

# Coatbridge High School

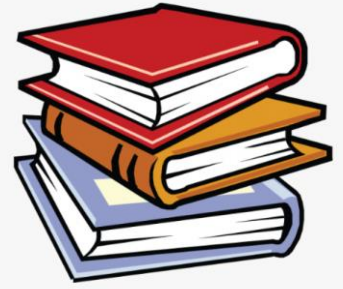
## Meet the Departments



This booklet will give you a flavour of what to expect when you arrive at Coatbridge High School. We have a wide variety of departments teaching different subjects. There is no need to be worried or nervous about moving between classrooms or meeting different teachers because everyone wants to provide you with the best education and make sure you are safe, happy and engaged with learning.

Each of our departments have written a little bit about themselves so you can become more familiar with them before you start at Coatbridge High School.

# English



Head of department: **Mr Mackay**

Teachers: **Miss Burns, Mrs Chalmers, Miss Gilligan, Miss Greer, Mrs McTier, Miss Reid, Miss Robertson, Mr Scott (DHT), Mrs Gilmartin (DHT)**

We are an important subject because: **We teach the four main skills that you need for school, work and life. These are Reading, Writing, Talking and Listening.**

In First Year you will learn: **How to communicate effectively. You will learn how to read and write with confidence as well as the importance of talking and listening.**

In First Year you will enjoy: **A wide range of novels, poems, short stories and films. You will also have the opportunity to enjoy using our school library and learning all about how it works. You will discover new skills, grow in confidence and always have the opportunity to display your talents and abilities.**

Advice to be your best in English: **Listen carefully. Work hard. Give it your best effort. We want to see who works the hardest and tries their best.**



**@EnglishCoatHS**

# Modern Languages

Head of department: **Mrs. Larralde**

Teachers: **Ms. McWhinnie, Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Urban**

We are an important subject because: **We teach you how to be a global citizen and value and respect other people's cultures.**

In First Year you will learn: **How to speak and use French and Spanish to the best of your ability, as well as learning about the culture of French and Spanish speaking countries.**

In First Year you will enjoy: **Practising and improving your speaking, writing, reading and listening skills through interactive learning. Games and songs are a must and you can join our lunchtime languages club!**

Advice to be your best in Modern Languages: **Always be respectful to your teachers and classmates and always try your best at all times.**



# Maths

Head of department: **Mr Bryson**

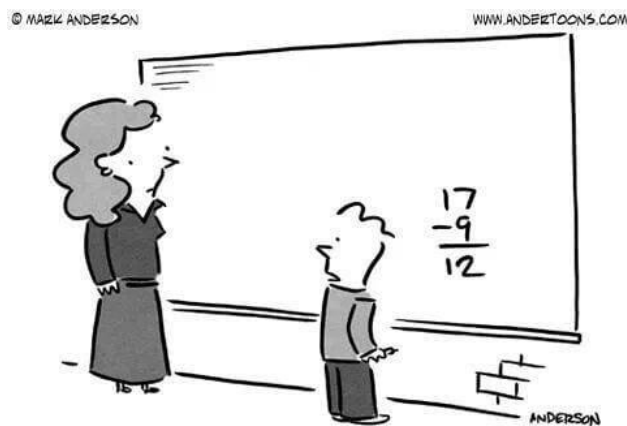
Teachers: **Miss Bryce, Mrs Kydd, Mrs McCann, Mrs H McLaughlin, Mrs P McLaughlin, Mr Morrison, Mrs Mullen, Mr Nicholson, Miss Prentice**

We are an important subject because: **We're the department where everybody counts!**

In First Year you will learn: **New numeracy skills and how to use them, along with the skills you've learned at Primary school, to help you learn across all school subjects.**

In First Year you will enjoy: **Being challenged to find different ways to get to an answer (and finding out what all that "x" stuff is about!)**

Advice to be your best in maths: **Turn up ready to work hard, not give up, and remember that EVERYONE can get better at maths!**



"I know it's wrong, I'm just waiting for the autocorrect."

