



Sixth Form Courses

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Applied Business A-Level (AS/A2)

Course Description

This Applied Business course enables students to develop both a broad understanding of the application of Business principles and gives them the opportunity to focus on a specific pathway, e.g. Marketing, Finance, Human Resources and Administration. In addition, the qualification covers a mixture of teaching and learning experiences from the theoretical through to those with a clear practical emphasis.

The course also encourages students to develop knowledge and understanding of:

- The practices and techniques used within marketing, finance, operations management, human resource management and the links between them.
- The processes, attractions and risks of setting up an enterprise
- The relationship between the business and the changing external environment
- Social and ethical issues in business

Course Content

In Year 12 the following units will be covered:

Unit 1 - Financial planning and analysis

Learners explore different ways in which enterprises can be owned and financed. Learners will need to understand the issues that enterprises face and will use this information to make business decisions.

Unit 2 - Business dynamics

Learners investigate factors contributing to the success of businesses, focussing on the role of managers, supervisors and employees. They consider how businesses organise themselves and will analyse and evaluate the effectiveness of these organisational structures.

Unit 3 - Entrepreneurial opportunities

Learners develop an understanding of entrepreneurial opportunities and investigate how individuals can exploit these through personal enterprise. They consider opportunities for personal enterprise for a given context and propose marketing and operations activities to take advantage of entrepreneurial opportunities.

Assessment Method:

- 1 x Exam
- 1 x Controlled Assessment
- 1 x Assignment

Entry Requirements: Grade 4-9 in GCSE English and Maths. BTEC Business Merit or Higher if taken

Head of Department: Miss Noble Email: noble.k@maplesden.kent.sch.uk |

Applied Science: Extended Certificate BTEC

Course Description

Pearson BTEC National in Applied Science

A 2-year course made from externally examined units and internally assessed centre written assignments

The course is very pure in its scientific approach studying many difficult parts of the A-Level Biology, Chemistry and Physics content.

You will sit 2 external exams with the opportunity to resit just once. These exams are Pass or Fail

Unit 1 Principles and applications of science (90 mark exam lasting 90 minutes the exam is set by Pearson and marked by Pearson)

Unit 2 Practical scientific procedures and techniques (assessed by a series of assignments set by the school)

Unit 3 Science investigation skills (90 minute written exam set and marked by Pearson)

Unit 8 Physiology of the human body systems (assessed by a series of assignments set by the school)

Course Content

Unit 1 – Learning Aim A - Chemistry electron structures S,P,D and F atomic energy levels, ionic bonding , covalent bonding, metallic bonding, intermolecular forces, equations, moles, molar masses and molarities, periods 1,2,3 and 4, groups S block, p block and d block, electronegativity, ionic radius, electron affinity, reactions with water and oxygen, oxidation and reduction, displacement of halogens

Unit 1 learning Aim B – Cell structure, magnification, animal and plant ultrastructure, classifying bacteria as Gram positive or negative, tissue types, neurones, synapses, action potentials

Unit 1 learning Aim C – Oscillations, diffraction gratings, coherent light sources, emission spectra, stationary waves resonance, fibre optics, TIR, electromagnetic waves

Unit 2 – Titrations, calorimetry, pH curves, spectrophotometer, cooling curves, chromatography TLC, applications, GLC, scientific skills

Assessment Method:

Exams and internal assessment

Entry Requirements: A*-B in Additional Science and A*-C in Core Science or A*-B in Chemistry or Physics or BTEC Science Merit or Higher

Head of Department: Miss Ridout Email: Ridout.c@maplesden.kent.sch.uk

Art & Design A-Level

Course Description

AQA Art and Design (Art, Craft & design)

Course Content

All students develop skills through Yr12 and explore a range of materials and techniques, increasingly working towards independence. A few decide to complete the course to AS Level in Yr12. However, most students progress to the A2 course the following year developing what is called the 'Personal Investigation' (coursework unit). We follow the AQA Art and Design syllabus and recommend that candidates look at the specification on the AQA website.

Students are encouraged to explore and investigate ideas using a wide range of materials and techniques through a number of tasks that build towards an independent and creative portfolio. We develop work through a number of specialist areas – fine art, graphic, photographic, textiles, 3D design, sculpture and printmaking.

The exam will begin in February when students receive the question paper and they will develop their ideas towards a final outcome to be completed in a 15 hour controlled test in April/May.

No. of Modular Exams/Length/Retake Information:

Students can retake either whole or 50% of the course the following year.

The Art department is available for students to work, with support, after school from Monday to Thursday, 3.10pm – 4.30pm.

Assessment Method:

60% coursework (assessed internally, moderated externally), and 40% exam (externally set and moderated)

Final assessment will take place at the end of May

Entry Requirements: A*-B in GCSE Art of other Art based subject

Head of Department: Mr Hedger Email: hedger.t@maplesden.kent.sch.uk

Biology A-Level

Course Description

A-Level Biology we study OCR Biology A

Course Description

It is a 100% examination qualification; you also are required to complete 12 PAGs to allow you to meet the practical requirements of all A-level science qualifications

Exams are made up of a mixture of different length questions ranging from 1 mark up to 10 marks

You will complete 6 modules whilst studying the qualification, the course is traditional in its content.

