



The Appleton School Parent Bulletin

Newsletter Date: 22nd September

Key Dates

- W/C 9th October—Yr7 & Yr12 Photos (Date TBC)
- Year 7 Team Building Trips 2nd and 3rd October
- Year 7 Meet the Tutor Evening 5th October
- Sixth Form Open Evening 19th October
- Inset Day—20.10.23

Communication

Thank you all for your kind words and support while we work through the current situation, we've had contact from a number of parents who would like more regular updates and some concise updates too. We acknowledge that feedback and plan to do the following:

- Parent Bulletin re-established so any updates can be communicated.
- Social Media to be updated daily, please follow on the below channels.
- Weekly letters to continue, with further letters with big updates.



[The Appleton School](#)



[The Appleton School](#)

Our Social Media and Parent Bulletin will allow us to make quicker communications.

RAAC Update

You will now be aware that we have had two blocks released back to the school to accommodate more students and more intrusive surveys are happening in all remaining areas of the school for the next two weeks. We have published a two week timetable of students in school, in response to parental requests for more notice.

FAQs

Which areas have been given back for classroom use?

We have North block back, which will mean that we have some of our ICT facilities back for students, students will access this area through the canteen entrance. We also have the newer, double storey part of C block back, the Humanities classrooms. Students will line up outside C block to be escorted inside.

How many classrooms do you now have?

We now have 14 additional classrooms, which is still far short of having the whole school back on site but the slight increase in room availability has allowed us to increase the number of year groups in school.

Why are some option block subjects still fully online?

As we do not have access to many of our specialist rooms and the number of classes that are scheduled for specific option blocks, it has proven challenging to accommodate these students in school while trying to offer as many face-to-face lessons to as many year groups as possible. We are looking at alternative times we could get these students in to have face-to-face lessons.

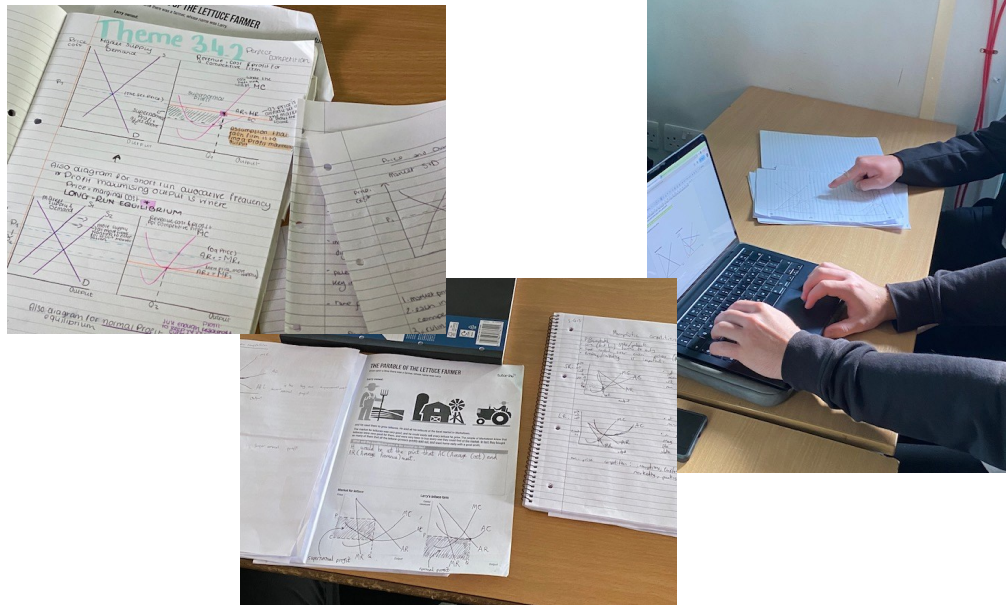
How much longer will this be going on?

We have given a two week timetable as we know that is the estimated length of time the survey will take. Although we are hopeful that we might get extra classrooms back we are continuing with the contingency planning of demountable classrooms. No further timeline can be given until the survey is complete.

