Philosophy   *Higher*

What will I study?

There are three units and an assignment:

Arguments in Action – Pupils will develop the ability to examine and assess the reliability of **complex** arguments, using argument diagrams and apply knowledge and understanding of argument structure, philosophical fallacies and philosophical techniques.

Knowledge and Doubt – Pupils will develop the ability to analyse and evaluate David Hume or Rene Descartes based on reading and understanding some of their texts.

Moral Philosophy - Pupils examine the moral theories of Jeremy Bentham and Immanuel Kant **in detail**. Understanding the different processes of moral decision-making and how these theories might be applied to specific situations.

Assignment – Pupils will choose a philosophical question from the course. They will then present and evaluate responses to the question including their own.

What skills will I develop?

This course will help pupils develop:

- Reasoning skills based on the study in detail of some philosophical problems.
- The ability to analyse and evaluate how good/ bad arguments are and an understanding of some common mistakes people make when presenting a viewpoint
- The ability to engage with abstract thought in a more rigorous way and gives pupils clear insight to the thoughts and ideas of others.
- The ability to explain, analyse and evaluate philosophical theories and ideas which help us to understand how people think and why they behave as they do.
- Research, analysis and evaluation skills.

How will I be assessed?

There will be ongoing class unit assessment throughout the year.

The SQA Exam consists of a Question Paper and an Assignment.

The question paper has 80 marks and is completed in 2 hours and 45 mins.

The assignment has 20 marks and is written up under exam conditions in class time of one hour.

These marks are combined to give a final grade.

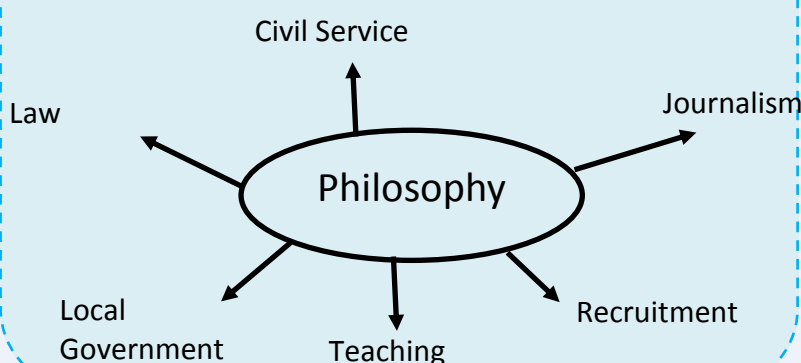## What help is Higher Philosophy after school?

Philosophy helps us to understand the world we live in by providing us with the building blocks we use to understand the world. Philosophy provides the reasoning skills which are essential in all aspects of life. Pupils are not told what to think but are given the tools to think more effectively for themselves. .

Philosophy underpins all aspects of social

Possible Careers

Civil Service

Law

Journalism

Philosophy

Local Government

Teaching

Recruitment

Need more info? -
Highers in a Nutshell