

Science Department

The department is staffed by six full-time and three part-time teachers at present and the equivalent of 1.5 technicians. We have five fully equipped teaching laboratories, two of which have been recently refurbished. All the labs have projectors, speakers and whiteboards. A small number of lessons are taught in classrooms. Dedicated IT rooms can be booked in advance for lesson delivery. Laboratories are fully equipped and the department benefits from a range of excellent electronic resources.

In the planning phase currently is a brand new, state of the art, double storey Science facility with eight fully equipped labs, one sixth form lab, two large prep rooms and a science office. This is currently planned to be completed for September 2020.

All lessons are taught in periods of sixty minutes. Students in Y7 and Y8 study science for seven lessons per fortnight. The *Collins Connect* electronic scheme of work and resources is followed in KS3. All three disciplines are taught by all teachers.

The *Collins Connect* electronic scheme of work and support materials are also utilised at KS4. Beginning in Y9 most students follow the AQA Science Trilogy (Combined science) GCSE syllabus. Students who achieve a Level 2.2 or above at KS3, currently one teaching groups, follow the separate science course and have selected to do so as an option to ensure adequate lesson time to deliver the content. Each class has 8 lessons per fortnight in Y9, 8 lessons per fortnight in Y10 and 9 lessons per fortnight in Y11. Triple Science students have, in addition, five lessons per fortnight to as part of their option subject. All staff are required to teach outside their particular specialism up to KS4.

We also offer the full complement of subjects (Biology, Chemistry and Physics) at A Level and offer the AQA syllabus to small classes in Years 12 and 13.

At KS4 all students are assessed at the end of each module. In addition, students in Y10 and Y11 complete a sequence of mock exams to prepare them for their external assessments at the end of Y11. Data is recorded in the SIMS database and used to identify the progress made by students, and to ensure targets are being met. In KS3 students have termly assessments in line with progress check points. Data from these assessments is recorded by class teachers on a centralised spreadsheet. This is again used to give an accurate picture of the performance of every student and student progress is tracked and monitored carefully to ensure targets are met.

The science team is friendly and strong, working very much as a collective with each member of staff always prepared to support the others. We have high expectations of all students with an appropriately structured and well supported behavioural policy.

The successful applicant will:

- Be an excellent classroom practitioner

- Be able to maintain good discipline
- Have high expectations of all students in terms of behaviour and work
- Have the ability to enthuse students with a passion for the subject
- Be able to employ a variety of teaching styles in their teaching
- Be able to complement and contribute significantly to the team
- Be able to teach all three disciplines up to GCSE level
- The possibility of teaching their specialism at A Level
- Have an awareness of the need for a suitable learning environment.

Peter Toovey
Subject Leader



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