

Clarendon Academy Sixth Form: Subject Essentials

Level 3 Applied General Science

Exam Board: AQA

Specification: Applied General Science – Certificate (1776) and Extended Certificate 360 GLH (1777)

Fascinating Idea

Atoms are 99.99% empty space. If you could remove the empty space from humans, the entire world's population could fit in the volume of a sugar cube.

Who might take this course?

This course is aimed at students who have a strong interest in science and an ambition to pursue a science-related career but will not meet the entry requirements for Science and Maths A Levels.

How am I examined in this subject?

Level 3 Applied General science is assessed through a combination of 6 centre assessed and externally assessed units as outlined below.

Topics	Assessment	Percentage of Course
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Key concepts in science• Science in the modern world• The human body	Externally assessed through 3 x 1hr 30min 60 mark exams, equally weighted. Exams contain a mixture of multiple choice, short answer and extended response questions.	Each unit is worth 16.6% of the extended certificate qualification.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Applied experimental techniques• Investigating science	Internally assessed through the production of a portfolio of evidence in each unit.	Each unit is worth 16.6% of the extended certificate qualification.
One of the following optional units: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Microbiology• Medical physics• Organic chemistry	Internally assessed through the production of a portfolio of evidence.	This unit is worth 16.6% of the extended certificate qualification.

How is my work graded?

The units are graded Pass, Merit or Distinction following the application of compensation rules for the internally assessed units. The overall qualification is graded as P, M, D and D*.

What do I have to achieve at GCSE to study this subject?

You need to achieve at least a grade 4 in either 3 separate science courses or a grade 4/4 in combined science at GCSE and at least a grade 4 in both English and Maths GCSEs.

How could this subject support my future education or career?

This qualification is supported by a range of universities, and taken alongside other qualifications it can fulfil the entry requirements for a number of science-related higher education courses, including biomedical, forensic and sports science, as well as nursing. In addition, the qualification is eligible for UCAS points.

How do we support students who are aiming for D* grades?

- We encourage our most able students to read widely around the subject. We provide access to scientific journals and texts in order to give our most able students the best opportunities to expand their knowledge beyond the specification.
- We invite guest speakers from local universities to deliver lectures to our students.
- We provide opportunities for our students to link up with former students who have been successful in their scientific studies and careers. They may use these links to help them prepare for university interviews for example.

How do we support students who are finding this subject difficult?

- We have small class sizes, taught by experienced, well qualified staff.
- We have an excellent VLE where students can access revision resources, practise exam questions and online tutorials. These are particularly useful for students who need to recap on lesson content in their own time and at a slower pace.
- We can provide printed versions of the PowerPoint presentations and other notes we use in lessons for students who experience difficulties with the pace of lessons.
- We provide detailed and helpful feedback on the work that students submit to use and give them the opportunity to improve their work at regular opportunities. This is particularly important for students to improve their exam technique.

Who can I contact if I want to find out more?

Mr Rhys Jones (*Head of Science*): rhj@clarendonacademy.com