

CLAYDON



An academy of the South Suffolk
Learning Trust

Head of Life

Required for September 2023

Faculty Information

'Be the best you can be'



We know how important it is to choose the right school to work in and this information pack is designed to give you some details about our school.

Our school is committed to providing an education of the very highest quality. Our aim is to enable every child to achieve their very best academically, culturally and socially, so they have the widest possible choices and opportunities when they leave Claydon High School.

We believe that all students can achieve success with support and challenge and it is through working as a partnership with each other that we achieve this. We have high expectations of our students and we ask that they are committed to their own learning and show respect for others.

We are all aware of the unprecedented nature of GCSE results over the last few years but we are proud of having upheld our high standards. As a school our Attainment 8 was 50.3 and 52% of our students achieved a Grade 5 or above in English and Maths. Across most subjects results were very strong.

We hope this information gives you an insight into our school and we would be delighted for you to visit us to have a tour and meet our staff and students. We hope this information captures the things you need to know before making an application; more information is also available via our school website. If, however, you have further questions please do not hesitate to contact us on 01473 836110.

Good luck with your application.



Maéve Taylor
Headteacher



Mark Ismay
Deputy Headteacher
(Curriculum)

Join the team at Claydon High School

At Claydon High School we pride ourselves on the welcoming, friendly and collegiate working atmosphere.

We offer:

- ✓ new staff training and induction with ongoing support;
- ✓ continuous professional development opportunities;
- ✓ bespoke support for career development.

“Claydon High School has proven to be an excellent place for me to step into education and work towards my career of becoming a teacher. I have been made to feel extremely welcome and supported by the school especially in the case of finishing my degree, to which the school have been exceptionally encouraging and accommodating. It is fantastic to work in an environment in which you are made to feel supported in both a professional and personal sense.” (Assistant Student Manager, started 2018)

On a practical level we can provide:

- ✓ free on-site parking;
- ✓ cycle to work provision;
- ✓ use of the gym and other keep fit opportunities.

“The warm welcome I received during my visit to the school really made me want to apply for the position of MFL teacher. I have not regretted my decision as Claydon is a fantastic school to work in! Staff and SLT are always here to listen and willing to help when needed and that makes a teacher's life easier.” (MFL Teacher, September 2021)

We are incredibly social and you find us:

- ✓ offering free tea and coffee in the staffroom;
- ✓ providing breakfast and lunch on PD days;
- ✓ celebrating the onset of holidays with staff draws for Christmas and summer hampers or Easter confectionery;
- ✓ enjoying Friday sport.

“Having spent a considerable amount of time at my previous school, I was nervously anticipating how it would feel to be part of Claydon High School. Since joining I have not looked back and very much see Claydon as my home. The gratitude and acknowledgement shown by the leadership team and staff towards all colleagues is second to none. This is a wonderful school to work in and my only regret is not joining here sooner. It is a privilege to be part of the Claydon High School community.” (Assistant Headteacher, September 2021)

We enjoy working here; why not come and join us?

Information about the school

Claydon High School is an 11-16 school with 776 students on roll. The school serves a predominately rural area to the north and west of Ipswich.

Claydon High School has a long history within the community. The school has been on the site since 1937 and has grown enormously to respond to the demands of each new generation. We constantly work to refurbish and maintain our facilities.

Claydon is a small high school on the outskirts of Ipswich, well served by the A12 and A14. As part of the South Suffolk Learning Trust we are working closely with other academies, including our closest primary school, to share best practice, supporting colleagues in professional development and maximising opportunities for our students. We enjoy excellent liaison with our primary pyramid and other local high schools.

The school has six primary feeder schools, Claydon, Bramford, Witnesham, Somersham, Henley and Sproughton though we draw regularly from over 20 different primary schools. We have very strong links with our pyramid of schools and we have all worked hard together to establish effective liaison and transition, sharing of events, planning and Continuing Professional Development.

We are a newly designated Lead Training School for SCITT and are committed to supporting teachers in training and their first few years of teaching alike.

South Suffolk Learning Trust

This is a partnership of five schools based in South Suffolk and North Essex who aspire to offer the best possible education for our young people.

The vision for the Trust is to provide an excellent education for the young people in our learning communities through highly effective collaboration, based upon mutual challenge and support.

All learners in our Trust will be challenged and supported to be the best that they can be and develop into responsible citizens with a passion for lifelong learning.

Values:

We believe that developing the attributes below in all members of our learning community is essential in achieving our vision:

- Challenge
- Compassion
- Conscientiousness
- Confidence

Achievement for all

Our aim at Claydon High School is to provide a high quality education which helps students to grow and develop as self confident individuals in an environment which is supportive and caring.

