Hall Park Academy

SCIENCE

In June 2017 Hall Park was judged as being a 'Good' school by Ofsted, with Science contributing to the school's recent examination success.

Staffing

The Science Faculty at The Hall Park Academy consists of six members of staff including a Head of Faculty and Second in Science. The Science team are hard-working, have high levels of personal responsibility and are strongly supportive of each other. Friendly but professional working relationships exist between all staff, both teaching and non-teaching.

Accommodation

This consists of seven laboratories that are fully equipped and maintained to deliver the variety of courses outlined below. These are well serviced by one full-time and two part-time laboratory technicians.

Curriculum

Key Stage 3

In Years 7 and 8 pupils have three periods of Science per week and are taught in setted ability groups. A balanced Science course is taught in years 7 and 8.

Key Stage 4

Students follow the AQA Dual Award Science and Triple Science course. The Physics, Chemistry and Biology components of the courses are taught separately by specialist staff.

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The Sixth Form (Years 12/13)

A level GCE courses in Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Psychology are offered. These courses are popular with Hall Park students and consequently numbers studying them have increased over recent years. We also offer a Level 3 BTEC Applied Science course.

Additional Support for Students

Teaching Assistants are used to support some students with learning difficulties in Science lessons during Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11.

In Years 10 and 11, where possible, such students work in small size sets allowing more individual help and attention.

Teaching and Learning Approaches

Staff are encouraged to employ a variety of teaching and learning activities in order to motivate students, maintain their interest and encourage them to achieve their full potential.

Emphasis is placed on practical investigative work by students whenever possible (either individually or in small groups). Other teaching approaches used take into account the age and ability of students as well as the nature of the topic material, and include project work, role play, team teaching, teacher demonstration and whole class teaching. Some members of the faculty are taking a leading role in developing new teaching and learning approaches.