

## **SCIENCE DEPARTMENT**

The science department is a large and enthusiastic team of fourteen teachers and four technicians. We are housed in eleven superbly-equipped laboratories, two of them specially designed for A level teaching. As an expanding department we recently added a brand new laboratory to our excellent facilities.

Each laboratory has a data-projector and the department is very well served for specialist teaching software and equipment. We have set up and are continuing to develop our VLE in science which complements our existing electronic resources. All members of the department are provided with an iPad to aid their planning and teaching.

At key stage 3 we have our own programme of study based on the National Curriculum. The programme is highly practical and emphasises the importance of both active learning and the use of thinking skills. We start teaching the GCSE science at the beginning of Year 9 with pupils taking exams at the end of Year 11.

Key stage 4 pupils are currently taught the new AQA Combined science: Trilogy course which is delivered using our own in-house developed programme of study. Our GCSE results have consistently been above 90% A\*-C, with value added (measured by ALPS) of grade 2 for the past 4 years. We are proud to be performing amongst the top 5-10% of science departments in the country.

Science courses at sixth form are very popular in each subject area (biology, chemistry and physics) we also offer Level 3 applied science in the sixth form. Well over half of our sixth formers study at least one science A level. Results are high at both AS and A2 level with students going on to a range of university degrees in science and engineering. A-level courses are carefully chosen with biology following the AQA course, chemistry the OCR syllabus and physics the Edexcel course.

The department also runs a number of extra-curricular activities including KS3 science club and a conservation group. Our annual STEM festival is very popular and well-established with a number of exciting events, trips and external visitors. We also take part regularly in the Cheltenham Science Festival.

We are looking for a highly motivated colleague with the ability to teach all sciences to GCSE and A Level physics who will make a strong contribution to what is already a very successful team. Above all, we want an excellent classroom practitioner with a passion for science.

Simon Jones  
Head of Science  
February 2018