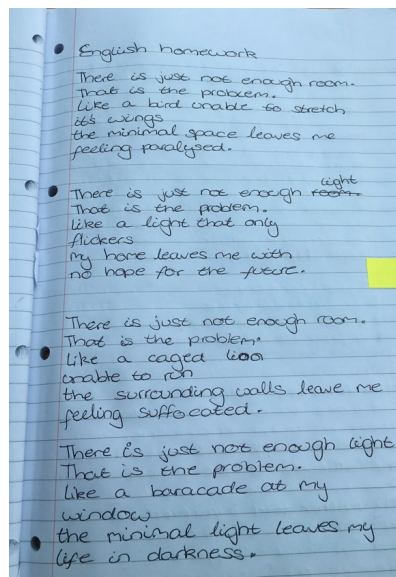


Shoutouts!

Mrs Baker would like to congratulate her Yr13 Economics group 13D bringing the work they did online in remote lessons into the lesson for "show and tell" and consolidating understanding! Examples of great understanding in contextual examples.



A collection of some excellent work from our students in English lessons

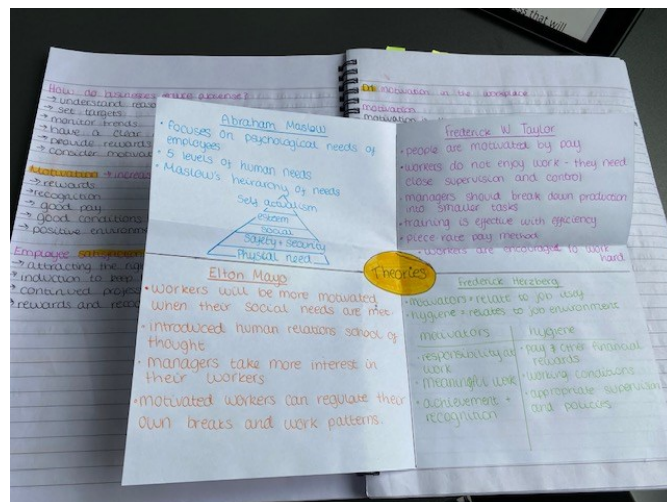


...sir, this may be a very far stretch but maybe Hardy is using alliteration because drift and darkness begin with d, so does death, referring to how Dora has passed away, now in eternal peace.

The speaker doesn't want to become a farmer because he wants to be a poet instead, writing a poem about whatever he wants (letting his imagination run wild).

The poem is about leaving something that holds good, nostalgic memories, and being clueless of why you've left. You know you're in the right place now, but sometimes you feel isolated and despair.

gravily might mean that the dirt is not smooth it is rocky like the road to success

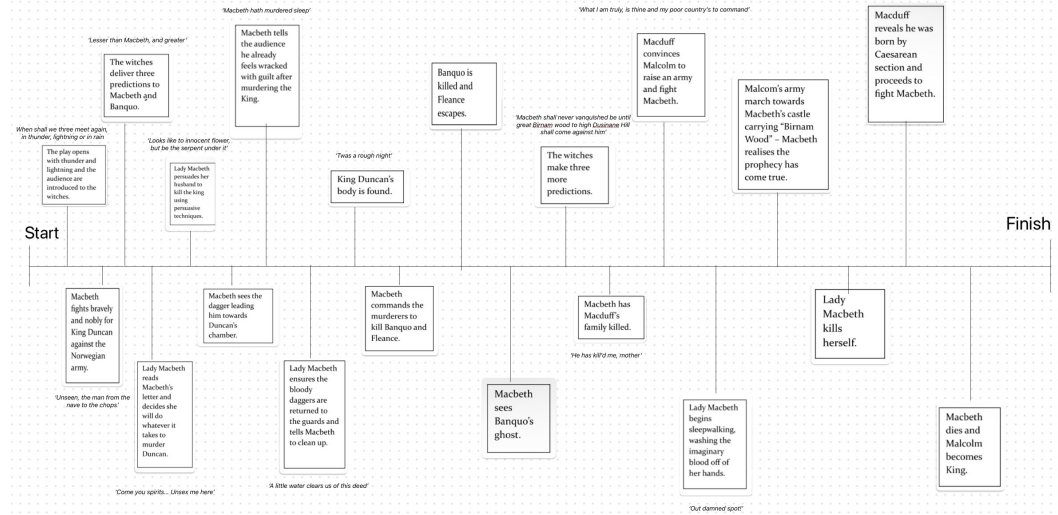




Shoutouts!

Miss Hickey would like to share an example of exemplar virtual learning completed by one of her Yr10 English Students.

