

Science at Ripley St Thomas

Science is a popular and successful subject at Ripley with a large number of students studying the 3 sciences at A level.

There are a number of events run throughout the year which include visiting speakers, field trips and stimulating science activities days. We have well- established industrial links with 'British Energy' and the 6th form have completed a BA Gold Crest Award project. This gives the students the opportunity to work alongside 'Engineering Ambassadors'.

Pupils in all year groups are encouraged to get involved in the support and development of others. Year 12 science students 'sponsor' our high fliers in years 7 and 8 through the 'Springboard Science Scheme' and are encouraged to assist in the classroom as part of the Aspire programme in the sixth form, for aspiring teachers.

The Science department is creative, dynamic and forward thinking and aims to '**Bring out the scientist in everybody**', our science motto, encompassing academic rigour and opportunity to excel.

Staffing

The Department is led by Miss Sutton, Subject Leader, assisted by Mrs Harding, 2nd in Science, and Heads of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. There are currently 13 full-time Science teachers and 1 part-time Science teacher within the faculty. They are supported by 3 laboratory technicians working 5 days a week.

Accommodation

13 full size laboratories (seat 30+), 1 classroom (seats 30 with demonstration bench) and opportunity to use the full sized lecture theatre. 2 preparation rooms, 1 dedicated chemical store, plus 2 additional store rooms and a science staff room.

Each laboratory has a data projector and wireless access to support the use of laptops. Two classrooms are fitted with SMART boards. The department has 5 MOBI 'Interwrite Pads' and data logging equipment.

KS3

Key Stage 3 science is taught over two years with GCSE science beginning in Year 9. Teaching groups contain 30 pupils on average, with smaller numbers (15-20) in the lower prior attainment groups. We have a full range of supportive teacher/pupil resources including Doodle, an interactive online resource that pupils can access from home, Kerboodle and Activate.

KS4

Currently pupils in Years 9, 10 and 11 follow the AQA GCSE Science A course. Separate Science and Combined Science routes are taught in both Higher and Foundation tiers.

KS5

Chemistry, Physics and Biology follow the AQA Specification leading to the award of A-level qualifications. All Subject Leaders are certificated for the leading of practical endorsement skills.

Science at A-level continues to attract students in large numbers and the department is well equipped to offer the very best of practical opportunity.

A Sutton
Subject Leader Science