# BEIT

Head of department: **Mrs C Wilson**

Teachers: **Mrs L Brown, Miss A Crossan, Mrs C Crawford, Miss M Keane, Mr B Love, Mrs P McKay, Ms K McLaughlin and Mr J Wilson.**

We are an important subject because: **We will show you ways in which you can use computer packages to help you in all your subjects, search the internet effectively, stay safe online and communicate with others.**

In First Year you will learn: **To use email, search techniques and staying safe online. By joining a band with some of your classmates you will learn to use word processing, spreadsheets, presentations, graphics and Comic life and Video Editing software as you plan a tour of Scotland creating your own merchandise and advertising material (and working out the profit!) and become confident individuals as you work through the tasks.**

In First Year you will enjoy: **Working as a band as you learn about how computers can help you achieve your goals, use computers safely as a communication tool and learn the main packages people use to solve problems.**



Advice to be your best in BEIT: **Arrive with a positive attitude to both practical and theory work and be prepared to be an effective contributor to your band.**

# History

Head of department: **Mr Reid**

Teachers: **Mr Reid, Mr Smith, Mrs Gallagher, Mrs Ballantyne**

We are an important subject because: **We learn about the important events and historical figures from the past.**

In First Year you will learn: **The skills that Historians use to study The Scottish Wars of Independence and the USA Wild West.**

In First Year you will enjoy: **Learning about famous battles and warriors in History. Completing exciting projects and activities. Understanding how Historians interpret the past.**

Advice to be your best in: **Work hard, follow the school rules and become the best Historian that you can be.**



# Modern Studies

Head of department: **Mr Reid**

Teachers: **Mr Brown, Ms Anderson, Mr McGarrity, Mrs Dunion**

We are an important subject because: **You learn about how your country is run and how we can make changes. You also learn about your human rights and how some people can't access all of their human rights in other countries.**

In First Year you will learn: **About Democracy in Scotland, how to take part in politics, and you will compare Scotland to China in our China topic.**

In First Year you will enjoy: **working as part of a team to take part in a class election, researching different countries, taking part in discussions and being creative.**

Advice to be your best in Modern Studies: **Be willing to share your opinions and listen to other people's opinions.**



# RME

Head of department: **Mr Reid**

Teachers: **Ms Harper and Ms McDermid**

We are an important subject because: **We learn about different religions and cultures and look at important issues in the world.**

In First Year you will learn: **From different topics such as Ultimate Questions (Philosophy), Nicky Cruz, Christianity, Poverty/Mary's Meals.**

In First Year you will enjoy: **Being able to share and develop your opinions. Completing different activities and projects and working with others.**

Advice to be your best in: **Always have a positive attitude. Make sure that you listen to others and always try your best.**





# Geography

Head of department: **Mr Reid**

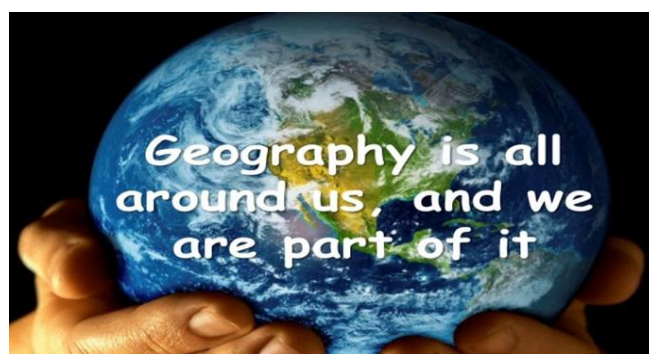
Teachers: **Mr Cowie, Mrs Hunter, Mr McGarrity, Mrs Mills**

We are an important subject because: **We all love to visit different places and Geography is all about how we interact and impact on these places.**

In First Year you will learn: **How we live in different parts of the world from the frozen Arctic to the hot deserts.**