A Timeline of Tension Filled Moments in Macbeth



Mrs Benson would like to give a shoutout to Eliza Standley, for her positive attitude and excellent contribution in her Beauty lessons.

Miss Sangha would like to give a shoutout to the following students:

- Jacob Purches in Year 7 for having a positive attitude towards learning every lesson and an inspiring amount of passion for maths.
- Oliver Ewer in Year 7 for promoting positive competition in maths lessons and completing all challenging tasks to a very high standard.

Mrs Levey would like Millie Trotter in Year 11 for an extremely high standard of work in our Year 11 English Literature revision lessons. She is a credit to our class! Please see below extract.

21st
 "Explore how Shakespeare presents Lady Macbeth in this extract" 21st September 2023

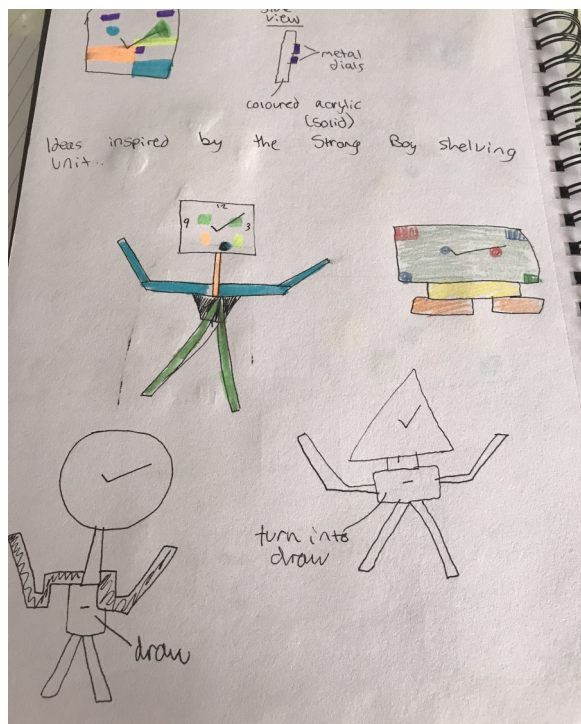
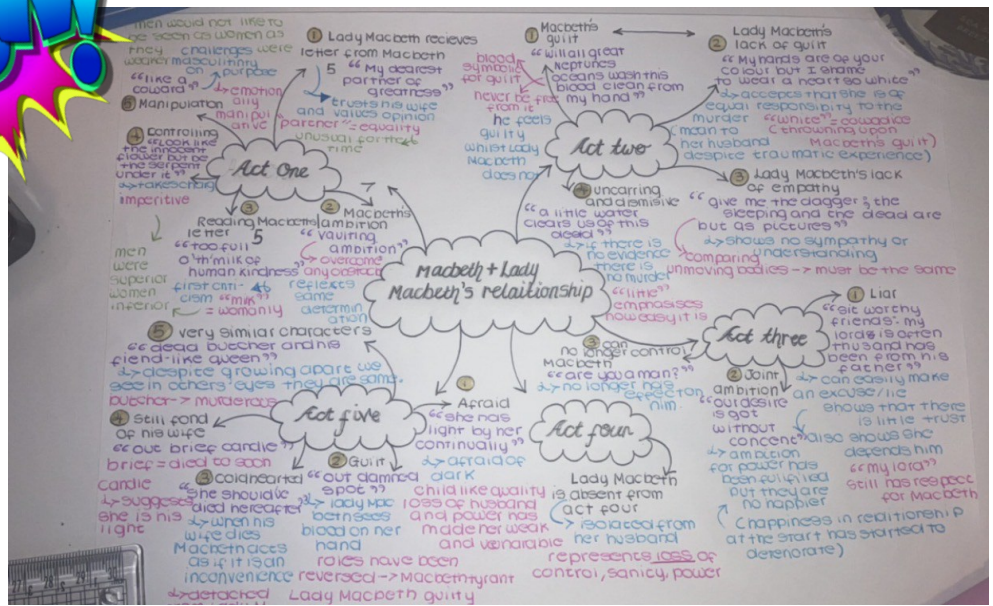
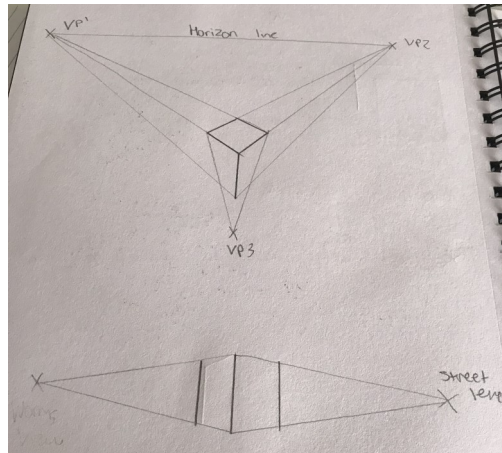
At the beginning of this scene, Lady Macbeth is demonstrated as ~~hubris~~ ~~in~~ ~~her~~ ~~and~~ ~~averse~~ in her husband when he is instructed to kill King Duncan. The audience evidently notices this when Lady Macbeth uses many interrogatives "wherein you dressed yourself? Hath it slept since?" and "At what it did so freely?" The pattern of interrogatives suggests that Lady Macbeth has a lack of confidence in him, perhaps she is trying to convince gaslight him into becoming more manly. Moreover, she incorporates an old moral "like the poor cat i' th' adage?" to imply that she wants Macbeth to stop being a coward and to start acting like a man.