We treat students as individuals and help them to achieve the highest standards they are capable of. We have high expectations of students and develop and encourage team work, respect and co-operation; all of these factors help students to grow into self confident individuals, able to take a full and active part in their community. Success and achievement are celebrated and we seek a positive partnership with parents/carers and those in the wider community.

Our core values are that students CHALLENGE themselves, and demonstrate a COMPASSIONATE and CONSCIENTIOUS approach to their learning so that they are CONFIDENT lifelong learners.

From students we expect that:

- ✓ they are conscientious about their own learning
- ✓ they show respect and compassion towards others
- ✓ they allow others to learn
- ✓ they are tolerant of the views of others
- ✓ they represent the school in the best way they can
- ✓ they adhere to uniform rules
- ✓ they challenge themselves

From parents/carers we ask that:

- ✓ they ensure students attend school regularly and on time
- ✓ students have all the correct equipment and uniform
- ✓ they support the school in maintaining high standards of behaviour
- ✓ they encourage students to work to the best of their ability with both school and homework
- ✓ they sign planners, contact the school if there is a problem and attend consultation evenings

Parents/carers can expect from us:

- ✓ information about progress and achievement
- ✓ high standards and expectations
- ✓ good communication
- ✓ a broad and balanced curriculum
- ✓ support with any concerns
- ✓ guidance on post 16 studying, progression and opportunities available

Staffing

The Senior Leadership Team consists of the following:

Maéve Taylor	Headteacher
Mark Ismay	Deputy Headteacher
Ian Harris	Assistant Headteacher
Faye Hubbard	Assistant Headteacher
Drew Nash	Assistant Headteacher

They are supported by the following Middle Leaders:

Alison Bateman, Joint Head of Science Faculty/H&S Care
Jo Bexley, Head of MFL Faculty
Gareth Cox, Head of Humanities Faculty*
Clinton Davies, Head of Year 11
Abbi Driver, Joint Head of Science Faculty*
Shaun Ewing, Head of Mathematics Faculty
Jo Fisk, Head of DT Faculty
Jo Higgon, Head of LIFE Faculty (until June 2023)
Kim Jenkins, Head of Arts Faculty
Josh Knights, Head of Years 7 and 9
Richard Pope, SENDCo*
Hannah Sim, Head of Years 8 and 10
Julia Simpson, Head of English Faculty*

*These colleagues have project posts related to an SLT secondment for the academic year

Faculty accommodation, facilities and resources

The LIFE team teach the PSHE and RE curricula and all aspects of Learning, Identity, Faith and Employment. The team are mostly drawn from the closely aligned Humanities Faculty but also more widely across the school.

The LIFE curriculum is well planned and regularly reviewed and updated, working alongside our DSL to identify local trends which need addressing in lessons.

We have a Wider Opportunities Co-ordinator who is trained as our Careers Advisor and the new Head of LIFE Faculty will work closely with this colleague to delivery the wider LIFE curriculum including CEIAG and enrichment opportunities.

Student Management

At Claydon High School we promote an atmosphere of achievement and success. We want students to see the benefits of working hard to achieve great things. We recognise and celebrate achievement in all areas of school life. Students collect plus points for such things as: academic achievement; effort; progress; attendance; punctuality; uniform and equipment; good behaviour; help around the school and commitment to extra-curricular activities. When a student gains 25 plus points their name is entered into a termly prize draw. Student success is celebrated in the school newsletter and regular letters home are sent for student contribution to school life. There is also public recognition at end of term presentation assemblies and the Annual Awards Evening.

We constantly remind students that they should be behaving in a positive way and we work on choices and consequences to help students make the right decisions about their behaviour and attitudes. We ask staff to be consistent in their approaches and follow the student management policy. We find this avoids any confusion with the students as to the expectations required of them.

Premises and Facilities

We are proud to be able to offer our students:

- Purpose built subject classrooms
- Biology, Chemistry and Physics laboratories
- Fully equipped rooms for Art and Technology
- Five ICT suites with additional laptops and tablets
- Careers Centre
- Student Services area
- Fully equipped studios for Music and Drama
- Community use Sports Hall
- A well-equipped fitness suite
- Multi sports surface
- A Learning Resource Centre

Curriculum

Transition Support

We are fully committed to ensuring that Year 6 students enjoy a smooth transition into secondary education. Students will have the opportunity to visit us and participate in subject events. All parents/carers and students are welcome to visit us on Open Mornings and on our Open Evening in September. Our staff visit all the feeder primary schools and

work with our new intake in the summer term of Year 6. Prior to their admission each student and their parent/carer will have an interview in June to share information.

