

SUBJECT: Philosophy and Ethics

YEAR: 8

HEAD OF DOMAIN: Mr M McCarthy

GROUPING POLICY: Two tiered sets in each population and 2 mixed ability sets in each population

COURSE CONTENT:

What will my child learn?

Study of philosophical questions starting with “Do we have a responsibility to those less fortunate?” – exploring what poverty is and how we can respond to it effectively. The second unit is entitled ‘How can following a faith (Judaism) contribute to your sense of identity in Britain today?’ – exploring Jewish festivals and beliefs. The final unit explores the question “Does suffering have a purpose?” – analysing possible positive effects of suffering and beliefs about life after death from Christian and Buddhist perspectives.

The students will develop their debating skills, their empathy with and understanding of others alongside a variety of philosophical or ethical approaches to world challenges.

What will homework look like?

Revision, literacy homework, correction homework, mini research tasks and consolidation of classroom work will all be used on a regular basis.

What enrichment opportunities are available?

Fieldwork days for each population will be confirmed as they are planned, local opportunities around the school site or local area will be utilised where appropriate. If available national competitions, guest speakers and charity links will be pursued.

ASSESSMENT

How will my child’s work be assessed?

- Termly assessed pieces of work;
- Regular revision and class-based tests;
- Questioning within classroom activities;
- Peer and self-assessment;
- Year 8 exam.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

How can I support my child in this subject?

- Discuss topical issues especially of a global significance
- Discuss and help with completion of ELOs
- Support with literacy and reading