Shoutouts!

A collection of some more excellent work from our students from DT and English.





Performing Arts Extra Curricular during remote teaching

Drama Club, Wednesday Afterschool. Offered to any students on site. 3pm-4pm in the gym.

Harmonics, Thursday Afterschool. Students who have been invited to Harmonics can attend even if working from home on this day. Harmonics will start at a later time of 3.30pm-4.30pm to allow for travel and take place in i2.

Dynamix, Thursday Afterschool. Students who have been invited to Dynamix can attend even if working from home on this day. Dynamix will start at a later time of 3.30pm-4.30pm to allow for travel and take place in the gym.

Session Band, Friday Afterschool. Students who have been invited to Session Band can attend even if working from home on this day. Session Band will start at a later time of 3.30pm-4.30pm to allow for travel and take place in i3.

Any questions please contact Mrs Edwards-Ricketts, Head of Performing Arts

Update: One-to-one Instrumental lessons (with Essex Music Service)

I would like to inform all instrumental pupils that their one-to-one instrumental lessons will still be delivered this term, and will be following the format below:

For pupils who are working from home - your lesson will be as timetabled online with your instrumental tutor.

You will be sent to your tutor's Zoom Room details to join the meeting. (This will be sent to the appropriate parents/carers through SpeedAdmin).

For pupils who are in school, your lesson will be rearranged to a later date.

Your missed lessons will be made up across the term by your individual tutors and you will still be getting your 10 lessons for the term.

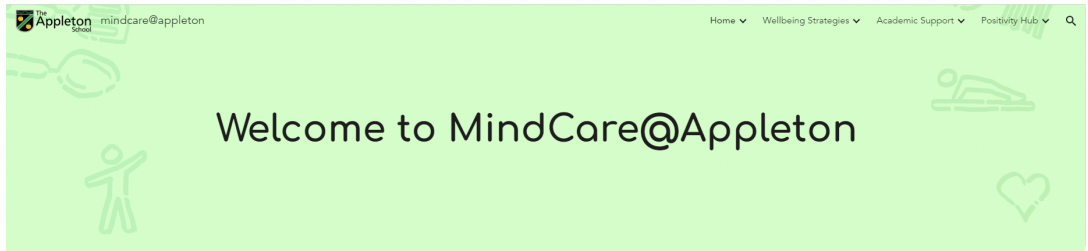
We are hoping that this setup will only be temporary till we are able to work out spacing within the school. Thank you once again for your patience and support through this arrangement.

Any questions please contact Miss Thai, Head of Music





Wellbeing and Mental Health



We are delighted to invite you to a special space dedicated entirely to your well-being and happiness – the Appleton MindCare Hub. This page has been thoughtfully crafted with your needs in mind, offering practical strategies and valuable resources to support your physical, emotional, and psychological well-being.

Here, you'll discover strategies, tips, and insights to cultivate a healthy and balanced lifestyle. Whether it's dealing with stress, managing emotions, or finding ways to stay active and positive, we've got you covered.

It's also a place to access essential resources and information shared for significant wellbeing events that matter to our Appleton community. Whether it's exam preparation, or wellness campaigns, you'll find timely updates and helpful resources right here.