- Every day begins with a 20 minute lesson with the form tutor, followed by four 75 minute lessons
- We have a two week timetable

The School Day

Time	
8.30 am	Period 1
8.50 am	Period 2
10.05 am	Break
10.25 am	Period 3
11.40 am	Period 4
12.55 pm	Lunch
1.35 pm	Period 5
2.50 pm	End of day

	KEY STAGE 3			KEY STAGE 4	
SUBJECT	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
English	7	7	7	7	7
Mathematics	6	6	6	6	6
Science	6	7	6	8	8
Physical Education	3	3	3	2	2
Life	2	2	2	1	1
Modern Foreign Languages	4	3	3	4 x Option Subjects 4 lessons/fortnight	
Design Technology (inc Computing)	3	3	3		
Art & Design	2	2	2		
Drama	1	1	1		
Music	1	1	1		
History	3	3	2		
Geography	3	2	3		

Currently the optional subjects offered at KS4 are: Art and Design, NCFE Business Studies, Creative iMedia, Computing Science, Design Technology, Drama, Events Operations, Food Preparation and Nutrition, French, GCSE PE, Geography, Health and Social Care, History, Music, Sociology and Spanish.

Faculty Curriculum

Learning, Identity, Faith and Employment (LIFE)

The LIFE programme at Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 includes: Citizenship, Careers Education, age appropriate relationships and sex education as well as Religious Education.

LIFE aims to develop a range of skills including risk management, decision making, empathy, respect for others and financial capability.

LIFE education helps students to develop the knowledge, skills and attributes they need to thrive as individuals, family members and members of society. From making responsible decisions about alcohol to succeeding in their first job, LIFE education helps students to manage many of the most critical opportunities, challenges and responsibilities they will face growing up.

Through the RE element students are encouraged to understand the nature of religious and ethical beliefs and practices and to appreciate their importance in the lives of individuals, communities and cultures. We discuss and consider ethical dilemmas and decisions that will face us when living in our society and hope to equip students with the tools to prepare them in dealing with the variety of beliefs and lifestyles that form our society.

	Term 1 Autumn 1	Term 2 Autumn 2	Term 3 Spring 1	Term 4 Spring 2	Term 5 Summer 1	Term 6 Summer 2
Year 7	What makes us who we are?	My Well-being	Hinduism – Other religions and Me	My future	Judaism – Other religions and me	My relationships
Year 8	Islam, the Media and Me	My Health Risks	Sikhism- other religions and me	My Rights	My Relationships 2	Humanism
Year 9	Other Religions and Me: Buddhism	My Relationships	Other Religions and Me: Christianity	Options Preparation	My Morality	My Role as a Citizen
Year 10	Managing Challenges in Relationships, Family and Parenting		Beliefs and Ethics: Religion and War		CV writing and Job Application Process	
Year 11	Post-16 Options Planning and Future Employment (including Learning About Work Day)		My Influences		Managing time and coping with stress	

Staff Development

We feel that continuing professional development is highly important for all staff. We have an in-house CPD programme as well as the opportunity to attend courses run by external providers. We pride ourselves on our induction programme and further training can be requested as part of our performance management process. An annual theme for CPD encompasses PD Days and whole school teaching and learning.

Extra-curricular Activities

We have a fantastic staff at Claydon High School who offer a wide range of extra-curricular clubs and activities. Our students benefit from so many opportunities they would be impossible to list!! We also have a huge number of trips from different subject areas, many in holidays and over weekends. Staff support of any extra-curricular activity is always very welcome!

Things we are proud of:

- Peer student monitoring
- Year 11 Revision Boot Camp
- In house staff CPD programme
- Year 7 transition project
- Visiting speakers and authors
- Readathon
- Music performances
- Drama productions
- Our sports teams
- Year 10 work experience
- The curriculum being enhanced by many varied trips and visits
- Charity fundraising
- Christmas hampers
- Community tea party
- Our results
- Our staff
- Our students!

School development priorities for 2022-2023:

1. Attendance improves at the school and PA is reduced especially for vulnerable groups and PPG
2. To secure improvement in student behaviour to ensure that this is not a barrier to learning
3. Student outcomes improve as a result of teachers' effective assessment and feedback
4. Student outcomes continue to rise across subjects and for cohorts of students as a result of effective interventions and monitoring
5. To promote and maintain student wellbeing, both physical and mental

In conclusion

We look for quality in everything we do and strive to be the very best we can whilst seeking to provide opportunities for our students to experience success, growth and happiness.