

# The Sixth Form at George Abbot

*'Academic excellence within a vibrant community.'*



Subject: Philosophy and Ethics

Head of Department: Miss Lenehan ([hlenehan@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:hlenehan@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk))

## Pre Sixth Form Tasks

Task	Detail	Demonstrated		
		Yes	Partially	No
<b>Organisation</b>	<p>Buy a ring binder, some lined paper and a set of dividers.</p> <p>Buy the course textbook: AQA A-level Religious Studies 1 Authors: John Frye Publisher: Hodder Education ISBN-13: 978-1-47-187395-9</p> <p>Complete: "How should we decide the right thing to do?" Written response – details below.</p> <p>Complete: "Should people believe in God?" Written response – details below.</p>			
<b>Further Reading (optional)</b>	Choose a book from the further reading list below and complete one of the suggested tasks.			
<b>Additional task(s)</b>				

### Link to Subject Specification

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/religious-studies/as-and-a-level/religious-studies-7062>

You will receive a copy of the specification in September.

<b>All tasks completed</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Subject Teacher Signature</b>		

## Essay Questions

A. Write your own response to the following question: *"How should we decide the right thing to do?"*

In your answer you should:

- Include a range of different opinions.
- Show evidence of having discussed the question with at least three other people (anonymous!), and include an analysis of their comments, including similarities and differences.
- Reach a justified conclusion.
- Optional: conduct your own research to find possible answers from different fields of thinking (philosophy, psychology, sociology, religion, etc.).

B. Write a response to the following question: *"Should people believe in God?"*

In your answer you should:

- Demonstrate understanding of several different viewpoints.
- Show evidence of having discussed the question with at least three other people (anonymous!), and include an analysis of their comments, including similarities and differences.
- Reach a clear and justified conclusion.

## Further Reading List

Brief Introductory Reading:

- Blackburn, S. Think, OUP 2001.
- Craig, E. Philosophy: A Very Short Introduction, OUP 2002.
- Law, S. The Philosophy Files, Orion 2002; The Outer Limits, Orion 2003; The Philosophy Gym, Hodder Headline 2003.
- Nagel, T. What Does It All Mean?, OUP 1987 (reprinted 2004).
- Warburton, N. Philosophy: The Basics (5th ed.), Routledge 2012.

Philosophy:

- Gaarder, J. (1995) Sophie's World, London: Phoenix House.
- Davies, B. (1993) An Introduction to the Philosophy of Religion, Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Annas, J. (1998) An Introduction to Plato's Republic, Oxford: Oxford University Press, (particularly Chapters 9-10).

Ethics:

- Vardy, P. (1999) The Puzzle of Ethics, SCM Press.
- Norman, R. (1998) The Moral Philosophers, Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Religious Thought:

- McGrath, A. (2015) Christianity: An Introduction, Blackwell Publishing.

## Suggested reading list tasks (optional)

For each of the texts you read, summarise the key points in one of the following ways:

- Write a review of the book, outlining which were the most useful sections and whether you enjoyed the book/why/why not.
- List any key terms from the text in a vocabulary list, researching their meanings (if not clear from the text) and recording these.
- Create a picture mind-map of the key ideas. Use doodles and images to illustrate these. For a guide to mind-mapping, see this short video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wLWV0XN7K1g>