

SCIENCES & SOCIAL SUBJECTS

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

Faculty Contacts: Mr I Davies, PT Science & Mrs S Hamilton, PT Social Subjects



Levels Available (Entry based on prior attainment)

National 4 and 5 – This course is run jointly by Science and Social Subjects faculties

Purpose, Aims and Benefits of the Course

Environmental science is the study of the effects of natural and human processes, and of interactions of the physical components of the planet. Environmental issues are prevalent in the world right now. This course will look at biological, geographical and sustainability factors in the environment and their impact on our planet. It will develop an understanding of environmental issues using a variety of approaches, including going on field trips to study different ecosystems and the human impacts on them.

The course has three units.

Living Environment

This unit looks into biological factors and the environment. It includes world ecosystems and biodiversity, interdependence of living things and human influences on biodiversity.

Earth's Resources

This unit looks into geographical factors in the environment. It includes Earth's systems and their interactions, the geosphere (structure of the Earth and rocks), the hydrosphere (uses of and problems with water), the biosphere (regions of Earth occupied by life) and the atmosphere (uses of gases and wind farms).

Sustainability

This will include social, economic and environmental issues, global citizenship, food, water, energy and waste management. It will look into human impact on the production and management of these, and how we can improve the situation.

Progression Routes

In certain circumstances, the course could lead into Higher Biology and/or Higher Geography.