

RAINHAM MARK GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Information about the Science Department

The Department

This is a very exciting time for the science department. We are continuing to expand and enhance the science provision in many ways, particularly through the innovative use of ICT, enriching GCSE courses and offering additional GCSEs. We are also delivering bespoke INSET to local schools as the Kent and Medway lead Science Learning Partnership. In addition, we support a number of local feeder primary schools with our science outreach programme and currently run the CREST award scheme for Years 7 to 10.

The school was graded by Ofsted as outstanding in all areas with the Science department making a significant contribution to this success. Student's achievement continues to improve and Science is one of the highest performing subjects within the school.

There are 14 teaching staff in the science department. They are ably supported by an experienced team of six technicians. There are eleven science laboratories, four of which are labs in a separate (but adjacent) block. The department has been generously resourced. For example, this has enabled the purchase of 60 Pentium laptop computers with the associated data logging equipment and an extensive range of sensors. The Science department also benefits from an adjacent ICT suite. Members of staff in the science department each have their own personal laptop device.

KS3

This has been updated to follow the new science curriculum framework. Year 7 and 8 students follow the AQA 5-year programme resourced by Collins with various in-house modifications. Students in Year 7 are taught in mixed ability Form Groups normally by one Science Teacher. Students in Year 8 are also taught in mixed ability Form Groups normally by one Science Teacher. Students in Year 9 start their studies for Science GCSE and are placed into mixed ability groups. Students in Year 9 normally have a separate subject specialist for Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

KS4

Students in Year 10 and 11 are placed into ability groups based on their performance and class teacher assessment. Students have a subject specialist for Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Approximately 65-70% move on with 'Triple' science. A minority of student's study 'double science', moving at a pace more appropriate for them. The AQA schemes are followed.

KS5

The sciences are very popular choices at A level. Most sets contain between 12 and 20 students. Numbers have increased over past years and the current situation is that there are six Biology classes, five Chemistry and three Physics across KS5. The OCR Schemes are followed.

The Person

Ideally, we are looking for someone who possesses the following qualities and/or experience. We realise that such a list always looks daunting, and it would be unrealistic of us to expect you to possess all of these to the same degree. Please feel free to indicate in your supporting statement how you fulfil some of them.

- The ability to inspire students with an enthusiasm for Science.
- The ability to, or the potential to, motivate academically able students to produce work of high quality in the subject.
- Results which provide evidence of successful performance.
- The willingness to approach change positively.
- The ability to be part of a team.
- Efficient administrative skills.

We encourage you to submit an application if you think you would enjoy working here. If you would like further information about the post, or would like to visit the school, please telephone or email Kevin Frost (Assistant Headteacher/Head of Science) on 01634 364151 or kfrost@rmgs.org.uk

We look forward to receiving your application.

Thank you very much for your interest.

Kevin Frost