



## The Science Department

### Staff and Structure

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The department consists of two full time science technicians, five full time teachers, and one part time teacher. The department is supported by the Associate Headteacher. We are a strong, hardworking, and enthusiastic team who work very well together to empower students with a love of the subject and a desire to learn. The team has a variety of experiences and teaching styles and comes from a wide range of academic backgrounds; as a collective, we are highly experienced dedicated and professional practitioners.

Teachers within the department are keen to assess and track student progress regularly and respond to individual students' learning needs. We plan collaboratively, are encouraged to share learning and teaching ideas and resources, and to enrich our curriculum. It is also fully equipped to meet the needs of both SEND students and More and Most Able students.

Students in Years 7 and 8 have three hours of science per week. Those in Years 9 and 10 have four hours a week. Students in Year 11 have four and a half hours on average over the two week timetable. Students studying separate science enjoy 15 hours over the two week timetable. We are delivering the new AQA specification. Formal home learning is a key part of students' learning, and takes a variety of forms.

### The Science Department Facilities

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In total there are four laboratories, a prep room, and computer suite. They are all located in the same block within the school, close to the shared Department office.

All our classrooms are equipped with digital projectors and Promethean Activeboards. We also have a huge amount of resources, including laboratory equipment and books to aid teaching and learning within the classroom. We currently use online "activeteach" resources to deliver the KS3 Exploring science schemes of work, and "kerboodle" to deliver the new 9-1 GCSE.

### Extra Curricular

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Students at St Thomas More Language College are very keen to progress in science; this is reflected in the number of students who choose to attend our vast array of intervention and revision sessions after school. We also have a thriving Science Club, which is supported by STEM.