



Achieving Excellence

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Dear Parents and Students,

I am delighted that you are considering The Appleton School as an option for Post-16 study.

One of the strengths of our school Sixth Form is the combination of academic success with excellent pastoral support and guidance. We are a school that actively pursues excellence and this has been recognised by Ofsted which has judged Appleton as a 'Good' school in its last inspection.

Our Sixth Form is about more than just academic success. We aim for our students to be well-rounded individuals and we believe that the Sixth Form provides an excellent stepping stone to Higher Education or employment. As such, we encourage students to develop the skills needed to be successful in a more independent environment, in new purpose built accommodation.

I hope that the information in our prospectus demonstrates why The Appleton School Sixth Form is a great place to study and is somewhere where you will be proud to be a student. You will find information on the website about the admission criteria both for entry to the Sixth Form and the subject specific entry requirements for individual subjects. Information about all of the courses on offer is in this booklet.

A downloadable application form is available on the website and can be returned to us by e-mail or post once complete by the deadline of 11th December 2022. Please check the School's website nearer the event to confirm further details about the format of our Open Evening. Additionally, we are pleased to also offer a digital experience for those families who would prefer a Virtual Open Evening experience. *This material will be launched on our school website on Monday 3rd October for your viewing. To find out more, we hope you will take a look at our resources on the school's website.*

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Cox

Headteacher

Important dates:

19th October 2023	Sixth Form Open Evening
11th December 2023	Closing date for applications to the Sixth Form
24th February 2024	Individual guidance interviews begin
22nd March 2024	Final date for conditional offers of Sixth Form places
4th-5th July 2024	Sixth Form Induction

Head Teacher: Sarah Cox, BA (Hons)
Croft Road, Benfleet, Essex, SS7 5RN **Tel:** 01268 794215
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Biology



Are you interested in:

- The human body?
- Ways in which science works?
- The contribution of science to modern society?
- Interpreting data relating to disease risk factors?
- Understanding medical developments in the media?
- The impact humans have on the environment?

Leading to a career in:

A-level Biology prepares you for a wide range of degree courses leading to careers in medicine, veterinary and forensic science, science journalism, genetics, biomedical research, environmental science and many more.

Exam Board: Edexcel

Advanced GCE 9BNO

Teacher to contact:

Mrs Bell / Mrs Love

There is regular assessment throughout both years of the course and continuous practical assessment.

What is Biology?

Biology engages and inspires students. The fundamentals of Biology help you to understand contemporary issues, such as genetic modification or climate change as well as understanding the mechanisms that underpin all living organisms.

Biology can be studied with a wide range of other A-level courses, as a single science in your programme or combined with other sciences such as Chemistry and Physics.

Year 1 course content

In A-Level Biology you explore fundamentals such as cell structure, genetics, DNA and enzymes which help you to make sense of the big picture. You will also study human health and disease, an area where research is pushing back the boundaries of our knowledge almost daily. The course has a large practical component and so you will become expert in using microscopes and a range of laboratory techniques.

The four topics which make up the course are:

- 'Lifestyle, health and risk'
- 'Genes and health'
- 'Voice of the genome'
- 'Biodiversity and natural resources'

Year 2 course content

In A2 Biology you explore new themes, but many build on the principles learnt in Year 1 Biology. The four topics are:

- **On the wild side - The biology of photosynthesis and climate**
- **Immunity, infection and forensics - The use of biological techniques in forensic science and how our immune system works**
- **Run for your life - Muscle structure and respiration**
- **Grey matter - Neurobiology and the brain**

There are 3 exams at the end of the 2 years. Each is 2 hours long and contains 100 marks.

Paper 1 examines topics 1-6.

Paper 2 topics 1-4, 7 and 8.

Paper 3 general practiced skills and questions on a pre-released scientific article.

Business Studies



Are you interested in:

- The way businesses affect our lives?
- How the economy, politics, social trends and technology impact on business?
- Knowing how to assess the performance of a business?
- Setting up a business of your own or holding a managerial position?
- A career in the city?

Leading to a career in:

- Management
 - Accounting
 - Sales
 - Marketing
 - Human Resources
 - Operations
 - Financial services...
- ... in other words, a career in Business!

Exam Board: Edexcel
AS 8BS0 A-Level 9BS0

Teachers to contact:

Mr Brown

Miss Sweeney

Mrs Baker

Mrs Manning

Assessment criteria

100% examination at A-Level across 3 exams.

What is Business Studies?

Simon Cowell, Richard Branson and J K Rowling are all successful entrepreneurs. So what makes a successful business idea? Everything in life involves Business. Think about the new top you bought last week and then think of what businesses made it possible for you to be wearing it right now. The obvious ones are the shop and the manufacturing plant, but what about the cotton growers and the delivery company as well as the companies that manage the finances of all those businesses? Thinking about all those processes and people, allows you begin to understand about what Business Studies is all about.

Year 1 course content

This enables students to understand how businesses identify opportunities and to explore how businesses focus on developing a competitive advantage through interacting with customers. Students develop an understanding of how businesses need to adapt their marketing to operate in a dynamic business environment. The AS also considers people; exploring how businesses recruit, train, organise and motivate employees, as well as the role of enterprising individuals and leaders. Students must investigate different types and sizes of organisation in various business sectors and environments, and in local, national and global contexts. Students develop an understanding of raising and managing finance and measuring business performance and consider the external influences that have an impact on businesses, including economic and legal factors.

Year 2 course content

This moves from functions to strategy, enabling students to develop their understanding of the core concepts and to take a strategic view of business opportunities and issues. Students analyse corporate objectives and strategy against financial and non-financial performance measures and how businesses grow, and develop an understanding of the impact of external influences. Students assess causes and effects of change and how businesses mitigate risk and uncertainty. Students investigate businesses that trade on a global scale and explore their reasons for doing so. Students develop an understanding of the globally competitive environment and consider the ethical and moral dimensions of global business activities.

