# ST EDWARD'S
# OXFORD

Lower Sixth Entrance Assessment

November 2013

Religious Studies

1 hour

Candidate Name: …….

Instructions to candidates.

Answer **TWO** full questions. You must answer parts a, b and c for each of your choices.

You are advised to spend 30 minutes on each question.

**Question One (The Environment)**

a. Describe four ways humans could reduce their impact on the environment. (4)

b. Explain the relationship between humans and the Earth in one major world religion. (8)

c. 'Religious beliefs are the main cause of environmental problems.' Discuss this statement. In your answer you must include more than one point of view, at least one of which should be from a major world religion. You must also come to a justified personal opinion. (8)

**Question Two (Evil and Suffering)**

a. Describe four ways we can reduce the suffering of others. (4)

b. Explore two possible religious solutions to the problem of evil and suffering. (8)

c. 'The problem of evil and suffering is the biggest threat to religious belief.' Discuss this statement. In your answer you must include more than one point of view, at least one of which should be from a major world religion. You must also come to a justified personal opinion. (8)

**Question Three (Medical Ethics)**

a. Describe the UK laws on genetic engineering. (4)

b. Explain the arguments (religious and/or non-religious) for and against abortions. (8)

c. 'Euthanasia should not take place.' Discuss this statement. In your answer you must include more than one point of view. You must also come to a justified personal opinion. (8)

**Question Four (Life after Death)**

a. Describe the relationship between body and soul from the perspective of one major world religion. (4)

b. Explain the symbolism found in the funeral rites of one major religion. (8)

c. 'The only way to the father is through me.' Discuss this statement. In your answer you must include more than one point of view, at least one of which should be from a major world religion. You must also come to a justified personal opinion. (8)

**Question Five (Religion and Science)**

a. Describe two differences between scientific and religious knowledge. (4)

b. Explain the ethical (religious and/or non-religious) challenges posed to science. (8)

c. 'It is inconsistent to be a religious scientist.' Discuss this statement. In your answer you must include more than one point of view. You must also come to a justified personal opinion. (8)