

## DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE

The Science Department benefits from the work of 22 experienced members of staff, with both full time, part time and some out of subject teachers. They are in turn supported by three excellent Laboratory Technicians and a dedicated Teaching and Learning Assistant.

The Department consists of 4 Curriculum Leaders for Science. Each leads on the development of teaching, learning and management of their subject area and an overview of either a key stage or innovation in learning across the Department. It is strategically led by a Director of Science. Every member of the department is encouraged to lead and develop their teaching practice and develop some area of Science.

The Department is well resourced. There are a number of dedicated laboratories, classrooms and several preparation and storage rooms. All but a small number of lessons are taught in the Science area. All areas were refurbished in 2011.

Science is a popular subject within the school and the Department has a reputation for producing good results at Key Stage 3, GCSE and GCE level. Results in 2018 showed a +0.3 value added score and reflects the work ethic and team ethos of the department.

At Key Stage 3 the subject occupies 12% of curriculum time (3 hours per week) and is supported by a fully resourced in house scheme of work. Developments this year include development of KS3 modules to prepare students for GCSE content.

In Years 7 and 8 students are placed in ability bands and are usually assigned to one member of staff.

At Key Stage 4 Science occupies at least 18% of curriculum time (4.5 hours or more per week). Pupils are placed in near ability bands and are taught by three specialist subject teachers, studying either Triple Award or Combined AQA science.

Sixth Form courses are strong with good uptake in all 3 subject areas. Most years we operate double in Physics and three or more groups in Chemistry and Biology. Pupils follow the AQA A level courses in all three subjects. We also offer Applied Science Level 3 as a pathway for students who require broader science knowledge and skills.

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