You will have 3 exams

1st component = 37% exam is 2hr 15 covers modules 1, 2, 3 and 5

2nd component = 37% exam is 2hr 15 covers modules 1, 2, 4 and 6

3rd component = 26% exam is 1hr 30 covers modules 1 to 6.

Course Content

Year 1 content:

- 1) Development of practical activities (PAGs)
- 2) Foundation in biology
- 3) Exchange and transport
- 4) Biodiversity, evolution and disease

Year 2 content:

- 1) Communication, homeostasis and energy
- 2) Genetics, evolution and ecosystems

Assessment Method:

External Exams

Entry Requirements: A*-B in GCSE Biology or A*-A in Core and Additional Science if taken

Head of Department: Miss Ridout Email: Ridout.c@maplesden.kent.sch.uk

Business A-Level

Course Description

(First year)

An introduction to key business areas: marketing, operations, finance and human resource management. This includes a special focus on decision making – particularly how decisions made in one area can affect the rest of the business.

Content:

- Topic 1 – What is business?
- Topic 2 – Managers, leadership and decision making
- Topic 3 – Decision making to improve marketing performance
- Topic 4 – Decision making to improve operational performance
- Topic 5 – Decision making to improve financial performance
- Topic 6 – Decision making to improve human resource performance

(Second year)

An investigation of the strategic decisions that all businesses have to make.

Content:

- Topic 7 – Analysing the strategic position of a business
- Topic 8 – Choosing the strategic direction
- Topic 9 – Strategic methods: how to pursue strategies
- Topic 10 – Managing strategic change

Course Content

The topics lend themselves to studying and engaging with the business world. The specification and assessment will encourage students to follow business developments and think critically about contemporary business issues. Most of the assessment material is based on real business situations.

By examining and thinking critically about real business situations as they study the subject, students will gain an insight into different contexts which will help them to understand the key issues in any situation and compare and contrast this with other situations and apply their understanding.

A-level assessment

A-level assessment consists of three x 2 hour written exams taken at the end of the two year course.

Each exam will be worth a third of the A-level. All three papers will draw on material from the whole course, and will feature a range of question styles including multiple choice questions, short answer questions, essay questions, data response questions and case studies.

Assessment Method:

3 x 2-hour exam papers

Entry Requirements: Grade 5-9 in GCSE English and Grade 4-9 in Maths. BTEC Business Merit or Higher if taken

Head of Department: Miss Noble Email: noble.k@maplesden.kent.sch.uk

English Language & Literature A-Level

Course Description

The AQA specification for A Level English Language and Literature encourages independent study of a range of texts designed to ensure the right balance and coverage of the two disciplines. This specification enables students to see how linguistic and literary methods are related and to explore these links in their work.

Course Content

Paper 1: Telling Stories

Methods of language analysis are integrated into the activities assessed. These include:

Remembered places – the representation of place
Imagined worlds – point of view and genre in prose
Poetic voices – the forms and functions of poetic voice

Written exam: 3 hours

Paper 2: Exploring Conflict

Methods of language analysis are integrated into the activities assessed. These include:

Writing about society – the role of the individual in society, and re-creative writing based on set texts
Critical commentary – evaluating own writing
Dramatic encounters – conflict in drama

Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes

Non-exam assessment: Making Connections

A personal investigation that explores a specific technique or theme in both literary and non-literary discourse (2,500–3,000 words)

Making connections – investigation on a chosen theme and texts

Assessment Method:

Assessment is by two exams worth 80% sat at the end of year 13 with a 20% NEA component (non-exam assessment)

Entry Requirements: Grade 5-9 in English Literature and Language

Head of Department: Dr Butler Email: butler.v@maplesden.kent.sch.uk

English Literature A-Level

Course Description

The AQA specification for A Level English Literature encourages independent study of a range of texts within a shared context. Studied together they create an understanding of English Literature that will deepen students' knowledge and love of the subject.

Course Content

Paper 1: Love through the ages

Study of three texts: one poetry and one prose text, of which one must be written pre-1900, and one Shakespeare play. Examination will include two unseen poems. Closed and open book.

Paper 2: Texts in shared contexts

Choice of two options:

Option 2A: WW1 and its aftermath

Option 2B: Modern times: literature from 1945 to the present day

Study of three texts: one prose, one poetry, and one drama, of which one must be written post-2000.

Examination – open book

Non-exam assessment: Independent critical study: texts across time

Comparative critical study of two texts, at least one of which must have been written pre-1900

One extended essay (2500 words) and a bibliography

Assessment Method:

Assessment is by two exams worth 80% sat at the end of year 13 with a 20% NEA component (non-exam assessment)

Entry Requirements: Grade 5-9 in English Literature and Language

Head of Department: Dr Butler Email: butler.v@maplesden.kent.sch.uk

Film Studies A-Level

Course Description

Qualifications: WJEC Level 3 Advanced Subsidiary GCE in Film Studies. Students will develop practical and analytical skills, learning about: how to identify the codes and conventions of film texts; how film-makers communicate with their audiences through an understanding of genre; how the film industry operates and entices different audiences; world cinema; how film censorship has evolved; how UK Cinema has changed and how directors and stars place a signature upon their work. Students will also develop the skills needed to construct their own contemporary, relevant and original film texts.

