

Little Heath School Sixth Form

Year 12 Induction Evening for Parents 2016

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| Philosophy |

Welcome to the department

**Mr Eden** - jeden@littleheath.org.uk (Head of Department)

**Miss Nolan** – cnolan@littleheath.org.uk

**Mr Bennett** – pbennett@littleheath.org.uk

**Number of lessons a fortnight**  - 8

**Title of units**

**Philosophy of Religion (Miss Nolan)**

**Epistemology (Mr Eden and Mr Bennett)**

See LHS Sixth Form website for more details.

Key to success at A Level

The key to doing well at A Level Philosophy is to develop strong essay-writing skills and have a full understanding of the course material. To this end, students should pace their learning throughout the course and ensure they master each topic as it is studied. In order to do this, full engagement in lessons and attendance is vital, as is going back over notes and course materials after the lessons. There are some essays completed in lesson time, but there will be an essay homework for each topic covered. This is important for developing knowledge of the topic, but also very important for practising essay-writing skills. All essays will be marked to exam-board mark schemes and students given detailed feedback on what went well and what could be improved. We set roughly two essays a month (one for Philosophy of Religion, one for Epistemology) and these should take around 4 hours each to complete, including reading and preparation. In addition to essays, there will be some research and reading homework and regular Showmyhomework quizzes to help consolidate the learning.

The department provides resources and links to further deepen students’ understanding and knowledge beyond the basic specification. There are also subject books available in the library.

All key knowledge and skills are listed in the Department’s Personal Learning Checklists, which are given to each student at the start of the year. We will check back on these occasionally so students and staff can get an overview of what has been covered and how secure the learning in each area is.

What parents can do to help

Support students in attending all lessons and completing all essays set for homework. We would also ask you to encourage students to attend holiday and after-school revision sessions in the run-up to the exams in May/June.

Important deadlines

The course is assessed via one 3hr written exam in the Summer term.