



## A Specialist Business & Enterprise College

Achieving Excellence



The Appleton School



“Overall teaching and learning are outstanding.” Ofsted

“Students are well motivated and extremely good relationships foster hard work and excellent progress.” Ofsted

## WELCOME



I am proud to be the headteacher of this exceptional school.

We are a mixed fully comprehensive school for students aged 11–16. We have an excellent reputation for providing high quality education and achieving outstanding exam results.

We are one of the country's leading Business and Enterprise Colleges and we take pride in the distinctive ethos this gives our school. Our main sponsor is The Arcadia Group, one of the UK's largest clothing retailers. Our partnership with them enables us to nurture the entrepreneurs of the future through an innovative and exciting curriculum.

Our school has recently gained national awards for its very high standards in the arts, its extra curricular provision for students, for staff training and for promoting a "healthy school" ethos. We have also received an International Award for our work with schools in Uganda and Ethiopia.

We are incredibly proud of our students. We expect only the best from them. We expect them to work hard and aim high. In return we are dedicated to developing each one of them into successful, compassionate future leaders.

**Karen Kerridge, Headteacher**





“Our daughter has had an excellent start to her secondary education. She is doing really well, made new friends quickly and enjoys the wide range of clubs and activities on offer after school.” Year 7 Parent

## A SCHOOL OF OPPORTUNITY



We give students of all abilities the confidence to succeed. Our exam results are well above the national average. But we are also committed to developing the whole child.

We offer a fantastic range of academic and extracurricular opportunities. These include:

- Over fifty academic and vocational courses
- Numerous Business and ICT courses for all students
- Two-week work experience for all Year 10 students
- A vibrant and award winning programme of P.E. and dance
- Extensive opportunities in Music
- The opportunity to take GCSE English, Maths, ICT and a Modern Foreign Language early
- An Arts experience which includes Fine Art and Design
- Technology courses including Engineering, Graphics, Food Technology and Textiles
- Over 100 extracurricular clubs and activities every week
- Booster classes for English, Maths and Science

