**SCIENCE DEPARTMENT DESCRIPTION**

The science department at North Leamington School comprises twelve specialist teachers, all of whom are committed to teaching across the 11–18 age and ability range.

The department has a suite of modern laboratories and a large, purpose built office base. Every laboratory is fully equipped with all of the essential scientific apparatus, including the latest data logging kit, with interactive capabilities, and all members of staff have their own laptop.

The department works very much as a team, committed to innovative methods of teaching and assessment and demanding of the highest standards from all students. Examination results at GCSE are excellent and, consistently, significantly above the national average. All students follow GCSE courses in combined and triple science, through OCR Gateway.

All students are set according to ability through Years 9 to 11. In Years 7 and 8 students follow shared schemes of work leading to common assessments. In Year 9 students begin to study for GCSE, with schemes which introduce the key skills and some of the content to prepare them for Years 10 and 11.

Science is a popular subject throughout the school, which naturally leads to strong uptake in the sixth form, where the department offers three courses: AQA Biology, Chemistry and Physics.  Results have been consistently very good, with a 100% pass rate record and well above the national average.

The department has a strong part to play in the extra-curricular life of the school with regular after school clubs (Science club, STEM club and Astronomy club), field trip visits and guest presenters. We are keen to develop students’ range of experiences to instil a passion for science.

Regular department meetings provide opportunities for colleagues to work with each other in sharing and developing best practice and pedagogy, and shaping policy as a team. We have a programme of subject-based classroom training and support appropriate to all levels of experience. Individuals are very supportive of each other at all times and have the chance to take on leadership roles within the department. We even have regular social activities as a team.

Over the current period of great change, we feel we are moving forward with great success. We are enthusiastically committed to doing whatever we can to develop the students at North Leamington School.

**Jas Dhesi**

**Subject Leader Science**