Chemistry

What is Chemistry?

Studying the principles of Physical, Inorganic and Organic Chemistry and exploring these through experimental work, which will allow you to access Chemistry in the real world.



Are you interested in:

- Practical Chemistry?
- Applications of Science?
- Problem solving?
- Scientific research?

Leading to a career in:

- Teaching
- Technical support
- Pharmacy
- Degree in Chemistry and related subjects
- Forensic Science
- Food Science/ Nutrition
- Microbiology
- Medicine/ Physiotherapy/ Radiography
- Chemistry/ Engineers
- Veterinary Science
- Biochemistry

Exam Board: AQA

A level 7405

Entry Requirements: GCSE grade 6 in Chemistry or grade 6 in Combined Science and a grade 6 in both Maths and English.

Teacher to contact:

Mr Prior

Year 1 course content

During the course students will look at the relationship between atomic structure, chemical reactivity and patterns in the Periodic Table. This leads on to an introduction to Organic Chemistry, where we look at alkane, alkenes and other families and their effect on the environment including pollution and global warming. Finally we will study how certain groups in the periodic table react with different chemicals.

Year 2 course content

The Year 2 course provides an opportunity for practical investigations to explore thermodynamics, equilibria and kinetics in more detail. Then explore transition metals, Organic Chemistry and their applications in industry and medicine. The course is presented clearly to ensure that the subject content is relevant to real world experiences. It will inspire students and lay the ground work for further studies at university.

A-Level assessment criteria

A Level 100% examination on 3 papers

Computer Science

What is Computer Science?

Computer science encompasses the study of computers and algorithmic processes, including their principles, their hardware and software designs, their applications, and their impact on society. It's an intensively creative subject that combines invention and excitement, and can look at the natural world through a digital prism.



Are you interested in:

Problem solving, programming, deal with abstract concepts, interested in creative design, making a real world impact

Leading to a career in:

- Banking
- Medicine
- Education
- Business
- Music
- Multimedia
- Sports
- Construction
- Engineering
- And many more.

Exam Board: OCR H046/H446

Teachers to contact:

Mr Gillooly
Mrs Bowen

A Level Assessment Criteria

Unit 1 Computer Systems (examination paper) 40% of the total A Level

Unit 2 Algorithms and Programming (examination paper) 40% of the total A Level

Unit 3 Programming Project course work - 20% of the total A Level. The project you develop is your own choice and you pick a suitable implementation language and environment

A Level course content

Unit 1 Computer Systems: Encryption, Networking, Database Design, Web Technology, Programming, Computer Law

Unit 2 Algorithms and Programming: Creative Thinking, Abstraction, Computational Methods, Problem solving and Algorithms

Unit 3 Programming Project: Learners will be expected to analyse, design, develop, test, evaluate and document a program written in a suitable programming language.

Criminology

Applied Diploma course content

Students study four units:

Unit 1: Changing awareness of crime

- Different types of crime, such as hate crime, domestic abuse, honour crime, cybercrime and white collar crime.
- Reasons why some crimes tend to go unreported, and the consequences of this for the victim, the offender, and the wider community.
- How the media represents crime, for example in new reports, TV shows, films and games, and how this impacts on how the public perceive crime.
- Methods of studying and collecting data on crime.
- Campaigns for change in the awareness or legal situation of specific crimes.

Unit 2: Criminological Theories

- The definition of criminal behaviour and deviance.
- The social construction of criminality and how our perceptions of what is criminal change over time, culture and situations.
- Biological theories of criminality, including the role of genes.
- Individualistic theories of criminality such as the role of childhood experiences.
- Sociological theories of criminality, including the impact of social structure and labelling.
- How social change and campaigns lead to changes in the law.

Unit 3: Crime Scene to Courtroom

- The process of criminal investigations.
- Investigative techniques.
- How evidence is processed.
- Trial processes.

Unit 4: Crime and Punishment

- The processes of law making and the organisation of the criminal justice system.
- Forms of social control.
- Aims of punishment.
- Roles, contributions and effectiveness of agencies of social control.

What is Criminology?

Criminology is the study of crime. It examines who commits crimes, why they commit them, their impact, and how to prevent them. It draws on concepts from psychology, psychiatry, law, sociology and social anthropology.

Applied Diploma assessment criteria

- The course is comprised of four units, each worth 25% of the overall grade.
- Two units will be examined; one in Year 12 and one in Year 13.
- Each exam will be 90 minutes long.
- Two units will be assessed by an extended assignment (controlled assessment).

Are you interested in:

- Debating and asking questions?
- Solving problems?
- How society functions?
- Why people act in the way they do?
- Linking theory to real world issues?

Leading to a career in:

- Criminal justice
- Police Force and Local Government
- Social work
- Law and Politics
- Prison service
- Victim support
- Medical and Health care

Exam Board: WJEC

Teacher to contact:

Miss Aucklah

Entry requirements:

GCSE Grade 5 in English.

Economics

What is Economics?

Economics is all about the key issues facing us today ie poverty, unemployment and inflation. It is essentially about the choices people make – as consumers, workers, producers and government, and the result of these choices.

Studying Economics will allow students to:

- develop an understanding of real life economic concepts and theories
- evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the market economy and the role of government within it
- develop a critical approach to various economic theories.

Year 1 course content

This course covers both Micro and Macro Economics.

Microeconomics involves looking at how individuals are affected by certain economic factors and includes studying the behaviour of customers, firms and government.

Macroeconomics involves looking at the whole economy including the study of unemployment, inflation and comparing different economies..