The course specification is still in draft form.

Course Content

Examination 1

Section A: Classical Hollywood Movies

Section B: Hollywood film since the 1960's

Section C: Contemporary American Independent film produced after 2010

Section D: British Film

Examination 2

Section A: Film Movements- Silent Film and French New Wave

Section B: Documentary Film

Section C: Global film

Section D: Short Films

Coursework

Production of a Short Film or a Screenplay in a chosen genre.

Assessment:

70% Exam and 30% Coursework

Entry Requirements: Grade 4-9 in English Literature or A*-B in GCSE Film or BTEC Media Merit or higher if taken

Head of Department: Mrs Methley-Prince Email: Methley.I@maplesden.kent.sch.uk

Geography A-Level

Course Description

The course builds upon the AQA GCSE specification with a more in-depth look at some of the topic areas that students may have already examined. It also introduces new modules such as Water and Carbon Cycles and the concept of Changing Place.

Field study has been integrated into all aspects of the course and culminates in an individual study which will contribute to 20% of the final grade, the other 80% being the exam sat in two papers.

Course Content

Physical Geography

- Water and carbon cycles
- Coastal systems and landscapes
- Hazards

Human Geography

- Global systems and global governance
- Changing places
- Population and the environment

Geography fieldwork investigation

An individual investigation which must include data collected in the field. It must be based on a question or issue defined and developed by the student relating to any part of the specification content.

This may be organised as an extended residential visit.

Assessment Method:

The assessment method is through exam and coursework. Paper 1 and Paper 2 each last 2.5hrs and combined give 80% of the final grade. The coursework is between 3000-4000 words on a fieldwork investigation of their choice and will contribute the final 20%.

Entry Requirements: A*-B in GCSE Geography or Grade 5-9 in English

Head of Department: Mr Ballard Email: ballard.m@maplesden.kent.sch.uk

Graphics A-Level

Course Description

Graphic Communication is a 2 year linear A level with two units of externally assessed work.

The course operates as a foundation first year, during which the concepts of graphic design are explored through a mixture of taught material and short projects.

The second year is devoted to the two externally assessed units. The first of these units is a personal investigation (project) in which the student explores an area of graphic design of interest to themselves. The second is an externally assessed set design brief that the student responds to.

The A level grade is determined by the second year work units, each attracting 50% of the Marks available.

Whilst students have a lot of freedom to investigate and discover through experimentation, the course emphasis is on commercial and viable graphic design. A variety of media and techniques are explored along with a significant digital content to realise professional quality outcomes.

Course Content

Foundation year includes project investigating;

Letter form & Typography, Visual Grammar, Colour & Pattern, Design for print, Branding & Identity.
The Second Year is comprised of:

A personal investigation of the student's free choice in graphic design (60% of the total marks for the A level)

An externally set and assessed design brief that the student prepares a response to (40% of the total marks for the A level).

Assessment Method

60% personal investigation

40% externally set assignment

Entry Requirements: A*-B in GCSE Graphics or other Art Based subject

Head of Department: Miss Thomas Email: Thomas.m@maplesden.kent.sch.uk

Health and Social Care BTEC Extended Certificate

Course Description

The Extended Certificate is equivalent to one A-level

The BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate in Health and Social Care is designed as a stand-alone qualification that provides learners with knowledge and understanding of the health and social care sectors, and specialist knowledge and understanding according to the units studied.

The BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate in Health and Social Care can provide a springboard to a university degree or Foundation Degree in an appropriate vocational discipline, to BTEC HNCs and HNDs, or to employment.

The BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate in Health and Social Care specification consists of 2 external exams and one mandatory unit and one optional unit.

Course Content

Year 1:

Unit 1: Human Lifespan and Development (External exam) - 90GLH

Unit 5: Meeting individual care and support needs- Coursework- 90 GLH

Year 2: (If you have successfully completed the first Year of the course)

Working in Health and Social care (External exam) - 120 GLH

Optional units (You must choose one from the following list) - 60GLH- coursework

Unit 14: Sociological perspectives

Unit 15: Psychological perspectives

Unit 16: Supporting individuals with additional needs

Unit 18: Physiological disorders in care

Assessment Method:

One exam and one piece of coursework for the first year and the same in the 2nd year

Entry Requirements: Grade 4-9 in English and BTEC H&S Merit or Higher if taken

Head of Department: Miss Jaffray Email: Jaffray.p@maplesden.kent.sch.uk

History A-Level

Course Description

AQA History

A-level students must take assessments in all three of the following components in the same series:

- **Component 1:** Breadth study
- **Component 2:** Depth study
- **Component 3:** Historical investigation (Personal study).

Course Content

Component 1: 1C The Tudors: England, 1485–1603

This option allows students to study in breadth issues of change, continuity, cause and consequence in this period through the following key questions:

- How effectively did the Tudors restore and develop the powers of the monarchy?
- In what ways and how effectively was England governed during this period?
- How did relations with foreign powers change and how was the succession secured?
- How did English society and economy change and with what effects?
- How far did intellectual and religious ideas change and develop and with what effects?
- How important was the role of key individuals and groups and how were they affected by developments?

