

Candidate Name:



St Swithun's
WINCHESTER

Religion, Philosophy and Ethics

Sixth Form Academic Assessment

Sample paper

Time allowed: 1 hour

Instructions to Candidates

- This examination consists of four questions. You should attempt each one.
- Try to spend an equal amount of time on each question. They are equally weighted.
- The questions are designed to assess the way that you think and structure your response rather than looking for specific, knowledge based answers.
- You must demonstrate that you have considered more than one point of view.
- Try to reference the ideas and teachings of at least one religion or religious tradition in your answer.

Discuss each of the following philosophical issues:

1. ‘We are not our brother’s keeper—we are our brother and we are our sister. We must look past complexion and see community.’
Analyse this quotation from **Maya Angelou** showing that you have considered more than one perspective.
2. “Pear trees cannot bear bananas. The instincts of a spaniel cannot be the instincts of an ostrich. Everything is planned, connected, limited.”
Discuss the philosophical points made in this quotation from **Voltaire**.
3. Do you agree with **George Santayana** when he writes that ‘those who do not remember the past are condemned to repeat it’? Explain your response by demonstrating that you have considered alternative perspectives.
4. What do you think **Ludwig Wittgenstein** meant when he wrote that “whereof one cannot speak, thereof one must be silent”? And do you agree with him?