

Applied Science

General Information

This course aims to extend your knowledge and understanding of science and technology and develop an appreciation of their practical applications. Applied Science is excellent for providing breadth to students studying Humanities subjects of any kind. It would be of interest to anyone keen to study how science is used in everyday life or who might be considering a career in which a scientific training would be useful.

The Extended Certificate is a Level 3 qualification (equivalent to A level) and as such is acceptable for entry to degree courses in a wide range of subjects.

How it is taught

An important activity is the completion of coursework assignments, with half of the final grade being based on this internally assessed work. You learn research skills and spend a significant amount of time preparing your portfolios, which involves the use of computers. There are opportunities to develop practical laboratory skills and carry out investigations. Preparation for the examined units in each year involves more formal teaching, with note-making, problem-solving and data analysis exercises.

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Course content

The Certificate course consists of units which are assessed by exam and also by a student portfolio. The units involve study of Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

Study of a wide range of key concepts in Biology, Chemistry & Physics of these units develops knowledge and understanding which is assessed by a written exam.

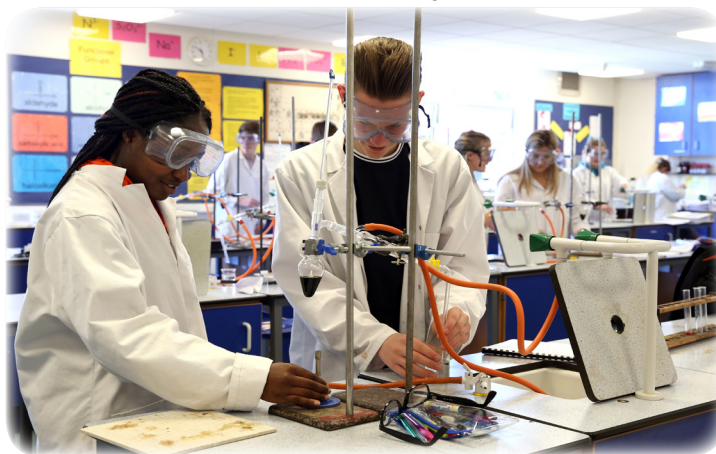
The Certificate course also involves completion of a range of experiments. This enables students to develop their practical scientific competence and effective skills in planning, analysis and evaluation. These skills are assessed by completion of a coursework portfolio.

Completion of the Level 3 Certificate allows progression to the Extended Certificate course in the second year of study. The structure of the second year course builds on knowledge gained from the Certificate course and is also assessed by an exam and a coursework portfolio.

Second year units include an extended investigation. This involves researching into the way science and analytical methods are used in various industrial and commercial situations. It also provides an opportunity for you to further develop your own practical skills in the laboratory by carrying out experimental work in an applied science context

Level 3 Extended Certificate

(Exam board – AQA)
(Specification code: 1775)



Entry requirements

You must have at least a grade 4 in GCSE Maths and English. In addition, you should have a minimum grade 4 in at least one GCSE Science subject or grade 4 in both of the Combined Science grades.

You should meet the general college entry requirements for A Level study. Please refer to the current Prospectus – advanced programmes, entry requirements. In this subject, particular skills and aptitudes will be required, many of which will be demonstrated by students' GCSE profiles. Entry requirements might be changed in light of curriculum reform.

Level 3 Extended Certificate

Useful / common subject combinations

This subject combines well with any other programme of study. It can be taken as your only science subject, providing breadth; it can also be combined with other science A Levels, providing opportunities to study scientific issues in a range of contexts.

Careers / HE information

This is an excellent course for progression onto a wide range of higher education and training. This enables Applied Science students to develop careers which need an understanding of science e.g. teaching, nursing, health care, environmental sciences, forensics, and sport science. Students will find the UCAS points awarded for this qualification useful for pursuing careers in Humanities subjects.

This qualification allows you to progress to technical training in a wide range of industries.

This qualification is not sufficient for progression onto specialist courses in chemistry, biology, physics, engineering, medicine or dentistry without other science A Levels. However, there are Foundation Science courses from which Applied Science students could progress to more specialised science degrees.