

## **PHILOSOPHY A-LEVEL**

### **WHAT WILL I STUDY?**

Philosophy is the oldest of all academic subjects and every discipline has a philosophical aspect to it. Discursive argument, analytical skills and the evaluation of evidence all originated in philosophical thought. This course will provide you with a thorough grounding in key philosophical concepts, themes, texts and techniques. Students will develop a range of transferable skills which can be applied far beyond the study of Philosophy.

At AS Level you will concentrate on a number of key philosophical questions intended to provide students with a broad introduction to Philosophy. For instance: Who am I? What can I know? Are there such things as natural rights? What is the difference between law and morality? Is a just war possible? How does crime justify punishment? In year two you will specialise further, focusing on questions about the mind and metaphysics: What is consciousness? Do we have free will? Can machines think? Are zombies possible? Is belief in God a reasonable hypothesis? Has the universe been designed? Can mathematics be beautiful? Is science true?

There are opportunities to join study trips to Athens or Berlin, Rome and Sicily. The department also organises an annual Philosophy conference.

### **WHAT NEXT?**

Philosophy complements and enhances the study of all the arts and sciences and every subject has a philosophical aspect to it. As such, this course provides a strong grounding for those wishing to pursue a wide range of subject areas at degree level.

Alternatively, students may consider direct entry into employment.

### **ASSESSMENT**

Exam 100%

### **DURATION**

2 years

### **ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**

Standard entry requirements plus grade 5 in GCSE English and grade 4 in Maths

### **EXAM BOARD**

AQA

### **COSTS**

£35 for textbooks and a conference visit plus optional field trips.