

NEWSTEAD WOOD SCHOOL

"creating opportunities for success"

Head Teacher: Mr Nicholas Webb, B.Sc. (Hons), P.G.C.E.



SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

Philosophy

The Science Department aims to generate an enthusiasm for science, preparing students for an active, responsible role in an increasingly technological age. We work together as a supportive team, sharing good practice to enhance learning and teaching. All staff have the opportunity to teach all year groups.



Last year we became the Lead School for the South East London Science Learning Partnership. We support other schools and share best practice in our region. We are now an Associate Department of the Princes Teaching Institute after being a member for the past four years.

Staff

The team consists of a Head of Science, with Heads of Biology, Chemistry and Physics leading the subject areas. There are an additional 8 teaching staff, 6 technicians and a curriculum support assistant.



All staff teach their subject specialism at KS4 and A-level, but flexibility in teaching across the sciences is encouraged at KS3.

Students

Students are a joy to teach. They are well motivated, enthusiastic and able. The Department adopts a range of teaching strategies designed to foster an enjoyment of science and to develop appropriate skills. Providing challenge for these high ability students is a priority. Practical work is firmly embedded in our schemes of work and students embrace the range of extracurricular opportunities we offer.



KS3

Year 7 students are taught General Science by one teacher, with separate sciences taught from Year 8. Our schemes of work are detailed and support staff in delivering outstanding lessons. Assessment for learning is at the heart of outstanding teaching and opportunities for reflection, self and peer assessment and target setting are a key part of learning.



KS4

At GCSE our students are highly motivated and levels of achievement are high; students choose between dual award and separate sciences (AQA), with approximately 80% choosing the separate sciences. We achieve 85% A*/A at KS4.



Sixth Form

The sciences enjoy a healthy uptake in the Sixth Form. There are usually 5 classes at AS level and 3 at A2. Beyond our Sixth Form, medicine continues to be a popular choice for higher study, with other university choices including dentistry, pharmacy, biochemistry, chemistry, veterinary science, environmental sciences, biological sciences, physics and engineering. 23 students secured places to read medicine last year.



HEALTHY SCHOOLS
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Enrichment

At all levels, science students enjoy a number of opportunities for visits, lectures, conferences and other activities to enhance and extend their studies. We celebrate Biology Week, Science Week and other national events and have a thriving Science Club. We hold a series of evening lectures for the community and are always looking for new ways to enrich the curriculum.

Achievement

Examination analysis, including value added, shows an excellent record of achievement in all years. We are always striving to better ourselves and looking for ways to further improve.

Accommodation and Resources

The Department has 8 well-equipped laboratories. Adjacent to each laboratory is a preparation area. Outside we make full use of the school grounds and two ponds.

Science Learning Partnership

Newstead Wood School leads the South East London Science Learning Partnership. We provide support and CPD across our region with the National Stem Centre in York. Our network of schools continues to grow and is a reflection of the calibre of Science here.



May 2017



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