



Newton Abbot College

Imagine what's possible ...

The Humanities Departments

Approach

Our aim is to maximise student outcomes through teaching challenging and exciting lessons which will inspire and motivate our students. Through our teaching we intend to enthuse students and encourage them to be creative and imaginative on their journey to becoming confident, successful and enquiring learners.

Schemes of learning in Year 7-9 use enquiry questions, to provide students with clear contextual understanding for the topics studied at GCSE as well as providing the skills needed to be successful in History, Politics, Geography, Religious Studies and beyond. As a department we strive to create a curriculum which supports the college's vision. Topics studied have been redesigned to feel more like GCSE units and are a combination of depth and thematic studies.

The college calls its PSHE curriculum Values. Students study a spiral curriculum from years 7-11 that covers all the statutory elements of PSHE. The curriculum also includes topical subject matter when appropriate. The college's eight values of Courage, Hard Work, Achievement, Perseverance, Aspiration, Kindness, Respect and Pride are at the heart of all Values lessons. The departments strapline is "I will have high expectations of myself and others".

All lessons are expected to be interactive and dynamic and designed to encourage students to take responsibility for their own learning, as well as building in revision and exam skills. To provide enrichment, we offer a wide range of extra-curricular opportunities for learning outside the classroom including a range of well attended clubs and competitions for students.

Our popular A-Level courses encourage a seminar style approach as students prepare for exam units. We aim to provide opportunities for students to experience University style conferences and have established links with Exeter University Library for students to undertake research for their coursework.

The team

There are eleven full time and two part time teachers in the department, all of whom teach across the ability and age range of the college, including post-16. We pride ourselves on the consistency of our approach and subject team meetings are held regularly so that we continue to improve the quality of teaching and learning, as well as sharing good practice ideas, and resources.

Resources and teaching rooms

The department has dedicated teaching rooms. All rooms are fitted with digital projectors, whiteboards and visualisers, plus there is also further access to computer rooms. The department has a wide range of resources which are constantly being updated.

Curriculum

The college operates a five-period day alongside a two-week timetable. Year 7 and 8 students study History, Geography, Religious Studies and Values. GCSE students study five periods over a fortnight. All teaching groups at Newton Abbot College include the full ability range.

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