In First Year you will enjoy: **Understanding our world from maps and Google Earth. Researching and presenting investigations on current environmental issues such as climate change.**

Advice to be your best in Geography: **Take a moment and look around – Geography is everywhere. Love your planet and strive to look after it.**



# Drama

Head of department: **Mr Murphy**

Teachers: **Miss Love and NQT (tbc)**

We are an important subject because: **You will improve your levels of confidence and communication skills as well as learn to work as part of a group.**

In First Year you will learn: **How to change your voice and movements to create characters, how to create a piece of Drama and how to rehearse and present in front of others.**

In First Year you will enjoy: **Getting to know everyone in the class, being creative and taking part in group performances.**

Advice to be your best in Drama: **Take part in classroom activities and always give it your best shot. Take risks! Don't be afraid to try something new in Drama. Enjoy yourself! Get involved with fun extra-curricular activities outwith the Drama classroom such as the Drama Club and School Show.**

# Physical Education

Head of department: **Mr Murphy**

Teachers: **Mr Murphy, Mr Gavin, Mr Henderson, Miss Allan, Miss Gilmour, Miss Duncan and Michael McChord (Active Schools)**

We are an important subject because: **You will be given the opportunity to develop your performance and fitness levels but you will also improve communication, leadership and decision making skills! It is the most active subject in school which is proven to help with self-confidence and concentration so by participating in PE you will also do well in other subjects.**

In First Year you will learn: **About different sports and physical activities. You will learn new skills and find out how certain skills can be transferable across different activities.**

In First Year you will enjoy: **The variety of different sport and physical activities you will try! You will enjoy working in pairs, groups and teams to develop your performance and fitness levels. You will also enjoy all of the excellent extra curricular teams and clubs on offer at lunchtime and after school!**

**Advice to be your best in PE: Always bring full PE Kit and be ready to learn. Be positive and never say you can't do something – effort goes a long way!**



# Music

Head of department: **Mr Murphy**

Teachers: **Miss Friary, Miss Fernie and Mr Hunter (tbc)**

We are an important subject because: **Music develops a number of skills, not just playing instruments, but also confidence building, team work, it relieves stress and anxiety, improves the memory, it encourages discipline and patience but most importantly, it's fun!**

In First Year you will learn: **The basics of singing, guitar, bass guitar keyboard and drum kit.**

In First Year you will enjoy: **The variety of music that we play and getting to experience a wide range of musical experiences!**

Advice to be your best in Music: **Don't give up! Be positive and determined. Music is a skill that takes time to see and feel improvements being made – it can take years to 'master'. Importantly you should take advantage of all the opportunities on offer in Music – curricular and extra-curricular.**

# Library

Head of department: **Mrs Costello**

We are an important department because: **we support the work of all subject departments, all pupils and all staff with a wide range of resources and materials handpicked for our school community.**

In First Year you will learn: **how a library is organised, how to search for information for your subject projects, plus the importance of reading for pleasure.**

In First Year you will enjoy: **creating digital mind maps, reading fiction for pleasure, taking part in author visits.**

Advice to be your best in library: **enjoy a quiet place to read, study or research. The library is a resource centre for use by the whole school, always respect the other library users and try not to interrupt their work in the library.**