Year 2 course content

This course covers both the Micro and Macro Economics elements from year 1 plus additional topics:

At the micro level these include:

- Poverty
- Inequality
- The labour market

At the macro level these include:

- Looking at the financial markets and monetary policy
- Fiscal policy (how governments raise and spend money)
- Supply-side policies (how the government tries to increase output in the economy)
- The international economy

A Level assessment criteria

100% examination at A Level on 3 exam papers.

Are you interested in:

- What lies behind the success of Ebay?
- What's happening in the housing market?
- How has streaming changed the economics of the music industry?
- Poverty and inequality?
- Why some countries have become richer under globalisation and others much poorer?

Leading to a career in

You can use Economics within most job areas as it is recognised as a very valuable A level and degree. It is useful for many professions including: accountancy, teaching, journalism, the civil service and the police force.

Exam Board: Edexcel

ECO A 9 ECO

Teachers to contact:

Mrs Baker

Mrs Manning



What is English Language?

Are you interested in the way that our language system works? Do you ever wonder why people speak to each other the way they do? This course will develop your understanding of the English language. You will explore examples of real life language in use and apply concepts and methods appropriate for the analysis of language. You will develop your skills as producers and interpreters of language, and engage creatively with topical issues relevant to language.

Course Content

You will discover how language features are used in both written and spoken texts and explore how these features convey meaning. By comparing a range of transcripts you will develop your close reading and analytical skills, alongside your ability to apply language theories and concepts to unseen texts. You will explore topical language issues, for example the issues associated with language and gender and language and power, and apply theories regarding these issues to unseen texts in order to explore the attitudes of the speakers.

Exploring Language

This unit focuses on the linguistic analysis of real life transcripts from different contexts. You will also explore more topical issues related to language and create an original piece of writing for a real-world purpose on a topical language issue

Dimensions of Linguistic Variation

You will explore how children acquire language by engaging with samples of authentic children's spoken texts. You will also examine how the English language has changed over time, and how language is used today in the media.

Independent Language Research

This is a piece of coursework which will allow you to explore an area of language that is of personal interest to you. You will complete an investigation into this aspect of language, collecting your own data for analysis, and then create an academic poster to present your findings.



Assessment Criteria

You will be assessed both through coursework and examinations. In examinations you will be presented with unseen transcripts and short extracts and asked to write analytical essays in response to these. You will also be asked for original pieces of writing regarding language issues. You must apply your knowledge of linguistic theories and concepts in your answers.

Are you interested in?

- reading a variety of texts?
- interpreting examples of real life language?
- gathering your own data to use for analysis?
- undertaking private, independent study as well as participating in class sessions?

Leading to a career in:

- Journalism
- Speech and Language Therapy
- Advertising
- Law
- Teaching

Exam Board: OCR

A2: H470

Teachers to contact:

Mr Archer

Miss Levey

What is English Literature?

The OCR English Literature course at The Appleton School is academically challenging and extremely rewarding. English Literature is widely accepted as one of the most reputable and rigorous of all the academic disciplines and for students wishing to study certain areas at top universities it is an essential pre-requisite. You will have the opportunity to study a variety of texts from different genres, including prose, poetry and drama dating from 1600 to the present day. You will read, not just to learn, but to explore human thoughts, feelings, ideas and behaviours, as seen through the imaginations of novelists, poets and playwrights.

Course Content

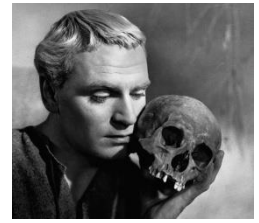
You will study a Shakespeare play, a Georgian play and pre-1900 poetry. You will also have the opportunity to undertake a critical study in a genre such as gothic, dystopian or American literature. You will also be given the opportunity to write two pieces of coursework on three post-1900 texts of your choice.

This course will facilitate the knowledge and understanding of:

- the ways in which writers shape meanings in texts
- the ways in which texts are interpreted by different readers, including over time
- the ways in which texts relate to one another and to literary traditions, movements and genres
- the significance of cultural and contextual influences on readers and writers.



English Literature



Assessment Criteria

In this A Level you will be assessed through examination to demonstrate your depth of knowledge as well as your powers of interpretation and analysis. The examinations are both closed text papers. You will write two pieces of coursework on three texts of your choice.

Are you interested in:

- reading widely?
- exploring and sharing ideas?
- developing your analytical skills and essay writing?
- discussing and debating literary texts?

Leading to a career in:

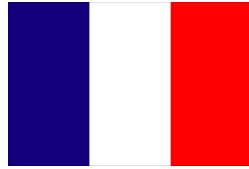
- Journalism
- Publishing
- Teaching
- Advertising
- Legal Professions

Exam Board: OCR
A2 H472

Teachers to contact:

Mr Archer

French



What is A level French?

The course develops your listening, speaking, reading and writing skills as well as your general knowledge of the country. You will develop these skills through researching and discussing topics and studying a French film and a literary text.

Year 12 course content

The main topics are:

Changes in French society

Changes in the structure of the family (The changes in attitudes towards marriage; partnership and the family)

Education (The education system; student life)

The world of work (Life at work in France and the moral of the workforce; the right to strike; gender equality)

Political and artistic culture in French speaking countries

Music (Changes and trends; the influence of music on popular culture)

The Media (Freedom of expression; digital-, print-, and online media; the influence on society and politics)

Festivals and Traditions (Festivals; celebrations; customs; traditions)

Year 13 course content

The main topics are:

Integration and the French multicultural society

Integration and multiculturalism (The origins of immigration; the evolution of political strategies; advantages and difficulties of social integration and multiculturalism)

The rise of the far right (The objectives of the National Front; the leaders of the National Front; the rise of the National Front; public opinion)

The Occupation and the Resistance

The Occupation (Life under the Vichy regime and the Maréchal Pétain dictatorship; the occupation of France)

The Resistance (The French Resistance; the importance of Jean Moulin and Charles de Gaulle)

Assessment Criteria:

The Advanced GCE is assessed over 3 examination papers.