Component 2: 2N Revolution and dictatorship: Russia, 1917–1953

This option provides for the study in depth of the coming and practice of communism in Russia. It explores concepts such as Marxism, communism, Leninism, and Stalinism, ideological control and dictatorship. It also enables students to consider issues of political authority, the power of individuals and the inter-relationship of governmental and economic and social change.

Assessment Method:

Paper 1 - Tudors: England 1485 - 1603 - 1 exam (2hr 30 minutes)

Paper 2 - Revolution and Dictatorship: Russia, 1917–1953 1 exam (2hr 30 minutes)

Historical investigation - non examination assessment

Entry Requirements: A*-B in GCSE History or Grade 5-9 in English

Head of Department: Miss O Lichfield Email: Lichfield.o@maplesden.kent.sch.uk

IBCP

Course Description

The IBCP is the Careers Programme designed by the International Baccalaureate Organisation and has been in existence for five years. The IB Org have offered their Diploma courses for nearly fifty years and is highly regarded in over eighty countries around the world.

For September 2017, the IBCP will include an Edexcel Double Award BTEC in Sport, two IB Diplomas in Film Studies and Information Technology in Global Societies plus four additional elements which are designed to develop independent learning skills; professional and ethical conduct; language acquisition and development as well as volunteering and work experience opportunities.

Course Content

Students will study:

BTEC Sport (Double Award) (equivalent of two A level courses)

IB Diploma in Film Studies (Standard or Higher TBC)

IB Diploma in Information Technology in a Global Society

Careers Programme Core courses:

Professional and Personal Studies

Service Learning

Language Development

Reflective Project

Assessed components and UCAS Points:

BTEC Sport (Double Award): Pass to Distinction* - UCAS points equivalent to two A-levels

IB Diplomas: Graded 1 (lowest) – 7 (highest)

Standard level – equivalent to legacy AS grades
(Grade 7 = A = 28 UCAS points)

Higher level - equivalent to A level grades
(Grade 7 = A* = 56 UCAS points)

Reflective Project: Graded A-E

A = 12 UCAS points / B = 10 UCAS points

Assessment Method:

BTEC Sport (Double Award): Module coursework / examination

IB Diplomas: Examination (May/June Year 13)

Reflective Project: Research documents and evaluative project essay - handed in February of Year 13.

Entry Requirements: 5 A*-C GCSEs including Grade 4-9 in English and Maths

Head of Department Miss Moody Email: moody.r@maplesden.kent.sch.uk

Mathematics A-Level

Course Description

Mathematics is a fast developing subject with new ideas and methods and Mathematics A level is both challenging and interesting. It builds on work you have met at GCSE, but also involves new ideas and powerful techniques for solving problems. The Mathematics units aim to develop your ability to solve problems and to communicate clearly with Mathematical language, as well as increasing your knowledge and enjoyment of the subject. An A Level in Mathematics can open many doors to many different careers.

Course Content

The A Level course consists of 3 externally examined papers.

The pure content for year 1 is as follows

- Proof
- Algebra and Functions
- Coordinate Geometry in the (x,y) plane
- Sequences and series
- Trigonometry
- Exponentials and logarithms
- Differentiation
- Integration
- Vectors

The applied content for year 1 is as follows:

- Statistical sampling
- Data presentation and interpretation
- Probability
- Statistical distributions

- Statistical hypothesis testing
- Quantities and units in mechanics
- Kinematics
- Forces and Newtons Laws

The content for year 2 is as follows:

- Proof
- Algebra and Functions
- Coordinate Geometry in the (x,y) plane
- Sequences and series
- Trigonometry
- Differentiation
- Integration
- Numerical Methods
- Moments

*The A Level course is currently awaiting accreditation from Ofqual so may be subject to change.

Assessment Method:

100% Examination

Entry Requirements: Grade 7-9 in GCSE Maths

Head of Department: Mrs Neeve Email: neve.p@maplesden.kent.sch.uk

Media Studies A-Level

Course Description

The course is suitable for students who have an active interest in Media including: television, film, newspaper, radio, music, advertising and e-media. To study Media you will be expected to have GCSE English Literature at grade 4-9. It is not necessary to have studied Media at GCSE.

The aims of this course are to provide you with the ability to:

- Critically analyse media texts
- Develop independent research skills
- Build on your own interests, skills and knowledge of media texts

Course Content

Examination: Paper 1 35%

Issues and debates in the Media

Examination: Paper 2 35%

Close textual analysis in context

Coursework

Research into a genre and production of a sequence of a film in that style.

Assessment:

70% Exam and 30% Coursework

Entry Requirements: Grade 4-9 in English Literature or A*-B in GCSE Media

Head of Department: Miss Methley-Prince Email: Methley.I@maplesden.kent.sch.uk

Music BTEC

Course Description

Designed to support progression to higher education when taken as part of a programme of study that includes other appropriate BTEC Nationals or A levels. The course covers broad basis of study for the music sector with a focus on performance, personal instrumental technique development, music theory and professional practice.

