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Dear Parent/ Guardian

## Re: Year 10 Religious Education

The curriculum at Maiden Erlegh Chiltern Edge School is broad, balanced and carefully designed to provide opportunities that develop confidence, broaden individual skills, deepen knowledge, and advocate academic excellence to promote a love of learning.

Following expert advice through Maiden Erlegh Trust partners we have reintroduced Religious Education into our KS4 Curriculum starting in Year 10. This not only helps us to enrich our curriculum offer, but is also part of the requirements placed on all schools nationally.

Your child will be following the AQA short course GCSE in Philosophy and Ethics. This course is designed to help students engage with major questions about life, religion, the world and different responses to them and will allow students to reflect on and develop their own values, beliefs and attitudes over the next two years. There will be a range of relevant and contemporary themes to study, for example, relationships and families and religion, peace and conflict. These themes will provide opportunities for discussion and will help to promote awareness of modern-world issues. There will also be a focus on the beliefs and teachings of Christianity and Islam.

Philosophy and Ethics helps to develop key skills of analysis and evaluation and is seen as a valuable GCSE by all major institutions. More specifically, the knowledge and skills developed within philosophy, ethics and the study of religion, meet the criteria in a number of careers, for example, Broadcasting, Law, Journalism, Publishing, Politics, Medicine, Business, Police Force and Teaching.

It is hoped that students will have an opportunity to be entered for the short course GCSE in Year 11 and this will be reviewed towards the end of Year 10, following ongoing assessment and review in lessons throughout the year.

Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you require any further information and in the meantime, I thank you for your continued support

Yours sincerely

M. Yarwoo M

Mark Yarwood

Curriculum leader for Humanities