Paper 1 is the listening, reading and translation examination. This paper draws on vocabulary and structures across all four themes. (40% of A level)

Paper 2 is a written response to works and translation.

Students are assessed on an English to French translation, and 2 extended essays on 2 separate literary texts or films (30% of A level)

Paper 3 is the speaking exam (21-23 minutes). Task one is a discussion on one theme from the specification based on a stimulus. Task two is a presentation and discussion on independent research carried out by the student. (30% of A level)

Are you interested in:

- Understanding how language works?
- Living or working abroad?
- Social and cultural issues?
- Communicating with others?
- Obtaining an impressive qualification for University entrance?
- Impressing employers?
- Increasing your salary potential?

Leading to a career in:

- Business with international links
- Employment which requires communication, research and analytical skills
- Marketing
- Teaching
- Interpreting and translating
- Law

Teacher to contact:

Mr Jones

Entry Requirements: GCSE grade 6 in French.

Further Mathematics

What is Further Mathematics?

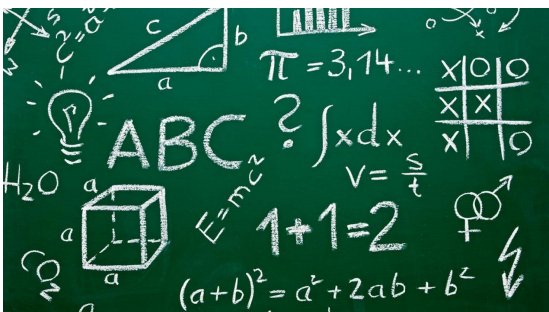
Further Mathematics extends the knowledge and understanding gained in A-Level Mathematics, as well as exploring new topics. It is advantageous to students who are considering studying Mathematics, Physics or Engineering at university, as there are benefits to studying the Mathematics they will need at this stage. Those choosing further mathematics will complete the Maths A-Level in Year 12.

A Level course content

The full A-Level consists of 4 full modules (Core Pure 1 & 2, Further Statistics 1 and Further Mechanics 1). The Pure modules look at complex numbers, matrices, vectors and proof. The Statistics module looks at probability distributions and Chi-squared testing. The mechanics module explores collisions, momentum and work, energy power. The Pure modules build on the AS work with additional work in Polar coordinates, hyperbolic functions and differential equations. The Statistics module contains the topics plus Hypothesis testing, Central limit theorem and probability generating functions. The Mechanics module continues the work on collisions with the addition of elastic springs and strings.

Entry Requirements:

GCSE grade 7 in Maths (preferred grade 8) **and students must pass the Further Maths entrance exam.**



Are you interested in:

- Progressing towards a career with a universal language?
- Discovering how to model real life situations with mathematics?
- How important decisions are made using Statistics?
- Mathematics for Mathematics sake?
- Mathematics and the Economy?
- Mathematics and Architecture?
- Mathematics and Engineering?
- Mathematics Teaching?
- Algorithms and Computer programming?

Leading to a career in:

- Finance
- Civil Service
- Management
- Economics
- Architecture
- Engineering
- Medicine
- Teaching
- Consultancy
- Computing

Exam Board: Edexcel

Teacher to contact:

Mr Lewis

A-Level course	Core Pure 1 : 1hr 30	Core Pure 2: 1hr 30	Further Statistics 1 : 1hr 30	Further Mechanics 1 : 1hr 30
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Geography

A2 assessment criteria

A2: 80% examination; 20% Geographical investigation.

What is Geography?

Geography is the study of the world around us and man's impact on it. It considers the physical and human influences that shape and style our world including climate change, immigration, extreme climates, earthquakes, globalisation and the regeneration of cities.

A Level course content

Physical Geography

- Water and Carbon cycles
- Coastal systems and processes
- Hazards

Human Geography

- Global systems and governance
- Changing places
- Population and the Environment

Geographical Skills

- A Geographical investigation based on fieldwork.
- Local fieldwork in both human and Physical geography settings

Are you interested in:

- The world around you?
- The challenges facing the environment?
- Understanding other cultures?
- The pressures and opportunities of world cities?
- Fieldwork and active research?
- A bridge between the arts and sciences?

Leading to a career in:

- Conservation
- Travel and tourism
- Local government and planning
- Resource management
- Meteorology and climatology including climate change
- Teaching

Exam Board: AQA
A Level 7037

Teacher to contact:

Mrs Rush **Dr Hunt**



German



What is A level German?

The course develops your listening, speaking, reading and writing skills as well as your general knowledge of the country. You will develop these skills through researching and discussing topics and studying a German film and a literary text.

Year 12 course content

The main topics are:

Changes in German society

Nature and the environment (Environmental awareness; recycling; renewable energy; sustainable living)

Education (The education system; student life; repeating a year; vocational training)

The world of work (Life at work in Germany and the moral of the workforce; German business and industries)

Political and artistic culture in German speaking countries

Music (Changes and trends; the influence of music on popular culture)

The Media (TV; digital-, print-, and online media; the influence on society and politics)

Festivals and Traditions (Festivals; celebrations; customs; traditions)

Year 13 course content

The main topics are:

Immigration and the German multicultural society

Integration and multiculturalism (Foreign workers; Immigrants; Asylum seekers; Advantages and difficulties of social integration and multiculturalism)

The economic and social effects of immigration (Competition in the workplace; Access to work and accommodation; increasing extremism)

The German reunification

East German society before the reunification (Communism in the DDR; relationships with the west; life and work)

Germany after the reunification (The breakdown of communism; emigration from east to west; effects on the German economy and society)

Assessment Criteria:

The Advanced GCE is assessed over 3 examination papers.

