

The Science & Technology Faculty

The Science and Technology Faculty currently consists of a team of 18 mostly full-time teachers some of whom teach in other areas of the school or have other support or leadership roles and 6 technicians.

The Science Department has 10 fully equipped laboratories, a department office and three prep rooms concentrated in one area of the school, across two floors. In addition there is a teaching greenhouse and a dark room. Each of the laboratories has an Interactive White Board. A class set of data loggers exists in the department as well as all the specialist equipment you would expect to find in a very well equipped science department. The Technology areas have state-of-the-art equipment to cover the teaching of Design and Technology, Food and Textiles Technology.

The Science and Technology Faculty is a dynamic and enthusiastic team. Staff have a wide range of specialist interests and areas of expertise, sharing the same vision for student achievement and committed to maintaining the highest of standards and expectations for their students inside and outside the classroom.

Science is taught in the Secondary School from Years 7 to 13, i.e., ages 11 to 18. The Department liaises closely with our Primary School (Upper and Lower) with the objective of achieving curriculum continuity from the age of 5 to 16. Secondary Science teachers often deliver enrichment lessons to Primary School students and liaise regularly with Primary School colleagues. The Faculty Leader Science and Technology who is currently also the Head of Biology leads the Faculty assisted by the Deputy Faculty Leader who is in charge of Design and Technology. A Head of Chemistry and a Head of Physics are responsible for the coordination of their subject areas under the overseeing role of the Faculty leader and Deputy Faculty Leader.

In Years 7-9, students are taught a core syllabus based on the "Exploring Science" scheme of work but developed within the department to stretch our very diverse student community. In this age range, the subject is taught to mixed ability tutor groups. The scheme of work is very much practical-based and is supported by a student VLE. Students have laptops provided by the school. The department contributes to the bilingual curriculum in the Secondary School: one group in each of years 7 to 9 is taught 50% of the subject content in French by a native French speaker.

In Years 10-11, students prepare for Edexcel IGCSE Science qualifications with most groups being entered for the Edexcel IGCSE Science (Double Award). Subject specialists in Biology, Chemistry and Physics, teach all the groups. The specifications cover key areas of all three sciences and are taught through a practical based approach. Full use is made of the well-resourced laboratories and students are also encouraged to develop and apply their ICT skills through the use of data loggers, iPads, computer modelling and simulations. Students bring their own devices to lessons.

At AS, A2 and IB levels we offer a variety of courses: A Levels in all three disciplines as well as IB Biology (SL & HL), IB Chemistry (SL & HL), IB Physics (SL & HL) and IB Environmental Systems and Societies (SL). From September 2016 a group of students has been following the BTEC (Level 3) in Applied Science. We aim to develop independent learners and encourage our students to take part in co-curricular activities and to make full use of the school's library. We organise visits, fieldwork and invite speakers to extend our students beyond the compulsory curricular elements of their courses.