

Sixth Form Subject Choices

Respect, aspiration, perseverance

There are a number of A-Level/Cambridge Technicals/BTECs and combinations available.

Please enquire on application

Applied Science – This popular Applied Science Extended Certificate will allow you to study how science is applied in many different types of professions and industries. The focus of the course is scientific usage, concentrating on how scientists use science in a real life environment. During the course you will be given the opportunity to develop your practical skills through an extensive unit on experimental techniques. You will also learn how science contributes to our lifestyle and the environment in which we live.

Biology – With the chance to study a wide range of exciting topics, ranging from molecular biology to the study of ecosystems and from micro-organisms to mammoths, Biology is a great choice for people who want a career in medicine, dentistry, veterinary science, physiotherapy, pharmacy, optometry, nursing, zoology, marine biology or forensic science.



Business – Cambridge Technical Award - An excellent opportunity to gain invaluable insight into the world of business, combining theoretical concepts with real life practical examples. A subject that complements a wide range of other subjects , either A Levels or other vocational subjects. Studying Business really is a fantastic stepping stone to allow the continuation of study in either Business or Business related subjects at university. Alternatively, skills developed and knowledge acquired would ensure you are well equipped to enter the workplace.

Chemistry – If you've a passion for discovering how things work, using logic and analysis skills, then Chemistry is the subject for you. Studying Chemistry can lead to careers in chemical sciences, food science, biological sciences, medicine, medical sciences, anatomy and physiology and chemical engineering.



'Teachers have very high expectations and plan lessons which engage and stimulate students, who readily respond.'

OFSTED

English Language - English Language is a very contemporary course which seeks to develop students' knowledge about the contexts which influence the style of how we communicate in today's world. It does not consider literature in the more traditional sense, but instead takes as its focus the shorter texts such as newspaper articles, advertisements, historical journals, emails and transcripts of everyday speech.

English Literature - Characters and fictional worlds are brought to life, analysed through discussion and spread out like intricate maps to be navigated chapter by chapter. There will be visits to the theatre to bring play-scripts to life. You will learn how to unpick the ways in which stories are told, identifying the method by which the writer manipulates their readers and causes us to laugh, cry or gasp in wonder.

Fine Art - An exciting course which helps you develop the skills required to express and communicate ideas about the world around you. The course encourages ambitious and individual practice whilst allowing you to discover your strengths and interests through drawing, painting, sculpture and digital media.

Geography - From volcanic eruptions with catastrophic impacts, to a global population of over 7 billion people, now really is the time to be a part of a subject which aims to understand the way we fit into our interconnected and fragile world. Geography is all around us and is part of our everyday lives.

Health & Social Care - Cambridge Technical Award

Health and Social Care is an ideal course to take for Those interested in people's well being. An exciting course based on topical areas of health care. Students will be well prepared to either enter the work place or further education. They will study a wide range of units on topics such as psychology, anatomy, sexual health, dementia and infection control. With the NHS being the single largest employer in the country it is little wonder that this subject is so popular. This course is equivalent to one A level.



History - Studying History will enable you to learn about countries, societies and cultures. So many of today's conflicts and issues have their roots in the past; how can you negotiate with, trade successfully with, or report on a country if you know nothing of its history? You will learn to identify truth and recognise myth, propaganda and downright lies, learn about people - how they interact, the motives and emotions that can tear people apart into rival factions or help them to work together for a common cause.

Mathematics – A Level Maths has been the most popular subject at The Purbeck School for the previous four years and has achieved outstanding results which not only demonstrates the fantastic achievement of our students but also significant progress. We constantly seek to give our students confidence that enables them to express ideas fluently, to talk about the subject with assurance and to use the language of mathematics.

Further Mathematics - Further Mathematics offers opportunities to extend the A Level study of mechanics, statistics and calculus techniques. You will also engage with concepts of abstract algebra and the development of pure mathematics after A Level.

Media Studies - Media Studies is designed to enhance your enjoyment, understanding and appreciation of the media and its role in your daily life. The course introduces you both to media theory and the practice of production. You will have the chance to develop a real understanding of media platforms, the contemporary media landscape, the influential role of the media in today's society and also how to make your own media products.

Photography - Photography is primarily about communicating creative ideas and observations. Both digital and analogue technologies are explored to provide you with a wide variety of learning opportunities and to ensure a broad base of understanding. You will investigate different approaches to manipulating photographic materials, processes and procedures. Research into the work of professional practitioners underpins each unit and will enable you to develop your understanding of contemporary and historical approaches.

Psychology - From obsessive compulsive disorder to human reproductive behaviour, psychology covers a range of fascinating topics. Psychology literally means the study of mind and behaviour. If you are always asking 'why' this is the subject for you. You will leave the course with an enquiring mind and an ability to critically evaluate everything.

Whole School Results 2019

Figures released by the Department for Education 2019 have again shown what excellent opportunities are on offer, and places The Purbeck School in the top 20% of schools nationally.



Physics - Physics is a very popular subject at the Purbeck School. Study Physics if you want a future where you're in demand and have outstanding career prospects. Physics is about understanding the world about you and using it to create new technologies for tomorrow's world, as well as solving the problems that we experience today. Those students studying Physics can expect to be in high demand now and in the future over thousands of years.

Product Design - Product Design seeks to harness the innovation and technical design that is all around us in the modern world. The state of the art facilities will allow you the opportunities to develop your practical abilities through using a wide variety of materials and processes including CAD and 3D printing. This sought after A Level can lead to engineering or creative degree courses as well as high level apprenticeships.

Sociology - Sociology is the study of society, it looks at how you are shaped and changed by the world around you. Have you ever wondered why we teach certain subjects in school or why they are valuable? Have you ever questioned whether crime is always a bad thing - what if we steal in order to live, is that a real crime? How about whether the world is all about money as opposed to people having their own value? Are men and women truly equal, or do we just assume they are because sexism is illegal? These are all questions that Sociologists have attempted to answer, both through studying our own culture and in a global context. Sociology is a subject for opening minds and eyes to the truth of society around us and how it evolves following key global events. Sociology is a social science and is valuable in many career paths including the fields of law, education and social services.

Sport – Cambridge Technical (Single or Triple Award)

This popular A Level equivalent course links practical based learning with sound theoretical understanding of sport in the 21st century. Leadership, methods of training, and the lifestyles of our sports men and women, are all explored. This is an excellent gateway subject for anyone wishing to further their study or pursue a career in sport.



Travel and Tourism BTEC - We are more connected across the globe now than we ever used to be. Transport has become faster and more efficient; tourist hotspots are cheaper to visit and we are constantly finding new places to visit across the globe – and beyond! Travel and Tourism will enable the exploration of our planet considering the places we have been... and the places we have yet to go!

We also offer an opportunity to take an Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) in a subject of your choice – this is a research based qualification which is equivalent to an AS-Level and is highly regarded by Russell Group Universities.

If you are interested in studying any of the courses above then please refer to our website. If there is a subject not on the list then please contact Debs Rayner – drayner@Purbeck.dorset.sch.uk as in some circumstances we can offer bespoke packages.

www.Purbeck.dorset.sch.uk