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#### Staff and Resources

The science department is an exciting, vibrant and industrious area within the College at both Key Stages 3 and 4. Relationships between staff and with students are based on respect and we believe all our students can achieve good qualifications in science. We work in a collaborative, collegiate atmosphere of mutual support. We share ideas and resources readily and are supportive of each other over classroom teaching and learning issues and strategies. We meet regularly, both formally and informally, to discuss curricular concerns and student progress and we work together to develop medium term plans.

The department comprises five staff members: the Head of Department, second in department, and three full time teachers. All staff members are based in their own laboratory which is equipped with interactive whiteboards and projectors. Two full time technicians support the delivery of science. Each member of staff has their own laptop and we have developed a very strong bank of resources on our learning platform, called ‘its learning’. We are continually adding to our resources and we have strong links with the exam boards to develop our understanding of GCSE specifications further.

The successful candidate will join a department which is determined to foster a love of science in its students, which is relentless in its drive to secure their progress, and which aspires to add tangible value to its students’ lives, both now and for the future.

**Key Stage 3**

Progression across Key Stage 3 will be a key focus for the successful candidate. The department has rigorously reviewed Year 7 and 8 schemes of work to service the new Curriculum and in order to lay the foundations for GCSE 9-1. The schemes of work in Years 7 and 8 are based on the OUP published materials ‘Activate’ and have been personalised for Crookhorn students by our science staff. Schemes of work and medium term plans are revised as live works in progress to ensure they meet the needs of our students in securing age appropriate achievement and above average levels of progress.

Students are grouped in ability sets for six lessons per fortnight over a fortnightly timetable. Schemes of work and medium term plans are geared towards specific assessment foci for the year group taught. All schemes of work incorporate regular assessment against the criteria agreed by the science department and which follow the principles of the ‘Crookhorn Way’, promoting dialogue for learning after every formal assessment: students are expected to be active partners in their learning.

#### Key Stage 4

In years 9 to 11 we are delivering the new AQA GCSE specifications and have two pathways that students can follow. The majority of students complete Combined Science: Trilogy, which covers all three of the science disciplines. Students who excel in science in years 7 and 8 and who show an exemplary attitude to learning are given the opportunity to complete the Triple Science pathway. This specification is stimulating, exciting and allows students to fully engage in the practical aspects of science. We have a strong ‘blended learning’ programme to support students outside of the classroom.

Further information may be found at

<http://crookhorn.hants.sch.uk/students/Curriculum.aspx>

#### Professional Development

Training offered by Hampshire Inspection Advisory Service (HIAS) has been (and continues to be) attended and cascaded to colleagues. In addition, staff are encouraged to take advantage of training offered by external providers.

Crookhorn offers a full and well established CPD programme. All new teachers are paired with a “buddy” and are encouraged to meet regularly with them in an informal setting to gain extra information about the College systems.

The College encourages career progression and internal progression is encouraged within the College. As “Investors” in People” the College recognise that our staff are our most valuable resource.

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