Students will take part in regular music (singing and/or instrumental) lessons in which they will be prepared for the performing arts industry by performing regularly to live audiences.

The coursework, assessment and exams consist of:

- Research projects
- Workshops
- Rehearsals
- Performances

Music diary/log book/target setting/skills audits

Course Content

Unit 1: Ensemble Music Performance (exam unit) Learners work as part of a musical ensemble and develop their skills and techniques in rehearsal and performance

Unit 2: Practical Music Theory and Harmony Learners develop knowledge and understanding of music theory and notation and how they can be applied to practical scenarios.

Unit 3: Professional Practice in the Music Industry Learners explore what it is that makes someone a professional in the music industry and how to put forward a bid for work.

Unit 18: Solo Performance Learners explore the preparation and performance of music as a soloist before performing in front of an audience

Assessment Method

Performance, Rehearsals, Workshops, Personal management skills, Log books/diaries/target setting/skills audits, Research projects

Maplesden Noakes is the only school in Maidstone to have an Artsmark Award from the Arts Council of England.

Entry Requirements: A*-C in GCSE Music or BTEC Music Merit or Higher

**Head of Music - Mr J Crowhurst at Crowhurst.j@maplesden.kent.sch.uk
Head of Performing Arts: Miss J Mason mason.j@maplesden.kent.sch.uk**

Performing Arts Dance BTEC

Course Description

Students will take part in regular dance classes in which they will be prepared for the Dance industry by performing regularly to live audiences.

The coursework, assessment and exams consist of:

- Research projects
- Workshops
- Rehearsals
- Performances

Dance diary/log book/target setting/skills audits

Course Content

Investigating Practitioners' Work (Exam unit): Students will study two choreographers/practitioners across the space of 6 weeks. The exam paper will give the students a theme and the students must link these two choreographers/practitioners to the theme in an essay based format under controlled conditions.

Developing Skills and Techniques for Live Performance: Students will study two performance pieces; 1) a pantomime in which students are the ensemble/swing (students may be expected to sing as group) and 2) students will learn a dance professional work. Students will put the dance together and perform to an audience. Students will keep regular diaries, setting short and long term targets.

Group Performance Workshop (exam unit): Students will be given a stimulus and have to work in groups of 5 – 7 to choreograph a performance based on a given stimulus (from the exam paper). Students will write about their journey of choreographing.

Assessment Method:

Performance; Rehearsals; Workshops; Personal management; Log books/diaries/target setting/skills audits; Research projects

Maplesden Noakes is the only school in Maidstone to have an Artsmark Award from the Arts Council of England.

Entry Requirement's: BTEC PA Merit or Higher or A*-C in GCSE Drama/Dance or by Audition

Head of Department: Miss Mason Email: Mason.J@maplesden.kent.sch.uk

Performing Arts Acting/Drama BTEC

Course Description

Students will take part in regular acting and drama lessons in which they will be prepared for the performing arts industry by performing regularly to live audiences.

The coursework, assessment and exams consist of:

- Research projects
- Workshops
- Rehearsals
- Performances

Drama diary/log book/target setting/skills audits

Course Content

Investigating Practitioners' Work (Exam unit): Students will study two practitioners across the space of 6 weeks. The exam paper will give the students a theme and the students must link these two practitioners to the theme in an essay based format under controlled conditions.

Developing Skills and Techniques for Live Performance: Students will study two performance pieces; 1) a pantomime and 2) Students will study, rehearse and put on a scripted play. Students will put the play together and perform to an audience. Students will keep regular diaries, setting short and long term targets.

Group Performance Workshop (exam unit): Students will be given a stimulus and have to work in groups of 5 – 7 to devise a performance based on a given stimulus (from the exam paper). Students will write about their journey of devising.

Variety Performance: Students will take part in a big finale year 13 performance in the local cabaret bar.

Students also have the opportunity to extend their learning by taking on LAMDA exams which can earn them extra UCAS points in acting, musical theatre and/or Public speaking. These will cost extra.

Assessment Method:

Performance; Rehearsals; Workshops; Personal management; Log books/diaries/target setting/skills audits; Research projects

Maplesden Noakes is the only school in Maidstone to have an Artsmark Award from the Arts Council of England.

Entry Requirements: BTEC PA Merit or Higher or A&C in GCSE Drama/Dance or by Audition

Head of Department: Miss Mason Email: Mason.J@maplesden.kent.sch.uk

Performing Arts (Double Award) BTEC

Course Description

Students will take part in regular singing, dancing and acting lessons in which they will be prepared for the performing arts industry by performing regularly to live audiences.

Course Content

Investigating Practitioners' Work (Exam unit): Students will study two practitioners across the space of 6 weeks. The exam paper will give the students a theme and the students must link these two practitioners to the theme in an essay based format under controlled conditions.

Developing Skills and Techniques for Live Performance: Students will study two performance pieces; 1) a pantomime and 2) students can choose either a drama scripted play or a dance professional work. Students will put the dance/play together and perform to an audience. Students will keep regular diaries, setting short and long term targets.