# Science

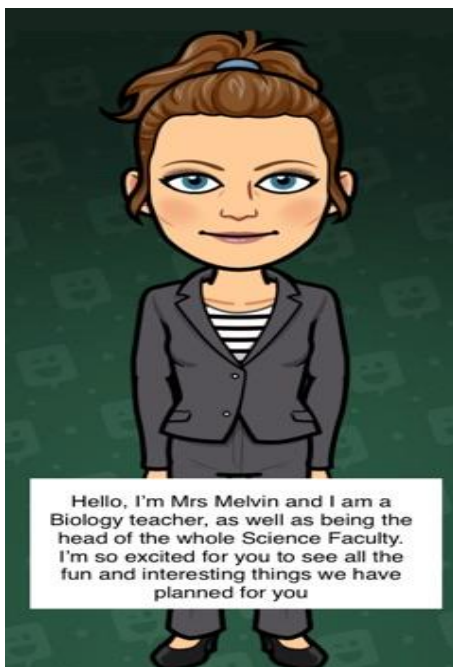
Head of department: **Mrs Melvin**

Teachers: **Mrs Mathieson, Mrs Fawcett, Mrs Docherty, Mrs MacMillan, Miss Graham, Miss C Stewart, Ms E Stewart, Mrs Burton, Mr Lee and Mr McAlpine**

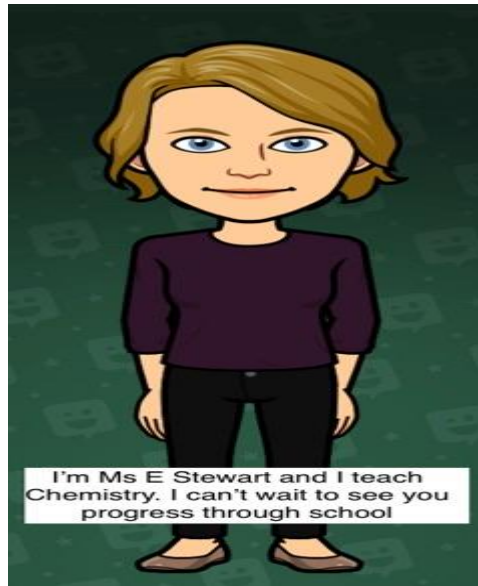
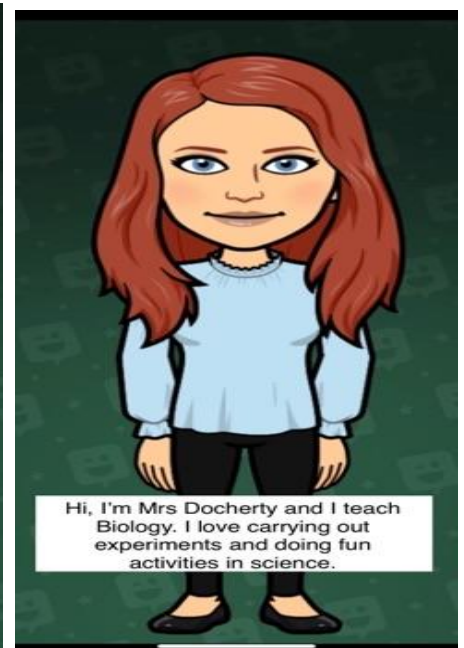
In First Year you will learn: **How different chemical techniques can be used in a Forensic Science setting to solve crimes. How we can deny the laws of physics to launch a rocket into space and how our basic biological needs may reduce the chances of our surviving on another planet.**

In First Year you will enjoy: **Working with others, taking part in experiments and learning about our world.**

Advice to be your best in Science: **Always listen to the teacher. It's important to be safe in science and if you work safely you will have so many more amazing opportunities. You will learn so much about how the whole world around you works.**



# Meet the Science Department





# The Pupil Support Team

All pupils when they come to Coatbridge High School are put into different House Groups and classes.

For example 1A1, 1A2, 1C1, 1C2, 1P1 and 1P2.

If you are in an A class that means you are in Atlas House, a C class is Caledonian House and a P class is Phoenix House. You might have had house groups when you were at Primary School and these are similar.

Each House Group is looked after by 2 or 3 Principal Teachers of Pupil Support these are as follows:

**Atlas House** - Mrs Hunter and Mr Nicholson

**Caledonian House** - Mrs Fawcett and Ms McLaughlin

**Phoenix House** - Mrs Ballantyne, Mrs Crawford and Miss Crossan

Every pupil in Coatbridge High School is allocated to a Pupil Support Teacher. If you have an older brother or sister in the school you will usually be in the same house as them and have the same Pupil Support Teacher as they do. Your Pupil Support Teacher will usually be the same all the way through your time in High School.

