



The Science Department

The department consists of an enthusiastic team of 13 teachers working in ten well-resourced laboratories. Our Science team encompasses a range of ages and experience and are a happy, collegiate group. A number of staff hold responsibility posts in Science including Heads of each of the three Sciences, a Second in Science and a teacher in charge of Key Stage 3 Science. The department has forged positive, mutually beneficial links with colleagues in the Science department at Coombe Boys' School. The department is well equipped in terms of apparatus and textbooks and enjoys the support of technicians. The Science department has a stock of 30 Chromebooks which can be ordered for lessons plus extensive data logging apparatus, access to computer suites and makes extensive use of Google Classroom as well as Google sites.

At Key Stage 3 the curriculum is delivered via a modified version of the Active Science course and designed to prepare pupils for AQA Science GCSEs. At KS3, Science is delivered by separate teachers for each of the three Sciences; Biology, Chemistry and Physics. In Year 7, 8 and 9 pupils are taught in mixed prior attainment groups.

At Key Stage 4 70% of pupils follow the AQA Trilogy Double Science course with the other 30% taking separate GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Those students on separate sciences receive 15 hours of teaching a fortnight; those on Combined Science 10 hours a fortnight. The Trilogy double award course is delivered by subject specialists where possible. The Separate Science courses are always delivered by subject specialists. Results in the Science department are good and improving, standing at 80% 2 passes at 9 to 4 in 2019 and currently projecting 87% for 2020. At A Level, all three sciences are currently predicting results which would achieve ALPs scores of 1 to 3.

The following courses are taught at A level:

- OCR Biology A;
- EDEXCEL Chemistry
- OCR Physics A

Extra curricular activities include:

- GCSE, AS and A2 intervention sessions;
- a Science Club for KS3;
- STEM club for KS4 and 5
- A Year 8 Science museum;
- External speakers;
- Science challenge events for KS4.
- CERN trip for KS5 Physicists