

Philosophy Curriculum Area – Teacher of Philosophy

Philosophy is predominantly taught by the RE team who currently consists of seven specialist teachers.

The timetable currently provides two hour-long lessons of philosophy per fortnight in years 7 and 8. This philosophy programme is a bespoke course developed by the RS team with the aim of introducing students to the major debates in ethics and the philosophy of religion. Lessons are now largely taught in mixed ability groups. We aim to encourage students to develop their fluency with analytical concepts and to impart powerful knowledge which provides access to, and critical distance from, longstanding and deep cultural debates. The curriculum covers philosophy skills, ethics (normative and applied) and the philosophy of religion.

At A level, for philosophy, we will be following the new AQA 2017 specification (7172) covering the metaphysics of God and mind as well as epistemology and moral philosophy.

The Religious Education team are active collaborators in preparing resources and approaches to teaching philosophy, and sharpening the focus of the philosophical lens through which religions can be studied. For example, they work together to plan for and to deliver both schemes of work and aspects of the school's Year 13 RE study days, which ensure the delivery of an entitlement to Religious Education in the sixth form.

Bennett is strongly committed to developing teachers professionally, and believes that all staff should have an active and positive role to play in the development of policy and practice. As a designated Teaching School Hub for Kent we can offer a wide range of professional development opportunities both within Bennett and our network of secondary schools. These include the full range of National Professional Qualifications as well as full Early Career Induction.

Bennett is a Church of England school, and it is expected that all staff support the school's distinctive ethos in their professional role.