



SAFFRON WALDEN  
COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

## SWCHS SIXTH FORM SUMMER WORK

### A Level Religious Studies

#### TASK

##### **Summer Work**

If you have any queries regarding this work please email [apopple@swchs.net](mailto:apopple@swchs.net)

##### **Task**

There are 3 tasks which cover topics for Religion, Philosophy and Ethics.  
Should you wish to do additional reading over the summer we have added a list of suggested readings

##### **How will this work be used in lessons?**

This will be used with the lessons in the first term.

##### **How long will this task take?**

3-4 hours

## Religious Studies Summer Work

Dear Religion, Philosophy and Ethics students,

Well done for having selected a great course to study! That's right: Eduqas A Level Religious Studies is actually made up of three core components: Religion, Philosophy and Ethics.

Our summer work for you is preparing you in the core skills in RS so that the transition is smoothed. This is a great introduction to the skills needed in the subject.

Enjoy your summer and we look forward to welcoming you in September!

Miss Carne, Miss Hosking and Mrs Popple

## Task 1: Reading and writing - Religion

Read the following chapter from [John Dominic Crossan: Jesus A Revolutionary Biography](#)

Answer the following questions:

1. What are the four main sources scholars refer to which tell us about Jesus?
2. Find out what the word canonical and apocryphal means?
3. When do scholars believe each of the Gospels were written?
4. What is understood by the term 'Q'?
5. Which Gospel was discovered in 1945 and appeared to be separate from the canonical Gospels? Why?
6. What are the three key areas of research for Crossan in his mission to discover the historical Jesus?

## Task 2: Research - Philosophy

In Philosophy, you will learn about different arguments for the existence of God including the Ontological Argument, The Cosmological Argument and The Teleological argument. Use this website to research of the arguments and create a revision poster or flash card about the topic: [Eduqas Phil – A Level Philosophy & Religious Studies](#)

## Task 3: Listening - Ethics

[Walter Sinnott-Armstrong on Morality Without God - Philosophy Bites](#)

Listen to the following Podcast as your introduction to Ethics. It is also available on Spotify. Can we have morality without God?

## Task 4: Check the spec! If you have time...

The first thing you should do is familiarise yourself with the specification on the Eduqas website <https://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/religious-studies/as-a-level/>. If you wish to view the curriculum overview for the year, please see the SWCHS website.

**Suggested summer reading list**

Richard Dawkins, CS Lewis and the Meaning of Life by Alistair McGrath, SPCK Publishing, ISBN 9780281080199

Through a Glass Darkly (Journeys through Science, Faith and Doubt) by Alistair McGrath, Hodder, ISBN 9781529327625

Jesus through the centuries by Jaroslav Pelikan, Yale University Press, 9780300079876

The Crucified God by Jurgen Moltmann, SCM press, 978-0334053309

Christian Belief by Alistair McGrath, Lion Press, ISBN 9780745951577

The Philosophers Toolkit, by Peter S. Fosl and Julian Baggini, Wiley Blackwell press, ISBN 9781119103219

God, Freedom and Evil by Alvin Plantinga, ISBN 9780802817310

The Doors of the Sea: Where Was God in the Tsunami? By David Bentley Hart, ISBN 9780802829764

Providence and the Problem of Evil by Richard Swinburne, ISBN 9780198237983