

Open Evening Curriculum Videos 2021

Open Evening Introduction - <https://youtu.be/yAAG3nN5QEs>

It is my great pleasure to welcome you to my wonderful school. We are a very unique community-based school that has, a very exceptional set of values, which are shared by all and demonstrated through all aspects of our school. Excellence, Resilience and Aspiration (ERA) are quite simply at the heart of everything we do here. All features of the school have significantly improved throughout the last few years, Montsaye Academy has great pupils and whole heartedly committed staff, who welcome you to view our school through their eyes, so please enjoy the videos and clips you are about to see.

We look forward to welcoming you to our school in the very near future, but if you have any questions in the meantime, please contact us at office@montsaye.northants.sch.uk.

Mrs Meena Gabbi, Principal

Head Boy & Girl Introduction - <https://youtu.be/AbSDrM5O5I4>

Art & Design - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gjaEU_h4j4I

Art starts with teaching the formal elements of art: line, shape, form, tone, texture, pattern, colour and composition. They are often used together, and how they are organised in a piece of art determines what the finished piece will look like. These elements are developed and built upon, so that the skills and applications that students acquire become more complex and accomplished over the course of KS3.

Students at Montsaye Academy cover a variety of modules including food, textiles, graphics and product design. Design enables students to develop their creativity and practical skills, alongside enhancing their theory and understanding of everyday products around them. We give students throughout KS3, opportunities to express their ideas, develop their skills, experience new machinery, tools and equipment plus evaluate products and outcomes. This work is supported through home learning and pre-learning about new topics and practical challenges.

The development of the KS3 art curriculum has been designed to focus on the practical areas of: drawing, painting, 3-D work, photography and ICT. At KS4 and KS5 level, students have the option to choose GCSE Fine Art or Photography. For GCSE, students have the opportunity to attend a gallery visit in London. At A-Level, students can go on a residential trip abroad; in the past, students have visited Paris, Florence, Barcelona and Berlin.

Computer Science - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vZ0Q7v_G8jA

Computer Science is not just about learning to program. At Montsaye Academy, students start Year 7 by looking at the history of computing and famous computer scientists. They learn about how secret messages were sent and deciphered during World War II by Alan Turing, how modern computers and smart devices were designed by a Hungarian called John von Neumann, how the world wide web and Internet works, together with how the web was invented by a British man called Tim Berners Lee.

Drama & Music - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r7AWRSvnLPc>

Drama is taught across the whole school in our specialist spaces. All students at KS3 get the opportunity to have drama lessons. At KS4 we offer the RSL in Creative Arts which gives the students the opportunity to devise, perform and evaluate their own work. The students study texts from different eras.

We are very proud of our extra-curricular provision which gives opportunities for all students to get involved in full school musicals such as 'School of Rock' and 'We Will Rock You'. Over the past five years we have organised trips to see 'The Tempest', 'The Bank Robbery that Goes Wrong', 'The Boy in the Dress', 'Matilda', 'Blood Brothers' and 'The Worst Witch'.

Music - Often referred to as the 'noisy department', there is always something going on in Music at Montsaye. In Year 7, we teach keyboard and guitar skills during curriculum lessons. We encourage students to take their new skills to the next level, by joining one of our enrichment activities.

We have a wide range of extra-curricular groups including a rock band, guitar group, chaos orchestra ensemble and a large choir. We have two large music teaching areas, one of which is equipped with twenty new DAW units boasting the latest versions of Cubase and Dorico.

Montsaye Academy is a Steinberg Centre of Excellence which places music technology at the heart of everything we do. Consequently, we are able to offer GCSE music in both traditional instruments playing and in sequencing through technology. Our sixth form music students follow the new RSL vocational qualification: Extended Diploma in Music Practitioner.

Students of all ages are welcome to the music department before school, at break and lunchtimes and also after school. We have three practice rooms, which include a dedicated rehearsal studio with a digital PA set up and students regularly meet in their friendship groups to rehearse and create new sounds. Hosting concerts and regular shows is something which we are also very passionate about. In February 2019 we staged 'School of Rock'. The show was such a success, that we are eager to be in a position to safely run another whole school musical in the summer.

English - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WJsjV7minQU>

In English Year 7 students study a range of fascinating and inspiring literature texts as they explore how literature has developed through the ages. Students master how to critically evaluate and analyse texts, both verbally and in writing. Please take a look at our video to hear what our students have to say about their experiences of studying English. We look forward to welcoming you next September.

