



Preparation for Year 12



Philosophy & Ethics

Congratulations on your GCSE successes and welcome to your post-16 studies at All Saints!

At this significant moment in your education, you have selected to study courses that reflect your own unique gifts, talents, interests and future goals.

So let's get started! These tasks are designed to introduce you to some concepts that you will be exploring over the year ahead as well as giving you the opportunity to demonstrate your commitment and sincere interest in this subject.

We look forward to seeing your preparation work and welcoming you to our department in September.

Aims	<i>There are three components to this course: Religion and Philosophy, Religion and Ethics and Developments of Christian Thought. The course demands that you can think deeply, articulate your points with justification and be prepared to question the theories that you will study. You will be required to show depth of subject knowledge including scholarly thinkers (AO1) You will be required to evaluate subject matters (AO2)</i>
Deadline for submission	Wednesday 2nd September 2026

Choose **TWO** tasks to complete from the following list:

Week	Task / question	Links to help you	Notes
1	Research the ANALOGY OF THE CAVE Be prepared to explain the analogy in your own words ETHICS	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1RWOpQXTItA	Take a picture of your handwritten work to upload You can also create an electronic version to submit instead
2	Research the ancient Philosopher Socrates, create a biography/ fact file.	Socrates: His Beliefs and Philosophy - World History Edu	Take a picture of your



Preparation for Year 12



	Be prepared to share something interesting you found out. Research the SOCRATIC METHOD - explain why this is a USEFUL method. PHILOSOPHY		handwritten work to upload You can also create an electronic version to submit instead
3	What does moral absolutism mean? What does moral relativism mean? Once you have found the definition, answer the following question: Are morals about what society thinks or what individual people think? Should morals be the same for everyone or do they differ from person to person? ETHICS	Moral Absolutism - Ethics Unwrapped	Take a picture of your handwritten work to upload You can also create an electronic version to submit instead
4	Create a spider diagram about THE FALL. In one colour include all you know about: sin, original sin, God's grace, human relationships (pre and post Fall), free will. Now, research The Fall/ Augustinian human nature and then in another colour, add new information to the spider diagram CHRISTIAN THOUGHT	Augustine's teachings on human nature – A Level Philosophy & Religious Studies	Take a picture of your handwritten work to upload You can also create an electronic version to submit instead

Keywords and definitions:

You will need to be familiar with the following keywords in term 1.

Keyword	Definition	Use of keyword within context
PHILOSOPHY		
Forms	a name Plato gave to ideal concepts	
Reason	using logical steps and through processes in order to reach conclusions	



Preparation for Year 12



Rationalist	Someone who thinks that the primary source of knowledge is reason	Ancient Philosophical influences
Empiricist	Someone who thinks that the primary source of knowledge is experience gained through the five senses	
Prime Mover	Aristotle’s concept of the ultimate cause of movement and change in the universe	
ETHICS		
Deontological	from the Latin for ‘DUTY’, ethics focussed on the intrinsic rightness and wrongness of actions	Natural Law
Telos	the end, or purpose of something	
Natural Law	a deontological theory based on the behaviour that accords with given laws or moral rules (From God) that exist independently of human societies or systems	
Synderesis	to follow the good and avoid the evil, the rule which all precepts follow	
Primary Precepts	the most important rules in life: protect life, reproduce, educate, order in society, worship God	
DEVELOPMENTS OF CHRISTIAN THOUGHT		



Preparation for Year 12



Will	the part of human nature that makes free choices	Augustine's teaching on human nature
Neoplatonism	philosophical thinking arising from the ideas of Plato	
Concordia	human friendship	
Cupiditas	"selfish love", a love of worldly things and of selfish desires	
Concupiscence	uncontrollable desire for physical pleasures and material things	