Group Performance Workshop (exam unit): Students will be given a stimulus and have to work in groups of 5 – 7 to devise a performance based on a given stimulus (from the exam paper). Students will write about their journey of devising.

Performing Arts in the Community: Students will research into community performance and will find the gaps of Maidstone within the community performances. Students will then create a community. Students will keep regular diaries, setting short and long term targets.

Individual Performance Commission (exam unit): Students will be given a commission situation from an exam paper and will create a solo performance based on the given scenario.

Final Live Performance to an Audience: Students will perform a pantomime (linked with unit 2) to a live audience and keep regular diaries, setting short and long term targets.

Theatre Directing OR Musical Theatre (dependant on audition process of the annual production) Students will audition to take part in the annual production and continue with the performance as a unit if successful in auditions. Students that do not wish to take part in the annual production or are not successful in gaining a part, will direct a group of KS3 students in a musical and be assessed on their preparation and directing skills.

Variety Performance: Students will take part in a big finale year 13 performance in the local cabaret bar.

Singing Techniques for Performers: All students on this course will have weekly singing lessons. Students will take part in a large singing competition (south east Glee competition) and will be assessed along the way. (competition TBC)

Students also have the opportunity to extend their learning by taking on LAMDA exams which can earn them extra UCAS points in acting, musical theatre and/or Public speaking. These will cost extra.

Assessment Method:

Performance; Rehearsals; Workshops; Personal management; Log books/diaries/target setting/skills audits; Research projects

Maplesden Noakes is the only school in Maidstone to have an Artsmark Award from the Arts Council of England.

Entry Requirement's: BTEC PA Merit or Higher or A*-C in GCES Drama/Dance and Audition

Head of Department: Miss Mason Email: Mason.J@maplesden.kent.sch.uk

PE A-Level

Course Description

OCR's A Level in Physical Education will equip learners with both a depth and breadth of knowledge, understanding and skills relating to scientific, socio-cultural and practical aspects of physical education.

Course Content

Physiological factors affecting performance: (01)*90 marks 2 hour written paper (30% of total A Level)

- Applied anatomy and physiology
- Exercise physiology
- Biomechanics

Psychological factors affecting performance: (02)* 60 marks 1 hour written paper (20% of total A Level)

- Skill acquisition
- Sports psychology

Socio-cultural issues in physical activity and sport: (03)* 60 marks 1 hour written paper (20% of total A Level)

- Sport and society
- Contemporary issues in physical activity and sport

Performance in physical education:(04)* 60 marks Non-exam assessment (NEA) (30% of total A Level)**

- Performance of Coaching
- Evaluation and Analysis of Performance Improvement (EAP)

Assessment Method:

70% Exam

40% Non-Exam assessment

Entry Requirements: A*-B in GCSE P.E. or BTEC Sport Dist and A*-B in Science and Grade 5-9 in English

Head of Department: Miss Bennett Email: bennett.h@maplesden.kent.sch.uk

Personal Finance Diploma (AS/A2)

Course Description

As an Applied General qualification, the Certificate in Financial Studies (CeFS) is a comprehensive introduction to personal finance. It develops the knowledge and skills required to engage young people and to help them make informed financial decisions through an understanding of the risks and challenges involved in personal finance and the importance of effective planning. Developing core skills of critical analysis and evaluation, synthesis and written communication, it provides strong foundations for further study in business and finance-related disciplines, as well as a wide range of other fields, in addition to enhancing future career prospects.

Course Content

CeFS is made up of **two mandatory units** which need to be successfully completed in order for the student to achieve the certificate:

- i. **Unit 1:** Financial Capability for the Immediate and Short Term (15 credits)
- ii. **Unit 2:** Financial Capability for the Medium and Long Term (15 credits)

Each unit will be made up of the following components:

Units 1 & 2 - Multiple choice exam paper and 2 pre-release case-study essay response exam papers.

Assessment Method:

8 Exams over 2 years: (4 exams per year)

Entry Requirements: Grade 4-9 in GCSE English and Maths

Head of Department: Miss Noble Email: noble.k@maplesden.kent.sch.uk

Philosophy A-Level (Religious Studies)

Course Description

The A Level specification contains three components which include a wide range of topics for consideration, including an in-depth and broad study of one of the six major world religions, philosophy of religion, and ethics and religion.

Course Content - The course consists of three separate areas of study:

Component 1: A Study of Religion: Component 2: Philosophy of Religion:

This component includes the study of the following content: philosophical issues and questions raised by religion and belief including at least three contrasting arguments about the existence or non-existence of God, gods or ultimate reality

- the nature and influence of religious experience
- challenges to religious belief such as the problems of evil and suffering
- philosophical language and thought through significant concepts and the works of key thinkers, illustrated in issues or debates in the philosophy of religion
- how views of religious language have changed over time; the challenges posed by the verification/falsification debate and language games theory over whether religious language should be viewed cognitively or non-cognitively; and a consideration of at least two different views about religious teachings being understood symbolically and analogically
- a comparison of the significant ideas presented in works of at least two key scholars selected from the field of the philosophy of religion, and developments in the way these ideas are applied to issues in religion and belief
- how the philosophy of religion has, over time, influenced and been influenced by developments in religious beliefs and practices, ethics or textual interpretation