Ethics & Philosophy - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9K0_tjayzF8

Geography - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W85aPXQAfV0>

The Montsaye geography department seeks to inspire students to develop a curiosity about the world around them. With issues such as climate change being some of our century's biggest dilemmas, we provide students with the tools to understand and ask questions about the planet we live on.

Throughout their time at Montsaye, students develop a deep understanding of Earth's key human and physical processes. We begin our studies in Year 7 through exploring how a geographer would learn about the UK. After half term, we move on to tackle some of Earth's biggest challenges, including "Are there too many people on our planet?" or "Why is our coastline disappearing?" After KS3, there is the opportunity for all students to continue studying current geographical issues by choosing GCSE geography.

History - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2w0pCtp6lh0>

At Montsaye, our History department supports the progress of our young historians by teaching them the skills to investigate the past and analyse how events from our history have shaped the modern world we live in today.

At KS3 we journey through the Middle Ages to the 20th Century analysing the major turning points in British history from Saxons and Normans, to Stuarts and Victorians. Our pupils also investigate the wider world history including the British Empire, Slavery and Civil Rights and both world wars. In KS4 our pupils learn how the Norman Conquest changed Britain, analyse the impact of the Soviet Union and the Cold War in the 20th century and evaluate the turning points in medicine from the Middle Ages to present day.

Our department prides itself in the various and exciting resources we have to support our pupils' journey to 'learn from the past, for a better future'.

Languages - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U4fGqGr55_s

Year 7 Languages lessons (French) at Montsaye build upon the excellent work of our feeder primary schools. We focus on the topics of school, family, house & home and leisure time, giving students regular access to the main language skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. Students are encouraged to use our detailed vocabulary and grammar booklets to be more independent, expressive, fluent and confident in the target language. Alongside the language work, students will gain a deeper knowledge, appreciation and respect of the culture and traditions of France and other French-speaking countries

Mathematics - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X8gHRCS8Cyk>

Maths at Montsaye follows the MyMaths for KS3 (Oxford University Press) curriculum, which lots of schools across the country use. Students will study many topics throughout their three years at KS3 and continue with the OUP scheme at KS4, studying at foundation or higher tier. Students will study topics within the areas of number, ratio and proportion, algebra, shape and space, statistics and probability.

There is now a greater focus in developing problem-solving skills to tackle questions and this is built into every lesson. Students will have access to the MyMaths online learning platforms throughout their five years and also the MathsWatch online platforms for GCSE. MyMaths is usually used for one homework a week in KS3 and MathsWatch at KS4. We strongly encourage parents and carers to take an interest in their child's homework. The maths department currently has eight full-time specialist teachers. Our maths staff teach with a caring and supportive nature, nurturing the young minds of our students to achieve the very best they can. Maths is taught within a suite of specialist rooms at the academy.

Physical Education & Dance - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6O8cdcAAFIU>

PE at Montsaye is far more than just being active, or learning how to play different sports. Our curriculum aims to provide a holistic education through physical activity and sport, to develop lifelong participators. Students develop a wide range of skills, including their physical competencies, social interactions, cognitive decision-making and creative talents through a 'Head, Hands and Heart' model. We also offer an extensive extra-curricular programme, including weekly sports clubs and competitive fixtures and tournaments against other schools. In KS3, students are also prepared for the possibility of choosing to take GCSE PE, sports studies or dance as a qualification option in Year 10. These courses also lead to further opportunities in the sixth form such as A-Level PE, sport and physical activity and dance courses.

Science - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vmQHA3OsmfA>

The Science department here at Montsaye Academy is very excited, not only to be back in our classrooms carrying out experiments with students, but also to have four completely refurbished laboratories, each with a large screen BENQ interactive board. We are a large department, with specialist teachers in each of the three science disciplines, biology, chemistry and physics.

Our intent is to enthuse students from Year 7 onwards, so that they enjoy learning scientific theory and develop their practical skills. In Year 7, students learn the 'fun' fundamentals of science, quickly gain their Bunsen Burner licence and move onto concepts such as healthy lifestyle, microscopy, chemical reactions, acids and bases, forces and electricity.

We continue with an ambitious, broad and balanced, spiralling curriculum to GCSE and hope that many of our students will specialise in one or more of the three science disciplines at A-Level.

Our KS3 STEM club is really popular; in the autumn term our theme is 'Surviving a zombie apocalypse'. Each week students carry out different practical activities, including making a solar cooker, building a model siege engine to propel a projectile as far as possible, with the potential to achieve their Crest Discovery Award if they complete nine activities.

SEND - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zFQ2O8ZQWUM>

Intervention - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GdSGay5oemo>

We are very proud of the educational support provision we offer to our students. Have a listen to our SENCo talking about the work we do.