Paper 1 is the listening, reading and translation examination. This paper draws on vocabulary and structures across all four themes. (40% of A level)

Paper 2 is a written response to works and translation. Students are assessed on an English to German translation, and 2 extended essays on 2 separate literary texts or films (30% of A level)

Paper 3 is the speaking exam (21-23 minutes). Task one is a discussion on one theme from the specification based on a stimulus. Task two is a presentation and discussion on independent research carried out by the student. (30% of A level)

Are you interested in:

- Understanding how language works?
- Living or working abroad?
- Social and cultural issues?
- Communicating with others?
- Obtaining an impressive qualification for University entrance?
- Impressing employers?
- Increasing your salary potential?

Leading to a career in:

- Business with international links
- Employment which requires communication, research and analytical skills
- Marketing
- Teaching
- Interpreting and translating
- Law

Teacher to contact:

Mrs Geisser-Holmes

Entry Requirements: GCSE grade 6 in German

Law

What is Law?

A-level Law develops knowledge and understanding of the English Legal system. The study of Law at A-level enables students to develop their analytical and critical thinking skills. Studying Law develops students' problem solving skills through the application of legal rules, together with an understanding of legal method and reasoning.



A Level course content

- Introduction to the nature of law
- Civil courts and other forms of dispute resolution
- Criminal courts and lay people
- Legal personnel
- Access to Justice

Criminal Law

Law Making

- Parliamentary law making
- Delegation Legislation
- Statutory Interpretation
- Judicial precedent
- Law reform
- European Union law

Law of tort

Further law

- The nature of law
- Human rights law
- Law of contract

Are you interested in:

- Who makes the law and how it is interpreted?
- Studying cases about murder, manslaughter, fraud or theft?
- Evaluating defendants' criminal liability?
- Merits and faults with the current law?
- Visits to court and talks with legal professionals?

Leading to a career in:

- The legal profession
- Law Enforcement
- Government politics
- Banking and finance
- Trading standards

Exam Board: AQA

AS: M015 A2: H415

Teacher to contact:

Miss Cutler

What is Mathematics?

Mathematics is the abstract study of topics such as quantity, structure, space and change. Study of Mathematics will enhance problem solving skills, communication skills, reasoning and making connections. A significant proportion of the course is Algebra based and being able to work confidently with equations and graphs is crucial. To achieve the higher grades in this course you must be prepared to put in the hours of work.

Year 1 content

The course is broadly broken into Pure and Applied. Within Pure maths you will explore quadratics, graphs, polynomials, trigonometry, vectors and Calculus. The applied maths is again split into Statistics and Mechanics. Statistics is data driven and explore the ways of comparing and presenting data with probability also playing a part. Mechanics is the maths behind movement.

Year 2 content

This contains all from the AS course but extends it further. Calculus and trigonometry are taken a lot further along with exponentials and logarithms. The statistical part of the course also moves on from the Year 12 course exploring other probability distributions and how we can apply them. Mechanics moves into forces around movement and moments.

Entry Requirements:

GCSE grade 6 in Maths (preferred grade 7) **and students must pass the Maths entrance exam.**

A2 assessment criteria

A-Level course	Pure 1 : 2hr	Pure 2: 2hr	Applied : 2hr
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Mathematics

Are you interested in:

- Progressing towards a career with a universal language?
- Discovering how to model real life situations with mathematics?
- How important decisions are made using Statistics?
- Mathematics for Mathematics sake?
- Mathematics and the Economy?
- Mathematics and Architecture?
- Mathematics and Engineering?
- Mathematics Teaching?
- Algorithms and Computer programming?

Leading to a career in:

- Finance
- Civil Service
- Management
- Economics
- Architecture
- Engineering
- Medicine
- Teaching
- Consultancy
- Computing
- Banking

Exam Board: Edexcel

Teacher to contact: **Mr Lewis**

Religious Studies



What is Philosophy & Ethics?

Philosophy is an enquiry or study into the fundamental principles (big questions.) Ethics are systems of principles affecting how people make decisions and lead their lives. Studying this course leads to an A Level in Religious Studies.

A Level assessment criteria

Three examinations, 3 hours each:

- Philosophy of religion and Ethics
- Study of religion and dialogues

A Level course content

Students study three units:

1. Philosophy of Religion

- Existence of God
- Problem of Evil
- Religious Experience
- Religious language
- Critiques of religious beliefs
- Life after death
- Religion and science

2. Religion and Ethics

- Ethical theories
- Environmental issues
- Equality
- War and peace
- Sexual ethics
- Ethical language
- Religion and morality
- Medical Ethics

3. Islam

- Six beliefs
- Life and work of the Prophet Muhammad
- Qur'an
- The Five Pillars of Islam
- Ummah
- Developments of Sunni and Shi'a Islam
- Spread of Islam
- Sufism
- Islam and science
- Challenges of secularisation
- Gender and Islam

Are you interested in:

- Debating and asking questions?
- Understanding yourself and the world around you?
- Understanding the concept of God in more detail from atheist – theist perspectives?
- Deciding what is right and wrong?
- Linking theory to real world dilemmas and problems?

Leading to a career in:

- Business and Finance
- Police Force and Local Government
- Education
- Law and Politics
- Medical and Health care

Exam Board: AQA

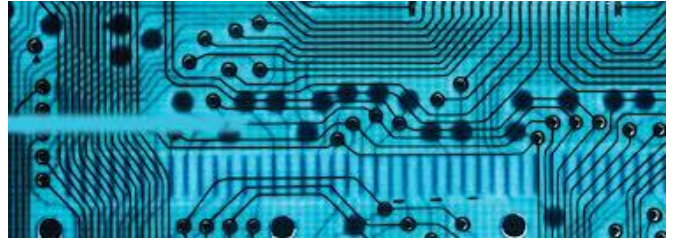
Teacher to contact:

Miss Aucklah

Entry requirements:

GCSE grade 5 in Religious Studies or GCSE Grade 5 in English

Physics



What is Physics?

