**The Science Department**

This department consists of a suite of eight well equipped laboratories, all with interactive white boards. There are four prep room areas. Students will also be equipped with laptops and tablets to support their learning. At present there are 11 members of the Science team – 6 full time teachers, 3 part-time teachers and 2 technicians.

It is a lively, go-ahead curriculum area where all members work as a team teaching all aspects of Science to GCSE level regardless of their specialism.

**At Key Stage 3** we follow the Activate scheme, a course based on and enhanced by many other resources. Staff have access to schemes of work and resources for the course on their laptops. Assessment is by topic tests and investigations. This provides a solid foundation for GCSE.

**At Key Stage 4** we follow the AQA suite of courses. All KS4 courses begin in Year 9 with introductory modules which focus on the skills and foundation learning required of our GCSE courses. Separate Science pupils begin GCSE courses straight away. This is an option course which affords 15 lessons per fortnight cycle across the three Sciences.

The AQA Trilogy combined science course equates to two GCSE’s which conclude in year eleven with one hundred percent term terminal exams. All pupils are supported by individual access to the online OUP digibook ‘Kerboodle,’ and to the revision site ‘Achieveinscience.’ Revision guides and work booklets are also offered.

Staff order practical requirements weekly and the technical team are highly supportive. We have a very low staff turnover in the department with a great deal of experience and enthusiasm across all three disciplines.

We value extra curricular activities in the department and currently have a flourishing Eco Club, Chemical Ambassadors club and many revision classes.

Frequent STEM challenges trips and activities also allow us to increase excitement about Science, and to install the motivation to embark on a lifetime adventure of discovery for all age groups.