Remember, your well-being is of utmost importance, and we are committed to providing you with the tools and knowledge you need to flourish. Together, let's make Appleton a place where every student shines brightly!

©

We are excited to launch the new MindCare@Appleton website, spearhead by Ms Sangha our Head of Wellbeing and support. This webpage is for our students to help their wellbeing and mental health, and it is informed by the results from the Student Surveys conducted last term.

Please click [here](#) to access it. students will need to log in using their school google accounts to access it.

At the Appleton School, your child's emotional wellbeing is important to us.

With the current situation in school, we understand that your child may be experiencing some anxiety, or have some worries adapting to some of the temporary changes we have had to make in school.

If, you feel your child may need some support with their wellbeing, or would benefit from further intervention, then please feel free to contact me at the following email address: info@theappletonschool.org where it can then be forwarded onto Mrs Benson.

Where appropriate, Mrs Benson will work with your child, either remotely or in person in order to support them. If necessary, Mrs Benson is able to signpost parents/carers to other members of staff or external organisations.

May we remind you that if you have any Safeguarding concerns, then these should be directed to the school Safeguarding Team, in accordance with the school's Safeguarding Policy. This information can be found on the school website.



Safeguarding

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many apps which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about WHATSAPP

AGE RESTRICTION 16+
in UK and Europe; rest of the world 13+

With more than two billion active users exchanging texts, photos, videos and documents, as well as making voice and video calls, WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service. Its end-to-end encryption only allows messages to be viewed by the sender and any recipients: not even WhatsApp itself can read them. This privacy issue has been in the spotlight recently, as the UK's Online Safety Bill proposes to end such encryption on private messaging; WhatsApp is unwilling to do so and has reportedly considered withdrawing its service in the UK should this legislation go ahead.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

EVOLVING SCAMS
WhatsApp's popularity makes it a lucrative hunting ground for scammers. Recent examples include posing as the target's child, requesting a money transfer because of a spurious 'emergency'. Plus a scam where fraudsters trigger a verification message by attempting to log in to your account, then (posing as WhatsApp) call or text to ask you to repeat the code back to them, giving them access.

CONTACT FROM STRANGERS
To start a chat, someone only needs the mobile number of the WhatsApp user that they want to message. If your child has ever given their number out to someone they don't know, that person could then contact them via WhatsApp. It's also possible that your child might be added to a group chat (by one of their friends, for example) containing other people that they don't know.

FAKE NEWS
WhatsApp's connectivity and ease of use allows news to be shared rapidly – whether it's true or not. To combat the spread of misinformation, messages forwarded more than five times on the app now display a 'forwarded many times' label and a double arrow icon. This makes users aware that the message they've just received is far from an original – and might not be entirely factual, either.

'VIEW ONCE' CONTENT
The facility to send images or messages that can only be viewed once has led to some WhatsApp users sharing inappropriate images or abusive texts, knowing that the recipient can't re-open them later to use as evidence of misconduct. People used to be able to screenshot this 'disappearing' content – but a recently added WhatsApp feature now blocks this, citing increased privacy.

CHAT LOCK
Another new option allows users to store certain messages or chats in a separate 'locked chats' folder, saved behind a passcode, fingerprint or face ID authentication. The risk here is that this function creates the potential for young people to hide conversations and content that they suspect their parents wouldn't approve of (such as age-inappropriate material).

VISIBLE LOCATION
WhatsApp's 'live location' feature lets users share their current whereabouts, which can be helpful for friends meeting up or parents checking that their child's safe on the way home, for example. However, anyone in your child's contacts list or in a mutual group chat can also track their location – potentially letting strangers identify a child's home address or journeys that they make regularly.

Advice for Parents & Carers ...TYPING...

EMPHASISE CAUTION
Encourage your child to treat unexpected messages with caution: get them to consider, for example, whether the message sounds like something a friend or relative would really send them. Make sure they know never to share personal details over WhatsApp, and to be wary of clicking on any links in messages. Setting up two-step verification adds a further layer of protection to their WhatsApp account.

THINKING BEFORE SHARING
Help your child to understand why it's important to stop and think before posting or forwarding something on WhatsApp. It's easy – and all too common – for content to then be shared more widely (even publicly on social media). Encourage your child to consider how an ill-judged message might damage their reputation or upset a friend who sent something to them in confidence.

