



# Hinchingbrooke School

*Inspiring excellence Fulfilling potential*

## Religion, Philosophy and Ethics Eduqas A Level Transition Work



The Eduqas Religious Studies specification is split into three components:

1. Study of Religion – Christianity
2. Philosophy of Religion
3. Religion and Ethics

Each of these make up a third of your A Level course. Please find relevant transition work for each component detailed in this booklet. These will aid your understanding of the topics that we will study in September and therefore, it is essential you complete all tasks and bring these with you to your first lesson. They will give your teachers an idea of your engagement and enthusiasm towards the course.

Please note: there is no expectation for you to buy all of the books suggested for wider reading throughout. They are merely recommendations if you are curious about what is to come!

## Christianity Transition Work



### Something to watch:

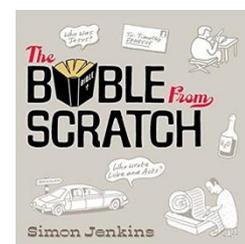
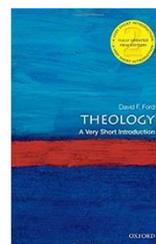
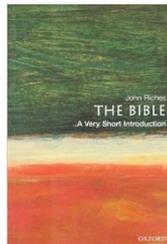
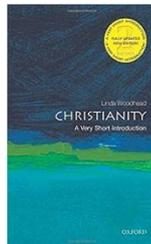
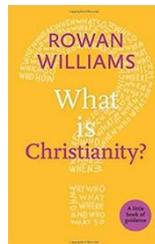
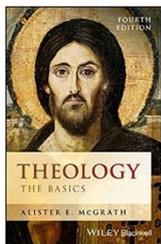
10 Incredible Facts about the Birth of Jesus Christ that will surprise you: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=54DX5D5IMYE>. Make notes on each of these.

### Something to read:

Article on the following link: <https://www.catholic.com/magazine/online-edition/do-the-infancy-narratives-of-matthew-and-luke-contradict-each-other>. Please take note of the source of this article and the impact that this will have on its audience and overall bias.



### Suggested wider reading:



Theology: The Basics, by Alister E. McGrath

What is Christianity? by Rowan Williams

Christianity: A Very Short Introduction by Linda Woodhead

The Bible: A Very Short Introduction by John Riches

Theology: A Very Short Introduction by David Ford

The Bible from Scratch by Simon Jenkins

### Analysis and Evaluation:

Use what you have watched and read to complete the following tasks:

1. Summarise the birth of Jesus in Matthew's gospel in your own words.
2. Summarise the birth of Jesus in Luke's gospel in your own words.
3. 'The two birth narratives contradict each other'. Explain your view on this statement in as much detail as possible.



## Philosophy of Religion Transition Work



### Something to watch:

Aquinas and the Cosmological Crash Course Philosophy #10:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TgisehuGOyY>. Make notes on how Thomas Aquinas tried to prove the existence of God.

### Something to read:

Read the attached article on the Cosmological Argument. If you print it off, you can highlight the key ideas, terminology and arguments.



### Analysis and Evaluation:

Use what you have watched and read to complete the following tasks:

1. Write down three arguments Aquinas gave for the existence of God. Explain these in your own words, as clearly as possible.
2. Give an example to illustrate each of these arguments.
3. Write a paragraph explaining your own view on whether Aquinas has successfully proved the existence of God.



## Ethics and Religion Transition Work



### Something to watch:

Utilitarianism – Crash Course Philosophy:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-a739VjqdSI&t=511s>. Make notes

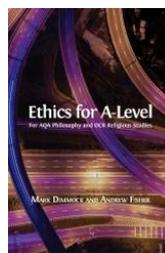
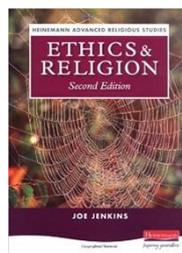
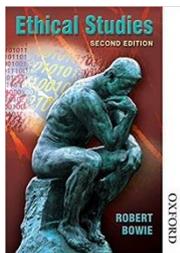
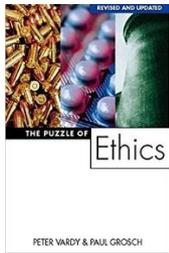
on Bentham and Mill's utilitarianism.

### Something to read:

Read the attached article on Utilitarianism from RS Review magazine. If you print it off, you can highlight the key ideas, terminology and arguments.



### Suggested wider reading:



The Puzzle of Ethics by Peter Vardy and Paul Grosch

Access to Religious Studies: Ethical Studies by Robert Bowie

Ethics and Religion by Joe Jenkins

Ethics for A Level by Mark Dimmock and Andrew Fisher – free to download in PDF format on the following link:

<https://www.openbookpublishers.com/product/639/ethics-for-a-level>

### Analysis and Evaluation:

Use what you have watched and read to complete the following tasks:

1. Summarise Bentham's act utilitarianism and Hedonic Calculus in your own words.
2. Summarise Mill's rule utilitarianism and harm principle in your own words.
3. 'Act utilitarianism is a more practical way to make moral decisions than rule utilitarianism'. Explain your view on this statement in as much detail as possible.

