the Subject Information Sheet** which is available here: CRGS Subject Sheet - Religious Studies

- **Download the exam board specification** which is available here: OCR A Level Religious Studies

- **Read the 'Specification at a Glance'**, focusing on the A Level content.

- Some of these resources will become more useful when you have moved further through the course, such as the A Level specification, so store them where you can revisit them over the next 2 years.

- Don't worry if some of the work sounds challenging. A Level work is more difficult than GCSE work after all. Your teachers will be supporting you through this transition. Please talk to us if you are unsure about any aspect of the course.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

Mrs Hartley - Head of Learning, Religious Studies
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What independent learning looks like in Religious Studies…

- ✓ Review your work regularly and make sure you read material critically, adding your own questions and ideas.

- ✓ Make a glossary of key words and make sure you are able to use the words correctly in context.

- ✓ Browse the current and past copies of Dialogue in the Sixth Form Library. Select an article on a topic from the RS specification or one that interests you. Summarise the key points on an index card or one side of A4.

- ✓ Create your own set of personalised revision notes as you go along. Experiment with presenting your work in as many different ways as possible to make it memorable. You could use mind maps, cue cards or apps such as Quizlet.

- ✓ Keep an eye on the news. There are always news stories with a religious, moral or ethical dimension. Make a note of useful examples and remember to add them to your notes.

Clitheroe Royal Grammar School Sixth Form: Transition Pack

Useful Online Resources for Religious Studies

If you wish to explore some of the issues and topics we will be exploring in class, then we would recommend these sources:

Why Study Religious Studies at A Level? I Think Therefore I Teach
This is a video from an RS teacher in a Sixth Form who explains what RS at A Level involves. There are also other videos on specific topics which we shall be studying.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eU7AX7TgLOI

The School of Life Western Philosophy

These are some short, animated videos which introduce you to the ideas of some of the philosophers we study in this course. We don't study all the philosophers covered in this series and would recommend some of the following: Plato, Aristotle, Augustine, Aquinas, David Hume, Immanuel Kant & Sartre.

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLwxNMb28XmpeypJMHfNbJ4RAFkRtmAN3P

The Panpsycast podcast
These are some informal and informative podcasts which cover a wide range of philosophical and ethical topics. It is produced by people who have recently graduated and now teach in universities or schools. The show features regularly in the Top Higher Education Podcasts Chart in iTunes. We recommend that you click on the tab episodes and select some topics that interest you.
https://thepanpsycast.com/home

'The Moral Maze' on BBC Radio 4 – available on the BBC Sounds app

This is a series of debates on topical ethical issues between members of a panel and includes contributions from guest witnesses.
https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006qk11

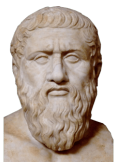
TED Talks
This website has many short lectures covering a whole range of ideas. Select the topics of Philosophy and Religion & choose a talk which interests you.
https://www.ted.com/talks

Clitheroe Royal Grammar School Sixth Form: Transition Pack

Philosophy: Philosopher Profiles.

Use this link to create profiles for the four philosophers: Philosopher Profiles - Philosophy A Level

You should include their dates, key theories and beliefs.

Plato 	Aristotle
Aquinas	Kant
Hume	Descartes

Clitheroe Royal Grammar School Sixth Form: Transition Pack

Ethics: Introduction to ethics

Read pages 3-8 of this book: Ethics for A-Level: For AQA Philosophy and OCR Religious Studies and answer the questions

1. How would you explain what philosophy is to someone?
2. Do you think philosophy is important? If yes, why? If no, why?
3. List some ethical questions.
4. Can you figure out if your questions are Normative, Applied, or Metaethical? #
5. Is there a link be between Applied, Normative and Metaethics? Which type of ethics do you think it would be best to study first, and which last?
6. What is the difference between prudential and moral reasons?
7. What is meant by the "is/ought" gap? Why is it important to remember when discussing ethical questions?
8. What role, if any, does science have in ethical arguments?
9. What are thought experiments? Why might they be useful to philosophers?
10. "Because there are so many different views on moral issues there cannot be any moral truth". What do you think of this line of argument?

Developments in Christian Thought: Life of Jesus

Watch this clip: Gospel of Mark Summary: A Complete Animated Overview

Create an A3 timeline of the life of Jesus. Include reference to the following:

- Main sections: Galilee, the road, Jerusalem
- Kingdom and God and repentance
- Messianic Secret
- The disciples
- Messiah and sacrifice
- Religious leaders

Please bring this work with you at the start of September to hand in. We will provide you with answers to the questions to self-assess your view.

We look forward to teaching you and appreciate the time you are taking to complete this work.

Best wishes,

Jennie Hartley

Head of RMPS