Component 3: Religion and Ethics

This component includes the study of the following content:

- ethical language and thought through significant concepts and the works of key thinkers, illustrated in issues or debates in religion and ethics
- three normative ethical theories such as deontological, teleological or character based ethics (at least two of which must be religious approaches)
- the application of ethical theory to two personal, societal or global issues of importance, including religious ethical perspectives
- how ethical language in the modern era has changed over time; including a study of meta-ethical theories and significant ideas in religious and moral thought such as free will, conscience or authority
- a comparison of the significant ideas presented in the works of at least two key scholars selected from the field of religion and ethics, and developments in the way these ideas are applied to significant issues in religion and belief
- how the study of ethics has, over time, influenced and been influenced by developments in religious beliefs and practices, the philosophy of religion and/or textual interpretation.

Assessment Method

Final exams at the end of the two-year course. Each component is assessed through a two-hour exam and contributes 33% towards the final grade.

Entry Requirements: A*C in GCSE Philosophy and Ethics or Grade 5-9 in GCSE English

Head of Department: Miss Hillier Email: hillier.t@maplesden.kent.sch.uk

Photography Art and Design A-Level

Course Description

AQA Art and Design (Photography)

Course Content

The course is divided in two: Coursework 60%, Exam 40%. The final assessment will take place at the end of May.

All students develop skills through Yr12 and explore a range of materials and techniques, increasingly working towards independence. A few decide to complete the course to AS Level in Yr12. However, most students progress to the A2 course the following year developing what is called the 'Personal Investigation' (coursework unit). We follow the AQA Art and Design syllabus and recommend that candidates look at the specification on the AQA website.

Students are encouraged to explore and investigate ideas using a wide range of materials and techniques through a number of tasks that build towards an independent and creative portfolio. We develop work through a number of specialist areas – Photographic techniques both digital and chemical. Editing using primarily Photoshop but also experimental work both with techniques and materials including printmaking, 3D Photography, visual diaries and web based programmes.

The exam will begin in February when students receive the question paper and they will develop their ideas towards a final outcome to be completed in a 15 hour controlled test in April/May.

No. of Modular Exams/Length/Retake Information:

Students can retake either whole or 50% of the course the following year.

The Art department is available for students to work, with support, after school from Monday to Thursday, 3.10pm – 4.30pm

Assessment Method:

60% coursework (assessed internally, moderated externally), and 40% exam (externally set and moderated)

Entry Requirements: A*-C in GCSE Photography or any other Art based subject

Head of Department: Mr Hedger Email: hedger.t@maplesden.kent.sch.uk

Product Design A-Level

Course Description

This creative and thought-provoking qualification gives students the practical skills, theoretical knowledge and confidence to succeed in a number of careers. Especially those in the creative industries.

They will investigate historical, social, cultural environmental and economic influences on design and technology, whilst enjoying opportunities to put their learning in to practice by producing products of their choice.

Students will gain a real understanding of what it means to be a designer, alongside the knowledge and skills sought by higher education and employers.

Course Content

Good design is vital to our world and economy and it is important, therefore, that we enthuse future designers with a passion for designing their futures.

A Level Product Design creative qualification gives students the practical skills, theoretical knowledge and confidence, especially those in the creative industries.

They will investigate historical, social, cultural, environment and economic influences on design and technology, whilst enjoying opportunities to put their learning into practice by producing products of their choice. Students will gain a real understanding of what it means to be a designer, alongside the knowledge and skills sought by higher education and employers.

Assessment Method

50% exam

50% NEA (non-examined assessment)

Entry Requirements: A*-C in Technology based GCSE or Merit or higher for Tech based BTEC

Head of Department: Miss Thomas Email: Thomas.m@maplesden.kent.sch.uk

Psychology

Course Description

Psychology is the study of human behaviour and the mind, and by studying psychology you will learn why we behave in particular ways, as well as how to study human behaviour. The course is designed to help you develop an understanding of the different approaches to explaining behaviour, as well as how these approaches investigate behaviour.

Through studying Psychology, you will develop your evaluation and critical thinking skills as you analyse the strengths and weaknesses of different explanations for behaviour. All of the work is underpinned by an understanding of how science works, and an appreciation of how research is carried out with human participants.

You will study a total of 11 topics over the 2 years. These include topics such as social influence, memory, biopsychology, Psychopathology, (OCD, depression and phobias) and attachment. There are also optional topics to be studied which include topics such as relationships, gender, schizophrenia, stress and forensic psychology

Course Content

Paper 1:

- Memory
- Social influence
- Attachment
- Psychopathology (including the study of phobias, OCD and depression)

Paper 2:

- Approaches in psychology
- Biopsychology
- Research methods

Paper 3:

- Issues and debates
- Option topics (x3)

Entry Requirements: Grade 5-9 in GCSE English Literature or Language and Grade 4-9 in GCSE Maths and A*-C in Science

Head of Department: Miss Gouldsworthy Email: Gouldsworthy.k@maplesden.kent.sch.uk

Public Services

Course Description

This course is designed to give students the opportunity to develop a good understanding of a range of public services, including the Army, Royal Navy, RAF, Police, Prison Service, Fire Service, and Ambulance Service.