Physics is a curiosity-driven science that asks fundamental questions about what we find in the universe, and seeks to answer these questions by observing and experimenting. This experimenting has led to huge technological advances that continue to radically change our lives – mobile phones, 3D medical scanning, the internet...

Year 1 course content

Particle physics (what is in an atom) quantum phenomena, electricity, mechanics, properties of solids and properties of waves

Year 2 course content

Nuclear physics, thermal physics and further mechanics fields and an option from: Astrophysics, Medical physics, Engineering physics, Turning points in physics, Electronics.



Are you interested in:

- Asking the fundamental questions?
- Intellectual challenge?
- Experimental work?
- Problem solving?
- Improving your ICT skills?

Leading to a career in:

- Physics
- Medicine
- Engineering
- Architecture
- Computing

Exam Board: AQA
Advanced GCSE 7408

Teacher to contact:

Mrs Love

A2 assessment criteria

Three written papers each of two hours including long and short answer questions, multiple choice and practical skills questions.

Politics



What happens in Westminster affects us all, and this course allows you to study the theoretical assumptions that underpin its actions. A-Level Government and Politics enables students to develop their critical thinking skills and enhance their ability to interpret, evaluate and comment on the nature of politics. In Year 12 students will concentrate on people, politics and participation as well as governing modern Britain. In Year 13 students will learn about global politics and the different issues facing governance around the world.

This course is particularly suitable for students who have studied Economics, History, Sociology and English. It may also appeal to students who wish to study Government and Politics or History at a higher level.



A-Level examinations

UK Politics

33% of A Level - 2 Hour written examination

UK Government

33% of A Level - 2 Hour written examination

Comparative Politics - The USA

33% of A Level - 2 Hour written examination

Entry Requirements:

GCSE grade 5 in English Language or Literature.

Are you interested in?

- Who governs the country
- Why people vote the way they do
- How party leaders are selected
- The role of the media in politics
- Strengths and weaknesses of different electoral systems
- The role of the EU

Leading to a career in:

- Politics
- Law
- Local Government
- Civil Service
- Media
- Education
- Journalism

Exam Board: Edexcel

Teacher to contact:

Mr Dobinson
Miss Vale

Psychology

What is Psychology?

Psychology is the scientific study of the human mind and behaviour and gives you the opportunity to investigate the intricate workings of both. You will have direct experience of what psychologists do when investigating human behaviour by participating in experimental work and research.

A Level course content

Topics covered:

Social Psychology – Obedience and Conformity, Relationships, Forensic Psychology

Cognitive Psychology – Models of Memory, Forgetting and Eyewitness Testimony

Developmental Psychology – Theories of Attachment and Cultural Variations

Biopsychology – Stress, The Nervous System, the Brain and Sleep

Psychopathology – Phobias, Depression, OCD, Schizophrenia

Assessment criteria

100% examination.

No coursework requirements.

Are you interested in:

- Consciousness, thought processes and how the mind works?
- Memory processes?
- The relationship between mind and body eg stress and schizophrenia?
- Individual differences and mental disorders?
- Biological and psychological therapies?
- The extent to which study of the human being can be scientific?
- The effects of nature? (genetics and evolution)
- The effects of nurture? (the environment, learning, and the media)
- The impact of Psychological research on real life?

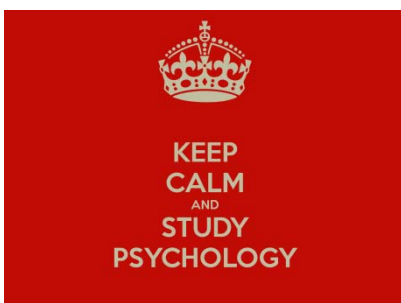
Leading to a career in:

- Personnel or Social Work
- Counselling, Health or Medicine
- Teaching or Child Care
- Forensic Psychology or Police
- Sport Psychology
- Media

Exam Board: AQA

Teacher to contact:

Miss Sangha



Psychology

Sociology

Are you interested in:

- Lively debate?
- Asking questions?
- Discussing current social issues?

Leading to a career in:

- Journalism
- Social Work
- Teaching
- Health Professions
- Law
- Urban and Rural Planning
- Politics and Political Consulting

Exam Board: AQA

Teacher to contact:
Miss Aucklah

A-Level assessment criteria

A-Level: Three examinations, each 2 hours.



What is Sociology?

Sociology is the study of how society is organised and how we experience life. Sociology tries to understand how various social institutions such as the family and education system operate, how they relate to one another and in whose interest they operate. Sociology is concerned with describing and explaining the patterns of inequality, power and conflict that are features of nearly all societies.

To learn sociology is to learn about how human societies are constructed and where our beliefs and daily routines come from. We learn about how our identities are formed and the influence of social class, gender, ethnicity, sexuality and age on our opportunities in life. Sociology is above all about developing a critical understanding of the taken for granted assumptions which we all hold and which influence the way we think about ourselves and others. In developing this, Sociology can itself contribute to changes in society, for example by highlighting and explaining social problems like unemployment, poverty and crime. The study of Sociology can provide the essential tools for a better understanding of the world we live in and therefore the means for improving it.

A-Level course content

- Education
- Families and Households
- Research Methods
- Crime and Deviance
- Beliefs in Society



Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Applied Science

Are you interested in:

Practical science, investigating things for yourself, finding out about the world around you, being able to decipher the latest research and make decisions about its ethical implications and how this may impact on your life in the present and the future?

