



THE DEANERY

Church of England High School and Sixth Form College

June 2021

Dear Student

We are delighted that you have taken an interest in studying A-Level Religious Studies (Philosophy, Ethics and Development in Christian Thought) at the Deanery Sixth Form College. As you are aware, as a college, the Deanery has the highest "value added" for students completing academic subjects (such as Religious Studies) of any college in the Wigan area.

We are proud of the support we offer our students, and although there are challenges in education across the country right now, we want to make sure your transition into A-Level is as seamless as possible. Therefore, in order to prepare yourself, we strongly recommend you complete the bridging unit tasks set on the Deanery Sixth Form College web page - <https://www.deanery.wigan.sch.uk/portal-bridging/>

During Year 12 you will consider ancient philosophical influences, investigating ideas surrounding the soul, mind and body, arguments based on observation and reason, religious experience, and the problem of evil. You will be introduced to ethical theories including natural moral law, situation ethics, Kantian ethics, and utilitarianism. You will then apply these theories to euthanasia and business ethics.

In development in Christian Thought you will consider Augustine's teaching on human nature, death and the afterlife, knowledge of God's existence, the person of Jesus Christ, Christian moral principles, and moral action through the study of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, considering how he developed Christian moral theological teaching in the time of Hitler and Nazi rule in Germany.

The attached resource gives you opportunities to boost your understanding of the subject and the relevance of study for future career development. There are a variety of media clips for you to watch (some are noticeably short), they are engaging and aim to give you a greater understanding of what you can expect during your course of study. The overall aim is to ensure your transition from GCSE to A-Level study is as smooth as possible. I am sure that you will find the activities interesting and enjoyable. You may wish to discuss some of the key aspects and issues raised with an adult at home. Discussion plays an important part in A-Level Religious Studies particularly with developing evaluative skills.

In addition to the activities outlined in the resource attachment, I have recommended films, novels, plays and podcasts that you will find beneficial in understanding some of the key issues that we will discuss in Y12.

Yours sincerely

G Muflahi

Mrs G Muflahi
Curriculum leader for Religious Studies.