



## Science Learning Area Information

The Science Learning Area and comprises the biology, chemistry and physics subject areas.

High quality teaching and learning is the foundation of all that we do within the learning area. We are looking to recruit a high quality, enthusiastic member of staff who will contribute to ensuring that all students leave Oldfield School achieving the very best that they can.

Facilities include 7 laboratories, a sixth form teaching room, staff base, and a staff work room; these rooms are situated across two adjacent buildings. Each laboratory is well equipped, with cutting edge IT facilities, including surface pros wirelessly connecting to TV screens. Two additional science laboratories and a prep room will be completed for October 2024.

The learning area consists of 13 specialist science teachers who deliver all of the science lessons at Oldfield School. Within the learning area, we currently have four TLR positions; Leader of Learning, KS4 Leader (2 i/c), KS3 Leader and Head of Physics.

At Key Stage 4, our students study AQA GCSE Science. We currently enter our more able students for the triple science pathway and stretch our most able via additional competitions such as Biology Challenge. The remaining students follow the AQA Trilogy pathway. We split pupils into higher and foundation classes, where we currently have approximately 50% of students studying the higher tier qualification.

At Key Stage 5, we deliver A Level courses in biology, chemistry and physics. This is a particularly exciting time for the Science Learning Area, and Oldfield Sixth Form as a whole, with significant growth in the number of sixth form students studying science A Levels. We regularly staff two A Level classes in biology (occasionally staffing three), two chemistry, and one in physics, with class sizes of 15 or below. We have a strong record of achieving good results at post 16 and the ideal candidate will have the potential to contribute to this provision.

Our current extra-curricular programme offers STEM enrichment at KS3 and 4. Subject specialists have also arranged numerous visits, visitors, workshops and other out-of-classroom learning experiences to inspire and broaden learning at KS4. Extra-curricular visits and residential excursions are now also common across KS5.

Across all key stages we are consistently looking at ways to develop the ways to students learn actively, and to pursue depth of understanding. Over the last two years, we have developed comprehensive schemes of work across the KS3 and KS4 curriculum that are fully resourced, lesson by lesson, to support teachers to deliver strong lessons and to share the best practice from across the department. These are constantly being quality assured and developed, and the ideal candidate should bring a sense of creativity and willingness to collaborate.