Leading to a career in:

You will develop transferable and higher order skills which are valued by all higher education providers and employers. For example, you will develop skills including how to plan investigations, collecting, analysing, and presenting data and communicating results. These skills support progress to higher education, employment, self-employment or training. Career paths include Engineering, Sport Psychology & Sport Science, Social Care and Nursing, Environmental Sciences, Forensic Science, Biomedical Sciences, Food Technology, Pharmaceutical Research and many more.



Teacher to contact:
Mrs Love & Mrs Navarro

What is BTEC Applied Science?

Designed for learners who are interested in learning about science alongside other fields of study, with a view to progressing to a wide range of higher education courses.

This BTEC course is very practical with plenty of opportunities to implement the theory that you learn. Although there is an external exam component at least 50% of the assessment is by coursework. This means you will have a very clear understanding of your progress throughout the course, to help you plan and achieve your next steps. It covers a range of topics across biology, chemistry and physics and will allow you to acquire a high level of practical laboratory skills from which the theory is then drawn.

Taught by subject specialists, you will learn by completing laboratory-based practical assignments, supported self-study assignments, presentations and discussions that are based on real workplace situations, activities and demands. The course covers a wide range of industrial applications, as well as using statistical and mathematical tools required for science.

Year 1 Course Content

Unit 1: Principles & Applications of Science (Externally Assessed by Exam). Externally assessed units can be sat in Jan or June depending on when you are ready. The topics covered in this unit include animal and plant cells; tissues; atomic structure and bonding; chemical and physical properties of substances related to their uses; waves and their application in communications.

Unit 2: Practical Scientific Procedures & Techniques (Internally assessed by Coursework). This unit introduces you to standard laboratory equipment and techniques, including titration, colorimetry, calorimetry, chromatography, calibration procedures and laboratory safety. Through the practical tasks you will develop proficiency in the quantitative analytical techniques of titration and colorimetry. You will use measurement of temperature to study cooling curves and be introduced to paper and thin-layer chromatography (TLC).

Year 2 Course Content

Unit 3: Science Investigation Skills. In this unit, you will develop the essential skills underpinning practical scientific investigations. As well as drawing on *Unit 1* and *Unit 2*, these skills will be delivered through subject themes ranging from enzymes and diffusion to electrical circuits. The subject themes provide different contexts for the development of the investigative skills. Part A of the assessment is completed in the laboratory, with a practical task set by Pearson. Part B is an exam based on the practical work you have just completed.

Option Units: There are a number of options units ranging from Genetics & Genetic Engineering to Astronomy & Space. Your Year 2 units will be chosen as you move through Year 1 and develop your own interests.

Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Business

Equivalent in size to three A Levels.

13 units of which 7 are mandatory and 4 are external.

Mandatory content (66%)

External assessment (42%).

What you learn

BTEC National qualifications provide specialist, work-related learning across a range of vocational sectors. They give learners the knowledge, understanding and skills that they need to prepare for employment or university

The Diploma is designed to be the substantive part of a 16–19 study programme for learners who want a strong core of sector study. This programme may include other BTEC Nationals or A Levels to support progression to higher education courses in business areas before entering employment. The additional qualification(s) studied allow learners either to give breadth to their study programme by choosing a contrasting subject, or to give it more focus by choosing a complementary subject.

What does this qualification cover?

The qualification gives learners the knowledge, understanding and skills that underpin the business sector that will prepare them for further study or training. This includes the opportunity for learners to choose two units from a selection of options to supplement the mandatory units which reflect the key topics in business:

- marketing
- business environments
- international business
- management
- finance.

What could this qualification lead to?

The qualification is recognised by higher education institutions as fully meeting admission requirements to many relevant courses in a variety of areas in the business sector, as single or joint programmes at degree, foundation degree or HND level. When studied with other qualifications in the study programme, learners can progress to higher education on combined courses.

Exam Board – Edexcel

Teacher to contact:

Miss Brown

Mrs Baker

Performing Arts



Course Outline

BTEC Performing Arts will provide you with a broad foundation in all aspects of performance. You will participate in a variety of practical workshops, focusing on Acting, Singing and Dancing.

You will develop key physical and performance skills in a range of disciplines, whilst analysing and exploring a variety of Musical Theatre works and practitioners.

You will have the opportunity to participate in a range of workshop and performances, both in class and within Performing Arts extra-curricular. You will work on building confidence to perform to a range of audiences, within different projects.



Achieving Excellence

Please contact:

Mrs Edwards-Ricketts.
Head of Performing Arts



What is Performing Arts?

The Performing Arts are art forms in which artists use their body or voice to convey artistic expression and include dance, music, opera, theatre, magic, spoken word, circus arts, recitation and musical theatre.

Assessment:

Year 12

Students will complete the Extended Certificate which is equivalent to 1 A Level

Mandatory units

1. Investigating practitioners work.

Learners investigate the work of performing arts practitioners and develop critical analysis skills and contextual understanding of how practitioners communicate themes in their work. This is an external exam. 3 hours, out of 60 marks.

2. Developing skills for live performance.

Learners explore technical performance skills with a focus on developing skills and techniques in at least two performance styles.

Year 13

Students will extend their qualification to complete the Foundation Diploma, worth 1.5 A Levels.

1. Group Performance workshop

Learners explore and integrate creative, physical and vocal skills and techniques, working collaboratively to create a performance in response to a given stimulus. Final performance in front of an audience, out of 18 marks.

2. Variety Performance

In this unit students will research the history of variety performances, developing knowledge in preparation for creating their own version of a variety 'BGT' inspired performance. Students can choose any performance discipline they like, this can vary between typical acts such as acting, singing and dancing, solo, but also include more specialist skills such as playing instruments, gymnastics etc.

Pearson Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Sport.

This is intended as an Applied General qualification, equivalent in size of one A Level. It is a two-year, full-time course of 4 units, in which 3 are mandatory and 2 are external.