Students will develop an in-depth knowledge of the work of the different services and for example the effects of terrorism, crime and government legislation on the operations of these organisations. There will be an opportunity to develop an understanding of human behaviour (for example what motivates terrorist and terrorist organisations) and learn about the role of the public services in the community and their interaction with citizens.

The course focuses on the contemporary society and as a result this course overlaps aspects covered in several other subjects. It will appeal to anybody with an interest in politics, psychology, sociology, history, geography, business, ethics, philosophy, or simply an interest in perhaps joining a public service organisation.

Course Content:

Unit 3 Citizenship and Unit 2 Leadership.

Unit 9 is Outdoor and Adventurous Expeditions.

Unit 10 is skills for land based and outdoor adventurous activities

Assessment Method

100% Coursework

Entry Requirements: Grade 4-9 in English. BTEC Public Services Merit or Higher if taken

Head of Department: Mrs Forghani Email: Forghani.s@maplesden.kent.sch.uk

Soccer Elite Football Scholarship

This is a unique opportunity for elite football players to continue with their studies alongside one of the most successful professional football coaching Academies in the UK. Soccer Elite FA have seen 3 scholarship players signed by professional clubs since 2013 and countless other scholarship players playing semi-professional football.

It is a two-year course - students undertake A level or BTEC level 3 courses of study at the school and receive professional football coaching from Soccer Elite FA and play league fixtures and matches against professional clubs.

Students can select from a wide range of academic and vocational courses on offer at the school, providing them with the opportunity to achieve academically and also develop as a footballer.

The training takes place every day when classes finish. 3.10pm – 5.10pm.

£250 initial payment for the cost of kit which will last the players 2 years. Students also have the opportunity to take coaching qualifications but these are optional.

Soccer Elite Scholarship can only be accessed through the Maplesden Noakes Sixth Form.

The Scholarship runs in conjunction with at least 3 other academic courses. In order to succeed, students will need to balance their determination to achieve in both their academic courses and football development.

On occasion, scholars may miss lessons due to the timings of fixtures. It is essential that Soccer Elite scholars are up-to-date and on track in all their subjects in order to attend these fixtures.

Entry Requirements: 5 x GCSE Grades A*-C including Maths Grade 4-9 and English Grade 4-9

SEFA Contact: Lee Spiller & Tony Browne Email: hello@soccerelitefa.com

Sociology A-Level

Course Description

Sociology enables us to understand the structure and dynamics of society, and their intricate connections to patterns of human behaviour and individual life changes. It examines the ways in which the forms of social structure--groups, organisations, communities, social categories (such as class, sex, age, or race), and various social institutions (such as kinship, economic, political, or religious) affect human attitudes, actions and opportunities.

The discipline also explores how both individuals and collectives construct, maintain and alter social organisation in various ways. Sociology asks about the sources and consequences of change in social arrangements and institutions, and about the satisfactions and difficulties of planning, accomplishing, and adapting to such change. Areas studies in examining social dynamics include: The family which includes areas such as changing gender roles, demography and childhood), Education (which investigates does gender, ethnicity and social class effect educational outcomes), Crime & Deviance (what influences certain groups to commit crime?) and Beliefs in Society. This is without doubt an exciting and dynamic subject!

Course Content

Subject Content:

- Education with theory and methods
- Topics in sociology: Families and household/beliefs in society
- Crime and deviance with theory and methods

We study the AQA Specification and further information can be obtained from the AQA website:

Assessment Method:

100% exam. 3 exams taken at the end of year 13.

Entry Requirements: Grade 5-9 in GCSE English Literature or Language

Head of Department: Miss Gouldsworthy Email: Gouldsworthy.k@maplesden.kent.sch.uk

Sport BTEC (Double)

Course Description

Combining classroom theory with practical sport you will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of different sporting activities and events. Lessons will vary in style to tailor to the needs of the unit being taught. You will experience group work, independent research, teacher input along with educational trips and student led sessions to your peers and younger students.

Course Content

Course equivalent to two A Levels

10 units taught of which 9 are mandatory (92%) and 2 are external (33%)

Mandatory Unit 1- Anatomy and Physiology

Mandatory Unit 2 -Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and well-being

Mandatory Unit 3 – Professional development in sports industry

Optional Unit 4 – Sports Leadership

Mandatory Unit 5 – Application of Fitness Testing

Mandatory Unit 6 – Sports psychology

Optional Unit 7 – Practical Sports Performance

Mandatory Unit 8 – Coaching for performance

Mandatory Unit 13 – Instructing Gym-based activity

Mandatory Unit 14 – Exercise and Circuit based Physical Activity

***This course is subject to change following updates from the course provider.**

Assessment

100% coursework

For the new programme incorporating BTEC Sport – please see IBCP

Entry Requirements: A*C in GCSE P.E. Or BTEC Sport Merit or Higher

Head of Department: Miss Bennett Email: bennett.h@maplesden.kent.sch.uk