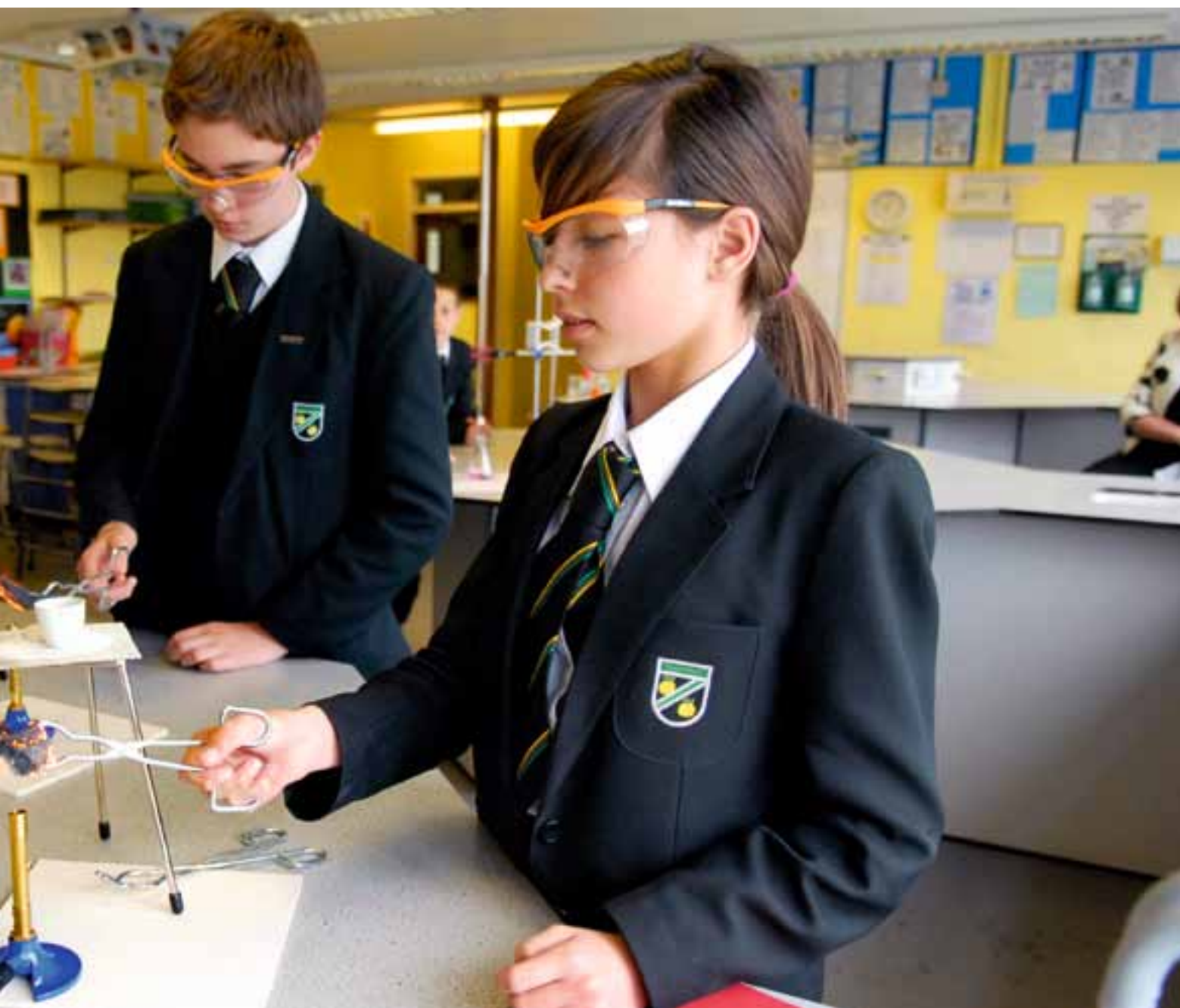




“Teachers are very knowledgeable, enthusiastic and concerned for the progress of each individual student.”

Ofsted





## OUTSTANDING LEARNING FOR ALL

Our curriculum was graded “**Outstanding**” by Ofsted. We offer an amazingly wide choice of courses that ensures we cater for every learner. Every student is offered guidance and advice on which courses best suits them.

In addition to a strong core curriculum of English, Maths and Science, students can choose from over fifty courses. These lead to academic, business and vocational qualifications, including BTECs, GCSEs, NVQs, ASDANs and Diplomas. Students can, for example, study Hair and Beauty, Construction or join our Young Apprenticeship programme. Or they can choose from a wide range of academic subjects. All Year 10 and 11 students take at least one business-related course. All subjects make full use of our impressive ICT facilities.

Students are set in ability groups for every subject from Year 7 onwards. We believe every student has individual learning needs. We share targets and progress with students and parents to ensure every student achieves their own personal best.

All students can take part in booster classes for English, Maths and Science. More able students take some GCSEs early. Specialist staff work with students who need extra support.

Over eighty per cent of our students go on to further education.

“Students and the local community benefit from an outstanding range of extracurricular sports and events.” Ofsted

## ENRICHING LIVES BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Our students enjoy a rich programme of activities, events, sports, and clubs that will give them skills and interests for the rest of their lives.

Over 100 clubs and activities from computer and engineering, to charity fund raising and sports training take place every week. Our Learning Resource Centre with access to our multi-media computer suites is open before and after school. Our art rooms are open – and always busy – every lunch time.

We have a proud tradition of Performing Arts. Students can learn any instrument they want or join our wind band, orchestra, jazz band and choir or one of our pop groups and ensembles. We have a well-equipped drama studio and produce a major production every year. Students can also devise and edit their own programmes in our television and media studio.

Sport flourishes at our school for students of all abilities. In addition to sports such as rugby, hockey and cricket, our students also learn to canoe and sail.

We run a lively programme of educational visits both in the UK and abroad to enrich the curriculum.





“There are exceptional and outstanding opportunities to develop students’ economic and business understanding.”

