SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

**Staff**

The Science Department is a team of twelve teachers who are Science specialists with Key Stage 3, 4 and 5 Managers who also have oversight of Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Psychology. There is a core of experienced teachers and a variety of ages. The department is recognised by the Senior Leadership Team as being a model for cooperative teamwork. All colleagues teach across the age and ability range. The department has consistently produced excellent examination results at all levels.

**Accomodation**

The department has 12 modern, fully equipped laboratories. Years 7 to 11 all use Chromebooks and on-line textbooks. Three science technicians provide support.

**Curriculum**

The school operates a fifty period, two-week staggered timetable with each period being one hour long.

Years 7, 8 and 9 have six periods of science per fortnight with one teacher per group in yr 7 and 8 and two in year 9. Years 7 and 8 are taught in mixed ability teaching groups. Year 9 are banded according to ability. Year 9 groups start GCSE Sciences early. Each student from Years 7, 8 and 9 has their own online textbook.

The department follows a KS3 science course based on the updated Exploring Science course which has been modified to maximise development of literacy and numeracy skills. This includes new multimedia resources and exciting activities for the pupils. We base our curriculum on the big ideas of science and sequence our curriculum using Best Evidence Science Teaching.

The department runs a very successful science club and Green group for all pupils and the pupils have taken part in CREST, Salters Festival for Chemistry, Astronomy Centre and CREST “Express Yourself” day. We also run an annual science week which is very popular with students, a Year 7 trip to the Big Bang Science fair and a year 9 trip to the Science museum.

**Key Stage 4**

Pupils in Science at Broxbourne study a range of courses to meet their individual needs. In Years 9, 10 and 11, we offer AQA Separate Sciences and Combined Science (Trilogy). We use a range of textbooks to support the courses and all pupils are issued with a GCSE textbook and revision guide.

Years 10 and 11 are taught in ability bands. Students are allocated groups at the beginning of Year 10 on the basis of their KS3 test results and their performance throughout Years 7-9. Their progress is monitored and reviewed on a regular basis. Each GCSE Combined Science group has nine periods in a fortnight whilst our separate science groups have 12 lessons per fortnight (4 per subject) and are taught by three specialist teachers.

**Key Stage 5**

We offer OCR Specifications to A-level in Biology, Chemistry and Physics. We also offer A level Psychology Both Years 12 and 13 have nine timetabled periods per fortnight. Two specialist teachers teach each group. The uptake of A-level Sciences is very high.

**Letter of Application**

In the letter of application, which should not exceed two sides of A4, candidates should, amongst other points, describe their approach to the teaching of Science.