**SCALBY SCHOOL SCIENCE FACULTY**

We live in a rapidly changing world in which science has a major influence on all our lives. We know young people need to experience science in as wide a range of contexts as possible if they are to appreciate its relevance and develop the knowledge and skills they will need during their working lives. We aim to provide a science education through which students can not only develop their intellectual and practical skills, but also have an appreciation of scientific issues which will enable them to make informed decisions throughout their lives.

In Key Stage 3, Years 7-8, all students follow a course based on the Activate Scheme. In Year 7 and 8 classes are set by half-year population in conjunction with the Maths Faculty. There is in-class support for students with Special Educational Needs, and students have the opportunity to take part in extra-curricular activities, such as STEM activities and trips.

At Key Stage 4, Years 9, 10 and 11, the Department is currently teaching GCSE Biology, Chemistry and Physics to the most academic students in each year group, middle ability and lower ability students follow the combined Science GCSE. The department currently follows the AQA Triple Science and Trilogy Specifications. Science is a popular subject and demand for Triple Science courses is strong.

There are 7 Science laboratories, grouped together on the first floor of the main building, and serviced by a central preparation room. All laboratories are equipped with mounted LCD projectors which link to interactive whiteboards and computers for class teaching. Six laboratories and all prep rooms have recently been refurbished to a high standard.

Requisitions for apparatus and other resources are completed weekly and serviced by the Senior Technician and his colleague. Technical support for the Department is very good and the technicians are highly valued by teaching staff.

All the teaching staff are well qualified in their subject area and work closely as a team disseminating and sharing good practice. There is a very supportive atmosphere in the department and colleagues are encouraged to develop their areas of interest and expertise. A member of the department completed her NQT year here, and support for NQT’s has been described by the Local Authority as outstanding.

We have a good relationship with the Science Education Group at York University and regularly welcome their students on teaching practice.

We have links to The National Science Learning Centre in York, and members of staff regularly attend professional development opportunities there.

Attainment at GCSE in 2015 was the best in the history of the school. Attainment in 2016 was strong, however, we always aim to improve on this in coming years, both in pass rate and the percentage of students completing GCSE courses.

Matthew Docking  
Head of Science Faculty