

## Religious Moral & Philosophical Studies



All pupils will experience one period of RMPS per week during their Broad General Education in S1-S3. The coursework undertaken by pupils throughout their BGE phase will prepare them with the knowledge and skills required in order to progress on to National 4/5 Qualifications in the Senior Phase.

### **What are the aims of this course?**

**This course is appropriate for a wide range of learners.**

The main aims of the course are to enable pupils to develop their:

- Knowledge and understanding of the main beliefs, values and practices of selected world religions, of current moral issues in society and of the current debates taking place between religion and science
- Skills of reflection, investigation, analysis, evaluation and the ability to express their own beliefs and views in a reasoned manner.

What will I be learning about in this course?

You will study:

Unit 1 – World Religion - Islam



In this unit you will study the key beliefs, practices and traditions found within **Islam** and consider the impact and significance of Islamic beliefs, practices and teachings in today's world.

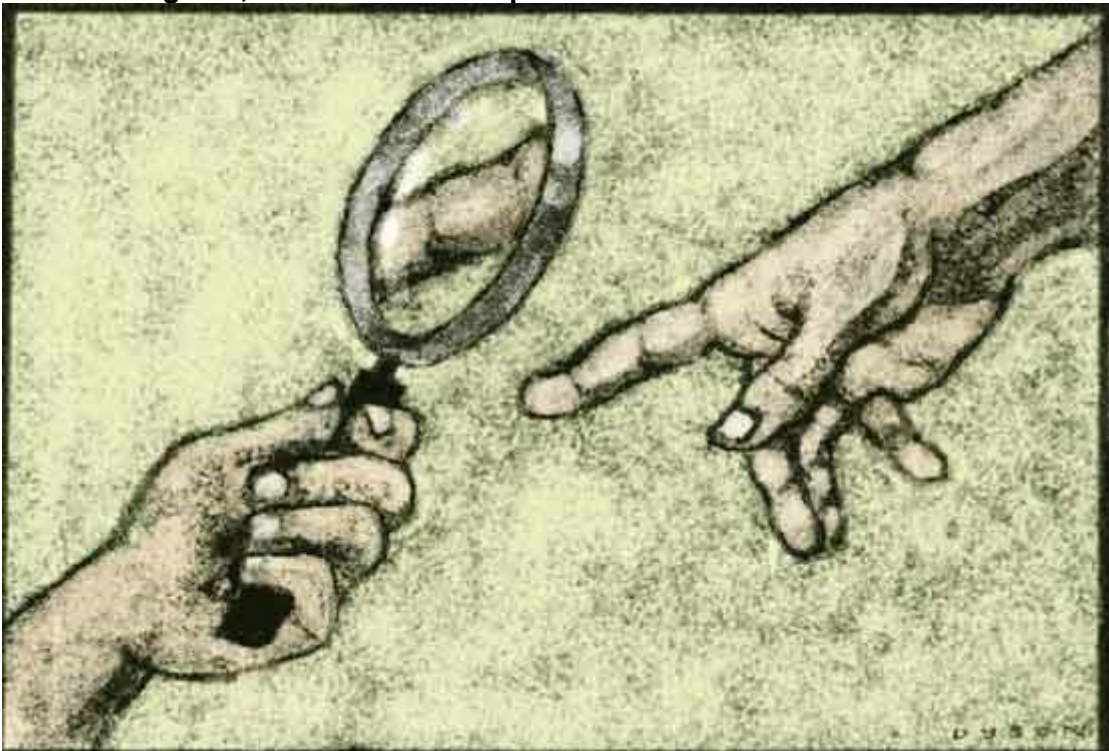
**Unit 2 – Morality and Belief**

In this Unit you will have the opportunity to study moral issues which arise in today's society. You will study one of the following options in depth:



- **Medicine and the Human Body** – sanctity of life, medicine, religion and human rights, transplantation and organ donation, euthanasia and palliative care, status and treatment of embryos.
- **Conflict** – justifications for war, just war theory, holy wars, self-defence, causes and effects of war, approaches to war, WMD, terrorism, diplomacy, sanctions, war and human rights, pacifism.

### Unit 3 – Religious, Moral and Philosophical Questions



In this unit you will study the following philosophical questions in depth:

**What are the origins of the universe and life?** This will involve studying the current relationship between science and religion in relation to the Big Bang theory and the theory of evolution. You will consider the place of science and religion in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

## **Unit 4 – Added Value Unit**

In this unit you will have the opportunity to research, in more depth, an area of the course you have a particular interest in.

### **What skills will I develop?**

You will develop a wide range of skills such as literacy, analysis and critical evaluation, logical thinking, problem solving, negotiating, planning, organising, researching, presenting, debating, interpreting, understanding different viewpoints, expressing opinions and beliefs in a reasoned manner.

### **What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?**

You will experience a wide variety of learning and teaching approaches. Throughout the course you will have the opportunity to work individually, in pairs and in small groups, you will experience teacher-led class discussions and whole class debates. You will also have the opportunity to learn using interactive technologies.

### **How will I be assessed?**

To gain an award:

**At National 4** in RMPS you must pass all of the unit assessments. Each Unit will be assessed, by the school, on a **pass/ fail** basis.

**At National 5** in RMPS you must pass the final SQA exam.

- The course assessment will be **graded A-D**.
- The **assignment** will be awarded **20 marks**.
- The exam question paper will be awarded **80 marks**.
- The exam will last **2hr 20 mins**.

### **What are the homework requirements?**

You will be issued with homework on a regular basis and should expect homework once a week.

### **What might this course lead to in the future?**

#### **Academic Progression**

In the Senior Phase, pupils who attain a qualification in RMPS at:

- National 4 can progress to **National 5**
- National 5 can progress to **Higher**
- Higher can progress to **Advanced Higher**.

Higher RMPS is accepted by all universities for general entrance into the majority of courses especially in the faculties of Art, Social Science and Divinity.

#### **Employment**

For those considering a career which involves working with people such as **teaching, youth and community work, social work, child care, journalism, publishing, police force, armed forces, nursing, medicine, counselling, catering, retail and sales, broadcasting, charities, fundraising, civil service, human resources, law, management, local government, advisory services, politics leisure and tourism** or for those who wish to **work abroad** or in a cosmopolitan setting then RMPS will be a good stepping-stone.