Ofsted





## TOMORROW'S LEADERS

Because of our specialism, all our students learn invaluable business and enterprise skills. Our partnerships with national and local firms enrich our teaching. Our staff regularly spend time in the business world to ensure our curriculum stays relevant.

All students take part in Industry Days run by visiting companies and a variety of Business Activity Days. Students run their own School Bank and take part in trade fairs. Students on our Young Enterprise Programme set up and run their own companies from Year 7 onwards.

All our Year 10 students complete two weeks work experience and take part in mock interview days. All students from Year 9 are given extensive careers guidance.

We offer a range of vocational and ICT courses throughout all years. Many of these give students the opportunity to get 'real world' experience through contact with employers. Standards across the range of our business education courses are very high; a very high proportion of students gain A\*–C grades.

As a Business and Enterprise College students are expected to take a professional approach to their learning, which is based on a sense of responsibility and participation.

We prepare our students for a successful working life.



# SUPPORT TO SUCCEED

We give our students all the support they need to succeed in whatever path they choose. Our school is a welcoming, safe and happy place where students thrive.

Each student has a tutor who monitors their progress and well-being. We also have a range of other support services, which include onsite counsellors, community mentors and education welfare officers. Older students are involved in supporting the younger ones through leader and peer mentoring groups.

Our Leadership Academy gives older students the chance to help out in school and run activities for younger students.

The School Council, made up of students, teachers and members of the community, ensures students are involved in the running of the school.

Our staff are a dedicated team. They always give willingly of their time to support their students and they monitor their progress closely. They work in partnership with parents to ensure consistency. Many run lunch time and after school catch up and revision sessions.

Our level of care, guidance and support for pupils was graded **"Outstanding"** by Ofsted.





“The inclusive and supportive nature of the school ensures that all students succeed.”

Ofsted



“The preparation for students’ future economic well-being is outstanding and a major strength of the school.” Ofsted

## NURTURING AMBITION



Our Vision is "achieving excellence". This means we want every child to achieve all that they are capable of in our school both academically and socially. We nurture their ambitions and celebrate their successes at every opportunity.

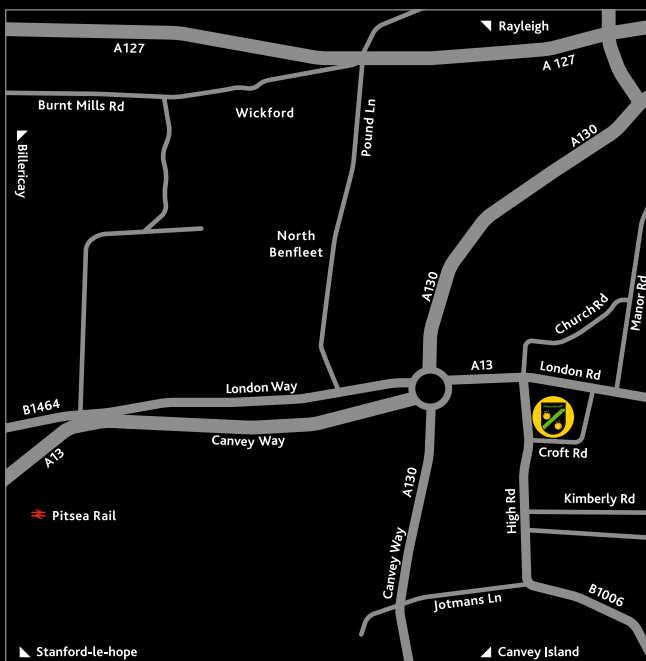
Most of our students go on to further study. All leave us proud and confident of their abilities, enthusiastic about their future and motivated to do well.

We have achieved national success in sports, enterprise and public speaking. But we are very proud of all our students. Each of them has unique talents and abilities. We believe they are all capable of realising their dreams.





# The Appleton School



Croft Road  
Benfleet  
Essex  
SS7 5RN

Tel: 01268 794215  
Email: [info@appleton.essex.sch.uk](mailto:info@appleton.essex.sch.uk)  
Website: [www.theappletonschool.org](http://www.theappletonschool.org)