

THE SCIENCE FACULTY

The science faculty at St Martin's is made up of a balance of newly qualified staff combined with teachers with many years' experience. The teaching team, consisting of 17 teachers, work closely together independent of their particular specialisms. We have two large work areas that act as a focus for both professional and social discussions. The science team also includes seven full and part-time technicians who support the teaching and learning across the faculty. All members of the department contribute to the development and management of the faculty.

The faculty is committed to the professional development of all of its members. This will include one to one mentoring, NQT training programme, internal and external INSET as well as day to day support and advice. In this way we try to ensure that all members of the faculty are valued and given the opportunity to make career progression.

The science faculty is committed to ensuring that all students not only reach their full academic potential in science but also recognise the importance and intrinsic fascination of science. The courses we offer have been chosen specifically to meet the needs of all the students in our classes. In addition to this, classroom learning is supplemented by our Science Club.

The faculty is well resourced. We have 14 laboratories all of which are equipped with basic practical equipment, and are serviced well by our technical support staff. All of our teaching rooms are fitted with computer projectors, and several have interactive whiteboards. All laboratories have access to two class sets of iPads.

At KS3 we have devised a scheme of work based around the Exploring Science course. These lessons have been designed to give students the opportunity to be active in their learning, and have a full grasp of scientific practical skills. This is delivered in year 7 and 8 only. At KS4, starting in year 9, we deliver AQA GCSE science. This course aims to give academic rigour, opportunities for skill development and relate science to students' everyday experiences. At GCSE about one third of students study for three separate science qualifications, the rest of the cohort study for a combined award qualification in science.

A-Level sciences have been historically popular at St Martin's. We offer the OCR suite of A-Level science subjects. The opportunity to teach very able and highly motivated A-Level students has become a great attraction to ambitious and academically well-qualified teachers.

The science faculty is a vibrant, challenging place to work. Professionalism and a willingness to learn are essential qualities for any new members of the science team

The Governing Body will ensure that all staff, job applicants, and students seeking admission to the school do not suffer direct or indirect discrimination on the grounds of sex, race, age, disability, sexual orientation, marital status, religion or belief, and are not disadvantaged by any other condition or requirement which cannot be shown to be justifiable.