Pupil Support Teachers get to know you really well, they will be monitoring your progress in class, looking at your attendance and behaviour and helping you to make your subject choices (but that's a long way in the future!).

Pupil Support Teachers are also there to help you with any difficulties or worries you might have in the school. They have lots of useful advice about a whole variety of things.

## **PSHE**

Once a week you will have a subject called PSHE on your timetable this stands for Personal, Social and Health Education and you will usually be taught this by your Pupil Support Teacher.

Topics covered in PSHE include Healthy Eating, Smoking, Alcohol, Anti-bullying and Mental Health.

The Pupil Support Team are all looking forward to meeting you soon.



# Support for Learning

Head of department: **Mrs Dunion**

Teachers: **Miss McLaughlin, Mrs Urban, Miss Reid**

Assisted by: **Mrs O'Neill, Mrs Battersby, Mrs Clive, Mrs Buchanan, Ms Hood & Mrs Bryans**

We are an important subject because: **We support pupils when they face a challenge with their learning.**

In First Year we will support you: **to learn lots of new things across the school.**

In First Year you will enjoy: **making new friends and building relationships with members of staff**

Advice: **Let us know if there is a problem and we will support you to overcome it.**

**We're looking forward to meeting you all and can't wait to start learning together.**

# Home School Partnership / Youth Work

Home School Partnership Officer / Youth Worker: **Jamie Dungavell**

Located: **Pupil Support Base**

We are an important to the school because: **You are supported in handing any issues, questions and problems that you encounter in S1. You can participate in individual or group activities that help you learn how deal with any issues that come your way in high school.**

In First Year you can learn: **How to deal with rumours, how to handle stress and worry, how to figure out friendships, how to handle things that are making you upset, how to be more confident within yourself.**

In First Year you will enjoy: **Having access to the Pupil Support Base at breaks and lunchtimes and getting the chance to chat with Jamie! You will also love taking part in S1 groups and having an S6 buddy.**

Advice to be your best: **If you are worried, or stuck, or really want a bit of support and you would like help from a youth worker like Jamie, please come and ask!**

# Art & Design

Head of department: Mr Campbell

Teachers: **Miss Dick, Mrs McLaughlin, and Miss Thomson**

We are an important subject because:

- **Art & Design encourages self-expression and creativity which builds confidence, as well as a sense of individual identity.**
- **Art and design helps to develop observational, analytical, and critical thinking skills, and the ability to interpret the world around us.**
- **Creativity can promote wellbeing and happiness**

In First Year you will learn:

- **How to create and apply the Visual Elements across: expressive artwork; design work; and craft activities**
- **A wide range of media handling techniques, both 2d, and 3d**
- **How to analyse and evaluate artworks**

In First Year you will enjoy:

- **Exploring and experimenting with materials and techniques**
- **Taking part in competitions**
- **Unleashing your inner artist!**

Advice to be your best in Art & Design:

- **Have a positive attitude and believe in your abilities!**
- **Always put in your best effort!**
- **Dare to dream: aim to achieve!**

# Home Economics

Head of department: **Mr Campbell**

Teachers: **Ms Carnegy, Ms Morton, Ms Anderson**

We are an important subject because: **We will show you how to eat healthily, cook confidently and follow recipes accurately.**

In First Year you will learn: **How to use cooking equipment, safety rules, cookery techniques, healthy eating, sewing, design and textiles.**

In First Year you will enjoy: **All of the fantastic food we make together, learning about how the food you eat impacts on your body, becoming confident in the kitchen, leaving with a sense of pride that you have successfully made something.**

Advice to be your best in Home Economics: **Arrive with a positive attitude to both cooking and the theory section. Bring the correct equipment. Focus on the tasks you are given.**

