

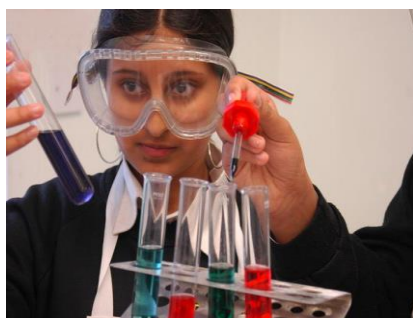


SCIENCE FACULTY

About us...

The Science Faculty is a dynamic, lively team consisting of 11 full-time teaching staff. We have a variety of specialisms within the team.

In addition to the Head of Faculty there is an Assistant (TLR2b), focusing on developing and leading Key Stage 4, as well as a Lead Teacher for Key Stage 3 (TLR2b). Other members of the team take on various responsibilities such as the mentoring of SCITT students, running science clubs, STEM groups, Crest Awards.



The College as a whole strives to sustain continued improvement and, as a Science Faculty, we are always looking to ensure we offer the best for our students, embracing new resources and technologies. We are committed to providing a stimulating, engaging teaching environment and curriculum for students that enter our college.

Last year we achieved outstanding results again at GCSE. Our value-added score of 0.7 is significantly above national and puts Soar Valley in the top 10% of schools nationally, up from 11% in 2016. 73% of students gained a grade C or above, whilst the proportion of disadvantaged students gaining C+ was in line with national figures for all children.

The Science Curriculum

Key Stage 3

Students at key stage 3 have 6 hours of science a fortnight. In Year 7 the students are taught in mixed ability groups and from Year 8 there is some grouping by ability. Throughout Years 7 - 9 students gain an understanding of key scientific principles that prepare them for their GCSEs and develop the investigative skills necessary for Science. The Year 9 students are set, allowing early identification and preparation for the most appropriate courses to be followed at KS4. GCSE transitional work begins in the spring term in order to prepare for



GCSE studies, consolidating the work covered in Years 7 and 8 as well as introducing aspects of GCSE Biology, Chemistry and Physics. This enables students to further develop aspects of 'Working Scientifically'.

Key Stage 4

The majority of students study the AQA Science Trilogy course and have 9 hours a fortnight. Many students opt to take triple science, and have an additional 6 hours of science a fortnight to study AQA GCSE Separate Science, achieving qualifications in Biology, Chemistry and Physics.



A smaller section of the cohort are provided extra literacy support by an experienced science teaching assistant.

The units are taught through a variety of approaches reflecting the strengths of individuals in the faculty and are supported by very detailed schemes of work.

Accommodation & Equipment



The Science Faculty has superb and generous accommodation provision with 10 purpose built large labs, 2 prep rooms, and a flexible teaching area for group work and independent study. The labs have 'wet' and 'dry' areas to maximise flexibility and enhance teaching & learning within the Faculty.

The faculty area has extensive ICT facilities including portable lap safes for student use, Einstein tablets, data loggers, etc.

Extra-curricular and Enrichment Activities

We offer a number of extra-curricular classes for students, after school, during holidays and even on the occasional Saturday morning! We run science clubs for Key Stage 3 students as well as STEM clubs and CREST Awards. At Key Stage 4 we offer revision support, half term booster days, as well as peer study sessions. Following student feedback we have also introduced a wider range of trips and visits.



As you can see, Soar Valley has a lot to offer! We hope you will find these details of interest and look forward to receiving your application.

February 2018