ADJUST THE SETTINGS
It's wise to change your child's WhatsApp settings (go to 'Privacy', then 'Groups') to specify which of their contacts can add them to group chats without needing approval: you can give permission to 'My Contacts' or 'My Contacts Except ...'. Additionally, if your child needs to use 'live location', emphasise that they should enable this function for only as long as they need – and then turn it off.

CHAT ABOUT PRIVACY
Some parents like to check in with their child about how they're using WhatsApp, explaining that it will help to keep them safe. If you spot a 'Locked Chats' folder, you might want to talk about the sort of chats that are in there, who they're with and why your child wants to keep them hidden. Also, if your child has sent any 'view once' content, you could discuss their reasons for using this feature.

Meet Our Expert
Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.

...HEY OSCAR...

National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

Sources: <https://blog.whatsapp.com/en-open-letter> | <https://faq.whatsapp.com/01/1883952232> | https://faq.whatsapp.com/33/019598189245/?helpref=hc_ma | <https://www.whatsapp.com/security> | <https://blog.whatsapp.com/chat-lock-making-your-most-private-conversations-private> | <https://www.sura.com/learn/whatsapp-scams>

[@natonlinesafety](https://twitter.com/natonlinesafety)

[/NationalOnlineSafety](https://www.facebook.com/NationalOnlineSafety)

[@nationalonlinesafety](https://www.instagram.com/nationalonlinesafety)

[@national_online_safety](https://www.tiktok.com/@national_online_safety)

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 20.09.2023



Anyone for Tennis?

24TH & 25TH OCTOBER
KIDS OCTOBER CAMPS
HADLEIGH PARK LAWN
TENNIS CLUB

Looking for an activity for your kids over the school holidays?

Why not join us and sign them up for a tennis camp?



**10 AM - 2PM MINI RED &
ORANGE (4-9 YEARS)**

**10AM - 2PM JUNIOR GREEN
& YELLOW (10+ YEARS)**

Prices:

Member - £20 per day

Non Member - £22 per day

For more information or to book a place, please contact Graham on
07745 943403



Careers Newsletter

News Spotlight

Classroom ^{to} Boardroom Foundation

If you are a student attending a state-funded school or college in England *and* curious about your professional potential, post-16 or post-18, then we would love to hear from you!

Register to become part of our student network before October 20th 2023!

Who are we

We are the Classroom to Boardroom Foundation, and we support students aged 15 to 19 years to access an equal start to achieving their professional potential. We are a social mobility initiative developed by an award-winning financial and professional services recruitment group, Kernel.



Meet the  **RUSSELL GROUP**

 3rd - 5th October

 Afternoon Session: 12:00 - 13:30
Evening Session: 16:30 - 18:00

 www.ukuniversitysearch.com/fair-signup/meet-the-russell-group

Meet the Russell Group Webinars will again be taking place on **October 3rd, 4th & 5th.**

This is a fantastic opportunity for any students who are considering applying for universities such as **Cambridge, LSE, Kings, Manchester, Bristol, Birmingham, Cardiff, Edinburgh, Durham...**

Each webinar will run either **during a morning (9:00 - 10:30 am), or afternoon (12:00 - 13:30 pm or 16:30 - 18:00) session** and cover topics such as Personal Statements & Applying to a Russell Group University, Researching University Options and Student life.

Students, teachers and parents **can sign up for each webinar via the registra-**



Subject Spotlight

WHY STUDY...

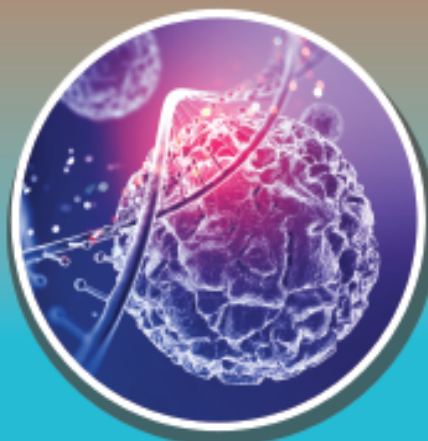
APPLIED SCIENCE

Check out some of the jobs you can do, the skills you'll develop and pathways available!



