## COLLEGE A Level Philosophy of Religion & Ethics Summer Preparation Guidance



<u>TV-</u> A couple of suggestions The Good Place – Netflix (Definitely worth watching) The Vicar of Dibley – interesting look at the role of women in religion



Films- A few suggestions. You should try watching any film and see if there are any ethical issues you can identify Evan Almighty The Truman Show Million Dollar Baby Bruce Almighty I Robot The Adjustment Bureau The DaVinci Code

# <u>Websites-</u> Free resource sites. Some directly linked to Eduqas A level which we follow, others have similar content so useful for wider knowledge

Seneca learning Ethics online Currently free- use login Username: Becci Password: Callywith Catholic news agency RE online Truetube REquest Future learn Open university short courses BBC bitesize good for GCSE content refresher or if you did not study RE at GCSE Bible society Natre Divinity philosophy Ted Talks lots of interesting topics raised

<u>YouTube-</u> there is a lot available on YouTube, these are some of my favourites <u>The Big Questions</u> great debate programmes <u>Faith philosophy life</u> Aimed at AQA A level but a lot of crossover <u>The Bible project</u> short videos that are a good overview of the Bible <u>The story of God</u> Morgan Freeman's series, very interesting and well made

### Books- some easy read introduction texts (also try books by Richard Dawkins)

Blackburn, S. (2001) Think, OUP Craig, E. (2002) Philosophy: A Very Short Introduction, OUP McGrath, A. (2015) Christianity: An Introduction, Blackwell Publishing Nagel, T. (1987, reprinted 2004) What Does It All Mean? OUP Vardy, P. (1999) The Puzzle of God, Harper Collins Vardy, P. (2016) The Puzzle of Christianity, Harper Collins Warburton, N. (2012) Philosophy: The Basics (5th ed.), Routledge

## <u>Virtual tours-</u> just a couple of the virtual tours available, you could try finding more

Westminster abbey Vatican

## Podcasts- try listening to a podcast instead as a break from screen time

BBC Radio 4 Sunday BBC Radio 4 Sunday Ethical & Topical Issues BBC Radio 4 Moral Maze Discussion on weekly moral issues Panpsycast Informal and informative podcast on Philosophical issues for students Religious studies project weekly podcasts of topical issues OU Ethics bites Open Learn from OU A romp through ethics for beginners Ethics from Oxford University

#### Sample tasks:

Watch the videos below, choosing one to focus on for your task. Write a list of discussion points/ questions it raises. Choose (at least) one of your questions and draft at least three possible answers that might be given.

<u>Ted Talk by Kwame Anthony Appiah - Is religion good or bad? (This is a trick question)</u> <u>Ted Talk by Damon Horowitz – We Need a Moral Operating System</u> <u>Ted Talk by Tom Honey – Why Would God Create A Tsunami?</u> <u>Debate: Atheist vs Christian (Christopher Hitchens vs William Lane Craig)</u>

Listen to The Moral Maze on BBC Radio 4. (Available programmes vary over time)

Note down the key points of argument. Create a flow chart of the main points of discussion. <u>Listen to this episode of In Our Time.</u> Based on these arguments, is it possible to argue that God necessarily exists?

<u>Listen to this episode of Thinking Allowed.</u> How should we help people who are dying? <u>Listen to this podcast from Philosophy Now.</u> To what extent can we exercise free will? List 10 examples of choices you have made in the last seven days. For each one, consider what factors influenced your choice (habit, parents, media, friends, consideration of consequences, etc).

## Thought Experiments- great ways to prompt debate, discuss with family, friends etc

Philosophy experiments

Moral machine

Philosophical thought experiments

Carry out some of the above activities.

Write a written reflection of the moral questions that each one raises, and how you might respond to these.

Try to list your own "moral code" or "rules for life". Include 5-10 elements.

Can you imagine any exceptions to your own "rules"?