

Wootton Academy Trust The Science Department

Wootton Academy Trust operates both Wootton Upper School and Kimberley 16-19 STEM College (in the nearby village of Stewartby). The two institutions are 3 miles apart and linked by a shuttle bus.

Wootton Upper School focuses its teaching on students in Year 9-11; virtually all of the Trusts' Sixth Form teaching takes place at Kimberley College.

Wootton Upper School was opened in 1975 and enjoyed enviable reputation for many years. However, in December 2015 an Ofsted inspection identified the school as Requires Improvement. Over the last 20 months the issues identified by Ofsted here have been addressed and the school is looking forward with confidence to its next inspection.

Kimberley College 16-19 STEM College opened in September 2013. The College was inspected in January 2017 and judged good in most areas and outstanding in personal development and well-being. Physics is a popular subject at A Level and there have been two visits to CERN in the last few years for A Level Physicists.

Wootton Upper School's Science department was re-organised as part of a Trust wide review of responsibilities in the spring and summer of 2015. This was undertaken to enable greater specialism to be developed within departments and for more effective quality assurance. Consequently, science was re-organised into separate teaching teams of Biologists, Chemists and Physicists. Each of these has a subject leader. Year 9 students are largely taught by just one science teacher.

Our main science accommodation of six laboratories and prep room is currently being refurbished. Phase one was completed in August 2017 and phase two will be handed over at half term. Phase three the remaining three laboratories, we plan to refurbish next summer.

Our team of science teachers are all specialists and all work hard for our students. Many teachers work across the 13-19 age range and therefore, teach at both Wootton Upper School and Kimberley 16-19 STEM College. A minority teach only at Wootton Upper School or at Kimberley 16-19 STEM College.

There are three science technicians and two laboratory assistants.

In Year 9, all students have four hours of science per two-week timetable cycle. In Years 10 and 11 the majority of students are taught Combined Science. However, approximately a third of the year group opt for Triple Science. Combined Science students have nine hours of Biology, Chemistry and Physics per timetable cycle. Students choosing triple science have a further five hours of science lessons per timetable cycle.

In the sixth form, each A level block is allocated five double periods per two-week timetable cycle along with a further double study period.

2017 Examinations results are as follows:

	A*	Α	В	С	D	E	F	G	U
GCSE Core Sciences	2	28	66	74	28	24	10	3	0
GCSE Additional Sciences	7	28	63	0	0	0	0	0	0
GCSE Biology	17	26	25	13	2	0	0	0	0
GCSE Chemistry	18	25	24	13	3	0	0	0	0
GCSE Physics	13	21	22	25	2	0	0	0	0

83% of students achieved 2 or more GCSE passes at A^* - C. Additionally, 26 students studied BTEC Science, 25 passed at Level 2 and 1 passed at Level 1.

	A*	Α	В	С	D	Ε	U
A Level Biology	2	6	6	8	9	5	0
A Level Chemistry	1	7	11	3	8	4	0
A Level Physics	2	2	7	2	4	5	3

2017 ALPS A2 grades are: Biology 5; Chemistry 5; and Physics 6.

For further information on the Science department please contact Mrs Shreeja Ashton, Assistant Principal sashton@wootton.beds.sch.uk