Supporting students of Applied Science National Diploma at Toot Hill School.

Applied Science is a subject that allows students to study biology, chemistry and physics. Through studying Applied Science, students will develop a curiosity about the world around them and an understanding of health and safety laws and regulations. In addition, students will develop strong academic skills, such as those of analysis, evaluation and communication, that will benefit them in a range of Post 18 pathways. Applied Science will support all students to achieve their full potential in these important subjects and teachers value the support of parents and carers as students’ progress towards the external examinations. Below is some important information and frequently asked questions designed to inform parents and carers. Please contact teaching staff or the Head of Faculty if you have further questions.

Department Staff:

Lead teacher year 12 and 13 – Mr Lang – [jlang@toothillschool.co.uk](mailto:jlang@toothillschool.co.uk)

Teacher of 12 and 13 – Mrs Bailey – [rratcliffe@toothillschool.co.uk](mailto:rratcliffe@toothillschool.co.uk)

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| Subject | Exam board | Course title and code | Structure | Key dates | Final exams |
| Applied Science | Edexcel | Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Applied Science  Pass = E  Merit = C  Distinction = A  Distinction\* = A\*  For a merit, students must get a pass in all exams and a distinction in all coursework.  For a distinction, students must get a merit in all exams and a distinction in all coursework.  For a distinction\*, students must get a distinction in two exams and a distinction in all coursework. | 3 exams (46% of grade), 5 coursework units (54% of grade)  September to January year 12 – Unit 1 Principles and Applications of Science I (exam, 90 credits, 5 lessons a week).  September to May Year 12 – Unit 4 Laboratory techniques and their application  (coursework, 90 credits, 2/3 lessons a week)  September to May Year 12 – Unit 11 Genetics and genetic engineering  (coursework, 60 credits, 2/3 lessons a week).  January to May year 12 – Unit 3 Science Investigation Skills (exam, 120 credits, 5 lessons a week).  June/July year 12 to April/May year 13 – Unit 2 Practical Scientific Procedures and Techniques (coursework, 90 credits, 2/3 lessons a week).  June/July year 12 to April/May year 13 – Unit 16 Astronomy and Space Science (coursework, 60 credits, 2/3 lessons a week).  September to January year 13 – Unit 5 Principles and Applications of Science II (exam, 120 credits, 5 lessons a week).  January to may Year 13 – Unit 6 Independent research project (coursework, 90 credits, 5 lessons a week) | **Year 12:**  January Unit 1 Exam  May Unit 3 Exam  **Year 13:**  January Unit 5 Exam  May coursework invigilation | **Year 12 2024:**  Unit 1: Tuesday 9th January AM Chemistry 40 minutes PM Physics 40 minutes  Wednesday 10th January PM Biology 40 minutes  Unit 3: Friday 3rd AM  2 hour 15 minutes  **Year 13 2024:**  Unit 5  Chemistry 22nd January PM 50 minutes  Biology 23rd January AM 50 minutes  Physics 23rd January PM 50 minutes |

Frequently asked questions

1. Where can I find past papers and mark schemes?

* <https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-nationals/applied-science-2016.coursematerials.html#%2FfilterQuery=category:Pearson-UK:Category%2FExternal-assessments>

2. Does my student know where to access guidance when answering exam questions?

* All exam questions are put on teams.
* Students are always welcome to ask for support, including trying a question and asking for feedback

3. What happens if my student has gaps in their knowledge due to absence?

* Resources are available on Teams
* Students are welcome to ask their teacher for support

4. What resources are recommended to support my student?

* PowerPoints, worksheets and website links, which are on Teams
* Edexcel website for past papers (as above)

5. What else can I do to support my student at home?

* Encourage them to stay at school to complete work in their study periods
* Ensure that they have a quiet place to study at home
* Encourage them to keep up to date with all coursework so that tasks do not build up
* Use flashcards/mind maps to revise with your student. Help them get a merit the first time so they do not need to resit!
* Homework and coursework deadlines are set on Teams. Encourage them to check Teams to make sure they meet deadlines

6. How can I help with revision?

* Making visual resources such as flashcards, mind maps and diagrams for key concepts and key terms
* Practice exam questions are the best way to revise. Encourage them to sit a past paper and mark it using their purple pen with the mark scheme
* Pay close attention to what the question is asking and revise the information they missed the first time

7. What can I do if I need more support or my student is needing more support?

* Encourage them to speak to their teacher or head of department – we are happy to help
* If they do not wish to ask, parents are welcome to send an email asking for guidance