Mandatory content (83%). External assessment (67%).

Learners will cover the following units:

- Anatomy and Physiology
- Fitness training and programming for health, sport and well-being
- Professional Development in the Sports Industry
- Sports Leadership



Progression Routes

Students will have a range of different career pathways they may choose to select at the end of the two year course:

- Gain employment
- Gain an Apprenticeship
- Apply to University in this country (We would recommend you look at Brighton University, Southampton Solent University or UCFB University web sites to see the range of courses available).

Leading to a career in:

- Sports coaching
- Fitness training
- Sports development

Teacher to contact:

Mr Rowe

Miss Heath

Entry Requirements: Grade 5 in PE or merit Level 2 Sport and a Grade 5 in English and a Grade 4 in Maths



Pearson Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Sport.

What the course covers:

This is intended as an Applied General qualification, **equivalent in size to three A Levels**. It is a two-year, full-time course that meets entry requirements on its own right for learners who want to progress into higher education courses in sport before entering employment.

- It is equivalent to the size of three A Levels.
- 14 units of which 10 are mandatory and 4 are externally assessed
- External assessment (4 exams worth 42% of the overall marks)

Learners will cover ten mandatory units:

1. *Anatomy and Physiology*
2. *Fitness Training and programming for Health, Sport and Well-being*
3. *Professional Development in the Sports Industry*
4. *Sports Leadership*
5. *Practical Sports Performance*
6. *Coaching for Performance*
7. *Research Methods*
8. *Development and Provision of Sport and Physical Activity*
9. *Investigating Business in Sport and the Active Leisure Industry*
10. *Skill Acquisition*

The optional units include:

- *Application of Fitness Testing*
- *Sports Organisation*
- *Rules and Regulations and Officiating Sport*
- *Technical and Tactical Demands of Sport*

- Are you interested in:
- How the body works?
 - Improving fitness?
 - Developing as a coach?

The course entails completing a minimum of 3 hours of classroom studies a day. **Priority is given to their academic studies not their participation in practical activities**. Coursework has to be completed to Target grade and handed in on time. Homework will entail revision for tests or ensuring coursework is completed to the expected standard.

Progression Routes

Students will have a range of different career pathways they may choose to select at the end of the two year course:

- Gain employment
- Gain an Apprenticeship
- Apply to University in this country (We would recommend you look at Brighton University, Southampton Solent University or UCFB University web sites to see the range of courses available).
- Apply to an American College for a scholarship.

Academic Attainment

Last year 88% of the cohort of students who selected this course achieved the equivalent of three 'A' grades at A-Level, placing the school in the top 5% of schools nationally.

77% have gone on to University to study a sports related degree course and 23% have gained employment in a sports related industry.

Standards expected are exceptionally high so your child must be motivated to work hard and be conscientious to strive for academic excellence.



Sport

- Leading to a career in:
- Sports coaching
 - Fitness training
 - Sports development

Teacher to contact: Mr Rowe

Entry Requirements: GCSE grade 5 in PE or merit Level 2 BTEC Sport and a grade 5 in English and grade 4 in Maths.

What is Core Mathematics?

Core Maths is a **1 Year Course** in Year 12 which is equivalent to an AS-Level. This course is designed to support the mathematics needed in various other courses which students might be studying at A-Level. Examples include Biology, Chemistry, Business, Geography and Psychology. This is an additional qualification which can be studied alongside 3 other A-Levels, *including* A-Level Maths.

Compulsory Content:

- Analysis of data
- Maths for personal finance
- Estimation
- Critical analysis of given data and models

Students will then study 3 further units from either Route A or Route B. (This choice often partly depends on which other A-Levels students are studying in Year 12.)

Route A:

- The Normal Distribution
- Statistical Probabilities and Estimation
- Correlation and Regression

OR

Route B:

- Critical Path and Risk Analysis
- Probability and Expectation
- Cost Benefit Analysis

Assessment / Entry Requirements

The course is assessed in two exam papers. Both are normally sat during May of Year 12. Each paper will count for 50% of the course. Both papers allow a calculator and some formulae are given.

Students will need to have sat the Higher GCSE Maths and gained grade 5 or above.

Core Maths

Leading to a Career in:

- Finance / Financial Modelling
- Insurance
- Banking
- Mortgage Broker
- Statistical Analysis
- Actuary
- Linear Programming
- Inland Revenue and Tax

Exam Board: AQA

Teacher to contact: **Mr O'Neill**



What is the EPQ?

The EPQ is an additional qualification which students can study on top of their chosen subjects. It is a subject that revolves around independent work and requires a student to complete around 90 hours of self-study to complete a project. The project title is student driven, whereby the student selects their topic of choice, as long as it does not overlap with the specifications of any of their current subjects.

Compulsory Content:

- A formal Production Log (diary to be completed which tracks the development of the project from start to finish)
- An independent project meeting AO criteria
- A presentation to staff and peers to present their project

Students can choose from 2 formats to make their project

Route A:

- The creation of an artefact – a physical object or planning of and running an event with a 1,000 word report.

OR

Route B:

- Writing an extended essay of about 5,000 words

EPQ

The EPQ can enhance any other qualifications studied and commonly studied topics are:

- Medicine and Veterinary medicine
- Law
- Advertising/ marketing
- Economics and business
- Psychology
- Art and design
- Humanities – Geography, History and RS
- Science – Biology, Chemistry and Physics
- Government and politics
- English Literature and Language – journalism and creative writing
- Performing Arts
- Sport and physiotherapy

Exam Board: AQA

Teacher to contact: Miss Vale in room 614

Assessment / Entry Requirements

This qualification is worth half an A-Level. It has no exam and is 100% coursework based.

It is essential that students have excellent written communication skills so a GCSE Grade 5 English or above is advised. Students also require high level independent learning skills and a strong work ethic.