

Welcome to the Science Department.

Subject Leader: Mr Philip Roberts



I have been the subject leader for six years, at Hadley Learning Community, initially joining as a second in department before progressing to subject leader and onto my current role of Director of Science across the Learning Community Trust. During this period, the Science team has evolved into a highly successful curriculum area. By fostering strong positive relationships between the teaching staff and the young people we teach, we have cultivated a culture of success in both ourselves and our students. Through adopting a student-centred approach and consistently reflecting and evaluating existing practices, we aim to best support our students in succeeding, equipping our students with the skills to be successful in both their educational and post educational lives.

Our Students' Achievements:

2017/2018- Examined.

	Combined Science: Trilogy	Separate: Biology	Separate: Chemistry	Separate: Physics
Grades 4+	67.8 %	100.0 %	96.2 %	100.0 %
Grades 5+	48.3 %	92.3 %	84.6 %	88.5 %
Progress 8 Score	0.57	0.61	0.51	0.55

2018/2019- Examined.

	Combined Science: Trilogy	Separate: Biology	Separate: Chemistry	Separate: Physics
Grades 4+	66.4%	100.0 %	100.0 %	100.0 %
Grades 5+	47.0%	100.0 %	100.0 %	100.0 %
Progress 8 Score	0.47	0.67	0.67	0.56

Our Vision:

In science our vision for our future scientists focuses on the key values of HLC.

- ⊕ *To equip our student with the key knowledge and skills necessary to make informed, effective choices based on the evidence available, and use this to formulate accurate conclusions enabling our students to be **successful** both during and post education.*
- ⊕ *Our pupils will appreciate and **enjoy** their study and application of their scientific knowledge and skills, being able to use these to identify and explain the numerous interactions with science they have on a daily basis.*
- ⊕ *Students will be comfortable formulating and communicating their own hypothesis and ideas whilst **respecting** the views and opinion of others.*
- ⊕ *Our team will **inspire** our students to be curious, asking questions about the world (and further afield) in which we **belong** and how we can push the boundaries of so many yet to be answered questions.*

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Our Curriculum:

At KS3 students study a range of Biology, Chemistry, and Physics topics with a heavy emphasis on practical application of knowledge and skill development. The focus of our KS3 curriculum is to ensure that our pupils consolidate and enhance upon their previous scientific experiences at KS2, in order to lay a solid foundation in both skills as well as knowledge on which to build.

We believe that KS3 should be challenging yet enjoyable, where opportunities are given for pupils to develop their inquisitiveness and passion for science and how the environment that our pupils live in works and interacts. Whilst we cover the National Curriculum, we believe it is important to go beyond this to instil a love of our subject.

At KS4 we offer a Combined Science: Trilogy route for the majority of our students as well as a separate science route, though the latter is a selective course based on attainment and progress in Science, English and Mathematics. Both routes follow the AQA syllabus where students are examined in 6 terminal assessments at the end of year 11 either at higher or foundation tier.

The Science team works closely with other departments such as Mathematics, English and Geography to establish consistency when teaching cross curricular skills or content. This consistency enables pupils to encounter common terminology and methodologies, as well as highlighting the relevance of the skills that they are learning and how this can be applied in other aspects of their lives, both during and post educational.

The passion, belief, and dedication of the Science team at both key stages ensures that students make excellent progress and enjoy their time studying science at HLC.

Our Team:

Currently the Science team comprises of 11 specialist teaching staff ranging biology, chemistry and physics, a leader in teaching and learning as well as a specialised leader in education. The Science department is also extremely well supported by 3 dedicated technicians who offer a range of support and experience and take pride in their work. We are a dynamic, proactive, and innovative department that is always looking to improve with a key focus on what is the best for our students.

The Department has a range of specialities and a wealth of experience from RQT's to those who have been teaching considerably longer. This mix of experience, knowledge and fresh perspectives ensures that our approach to the teaching of the science curriculum is innovative, flexible, and effective. We have a low staff turnover, of which I am extremely proud, and this exemplifies the positive, caring and highly supportive team that we are.

It is the senior leadership's principle that all staff, where possible, have their own dedicated teaching space. We are a well-resourced Department, who are highly regarded by the senior leadership team and the whole school community. The senior leadership invest heavily in staff CPD tailoring this to our needs, nurture our aspirations and place a high emphasis on supporting positive health and wellbeing through a comprehensive Employee Assistance Programme.

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Interested in Joining our Team?

If you would like any further information about us, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me. Equally, if you would like to see us in action, we would welcome a visit from you.



Philip Roberts

Director of Science- Learning Community Trust

Specialised Leader of Education

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