

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION FACULTY**

The PE faculty aims to prepare students for an active lifestyle. It promotes an understanding of the need for regular exercise to maintain student health and fitness. It also aims to develop student confidence across a range of activities.

Faculty staff are hard working, committed and enthusiastic and have made progress in curricular development through careful planning and teamwork. Consistency of teaching has been developed through the use of schemes of work to cover all areas of the curriculum. There are currently four full-time teachers and one member of staff who works for three days a week. In addition, there are three members of staff who teach PE and have other significant responsibilities in the school. There are also teachers from other faculties who contribute to the Faculty by teaching some lessons and running extra – curricular activities.

There has been a School Sports Co-ordinator in place since September 2006 as we began our partnership with the Avon Valley Sports College. The Faculty now works closely with the Mid – Wiltshire Sports Partnership and we take part in many of their sports festivals. The Primary School Cluster of 12 schools is very strong and very active. The SSCO organises a number of sports festivals for our feeder primary schools.

The excellent facilities include a gymnasium and school hall. The school has use of the sports hall at ‘The Activity Zone’ (Malmesbury sports centre) almost all week during lesson time and for two evenings a week for extra – curricular. There is also some access to the swimming pool and the Activity Zone Fitness Suite. The site has five tennis/netball courts and extensive playing fields which accommodates two grid areas, three hockey pitches and three football / rugby pitches.

In Years 7 and 8 students are taught in tutor groups as far as possible in single sex groups for both their one hour and one and a half hour PE lessons. Year 9 students have a one and a half hour PE lesson in single sex groups. Students follow a broad and balanced curriculum that builds progressively over the two key stages. Year 10 students stay in their previous teaching groups until the summer when they split into mixed option groups. Year 11 students follow an options programme which includes the use of the fitness room at ‘The Activity Zone’ and taking part in fitness classes run by external instructors. This year Sixth Form PE, Sport and well – being has been added to the Sixth Form enrichment programme. This is optional for Sixth Form students and runs across all lessons on a Wednesday afternoon.

In Key Stage Four the Faculty runs two exam courses for students. There is an OCR Cambridge Nationals Sports Science Course and an AQA GCSE PE course. In both Years 10 and 11 both courses run two teaching groups.

‘A’ Level PE (OCR) was introduced in September 1997 and remains an important part of the academic curriculum for the Sixth Form.

The Faculty runs an outstanding extra-curricular programme offering students the opportunity to extend their ability in a range of sports, as well as to develop new interests. Clubs are open to everyone regardless of ability; the only requirement is commitment and enthusiasm! A range of clubs and teams are organised to interest and challenge specific age groups. There are the more ‘traditional’ school activities such as rugby, football, hockey, netball and athletics. In addition, the Faculty runs clubs in less ‘traditional’ activities such as triathlon, water polo, Just Dance, ultimate frisbee and boccia. We are lucky to have input from staff who work in other faculties and we use external coaches to run some activities.

Teams of all ages represent the school in fixtures and tournaments. Talented individuals are encouraged to attend Area Trials and we have a good relationship with local clubs. Our rugby teams are strong enough to compete in the Rugby National Cup. Various football, hockey and netball teams achieve well at Area

Tournaments and Gym club produces teams that qualify for the Level 3 Wiltshire Games. Athletics is a main focus of the summer term with teams always achieving well at fixtures and at the Area Championships.

The Faculty runs an outstanding leadership programme starting with the core values in PE lessons. From the summer of Year 9 specific leadership opportunities are made available to develop students' confidence and expertise. Approximately 30% of KS4 students get involved as a leader at some point during the year by working with the KS3 clubs, helping at Interform Competitions, leading at Primary School Festivals and numerous other events. Many of these students continue this work into the sixth form. A volunteer Sports Passport recognises and rewards student commitment.

**John Lambert – Senior Curriculum Leader - Physical Education November 2021**