JOBS

- Biomedical Scientist
- Marine Biologist
- Higher Education Lecturer
- Microbiologist
- Forensic Scientist
- Research Scientist
- Teacher
- Zoologist
- Diagnostic Radiographer
- Nurse



INSPIRING CAREERS
© HARRISON'S CAREERS LTD

SKILLS



Numeracy



Problem Solving



Analytical Thinking



Report Writing



Communication



Teamwork

PATHWAYS

APPRENTICESHIPS

- Adult Care Worker
- Aerospace Engineer
- Ambulance Support Worker
- Animal Technologist
- Clinical Dental Technician
- Community Energy Specialist
- Dairy Technologist
- Environmental Health Practitioner
- Food Technologist
- Gas Engineering Operative

FURTHER EDUCATION

- A Level - Biology
- A Level - Health and Social Care
- A Level - Sport (P.E)
- T Level - Health
- T Level - Healthcare Science
- T Level - Science
- BTEC - Applied Science
- BTEC - Health and Social Care
- BTEC - Forensic and Criminal Investigation

HIGHER EDUCATION

- BSc (Hons) in Applied Animal Science
- BSc (Hons) in Applied Biological Science
- BSc (Hons) in Applied Forensic Science
- BA (Hons) in Applied Social Science
- BSc (Hons) in Applied Computer Science
- BSc (Hons) in Applied Sport Science
- BSc (Hons) in Applied Zoo Science
- BSc (Hons) in Engineering and Applied Science
- BA (Hons) Child Health and Wellbeing
- BSc (Hons) in Paramedic Science

SCAN ME
TO FIND OUT MORE



Greater Essex
CAREERS HUB

THE CAREERS &
ENTERPRISE
COMPANY



South Essex College — SEN Open Event & Newsletter



South Essex College Group would like to invite students and their parents/guardians to their **SEN Open event at Southend College on Thursday 12th October between 5-7pm.**

Please follow the link to access this article and their newsletter: <https://southessexcollege.cmail20.com/t/r-e-ttujlya-nzthjley-h/>

Love Your Library Day - Event Hadleigh Library

On Saturday October 7th Hadleigh Library are hosting Love your Library Day for Teens to raise awareness of the many free services they can access simply by having a library card.

In addition, there will be a drop-in creative writing session which if successful could become a regular group held in the library.

Hadleigh Library is a welcoming and safe space for young people offering study space, free WiFi and computer access, free access to audio and e-books, and of course access to thousands of print items from over 200 libraries.

Essex County Council Libraries

We're books

But we're not just books

Find out how we help teens
at your local library on
Saturday 7 October
for Love Your Library Day!

Find your community!

Enjoy learning!

Unlock free stuff!

Free Event!

Libraries can be anything you want

Creative Writing Sessions

Scribblers

12-16

Calling all young creative writers!

- Are you a budding writer at secondary school?
- Do you love writing stories, scripts, poems, or just scribbling down thoughts?
- Want to develop your skills and meet others who love to write?
- Scribblers is a safe and supportive session for young creative writers of any genre.

Drop in Session
12-2pm
Saturday 7th October
Hadleigh Library
SEE YOU THERE!

**THE APPLETON
SCHOOL**

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Benfleet
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SS7 5RN

Phone:
01268 794215

Email:
info@theappletonschoool.org

Website:
www.theappletonschoool.org

PE Extra Curricular Timetable
[Link](#)

Quick Links

[EduLink](#)

[ParentMail](#)

[Google Drive](#)

[Satchel One](#)

[Microsoft Teams](#)

[Never Acceptable](#)

Autumn Term Dates

Friday 20th October non pupil day

Monday 23rd October– 27th October Half Term

Wednesday 20th December last day of term

Spring Term Dates

Thursday 4th January 24 students return

Monday 19th February – 23rd February Half Term

Friday 8th March non pupil day

Thursday 28th March last day of term

Summer Term Dates

Monday 15th April students return

Monday 6th May Bank Holiday

Monday 27th May-31st May Half Term

Friday 19th July last day of term

GCSE Revision Resources

We have provided a wide range of resources to aid your son/daughter when it comes to their revision for each of their examination subjects.

<http://www.theappletonschoool.org/students/revision-resources>

A-Level Revision Resources

We have provided a wide range of resources to aid your son/daughter when it comes to their revision for each of their examination subjects.

<http://www.theappletonschoool.org/sixth-form/student-life/ks5-resources>