

**Science Department**

Our Science curriculum empowers our students to understand, enjoy and appreciate the investigative and practical skills in Science. Our curriculum ensures that they will have knowledge and skills required for Science A levels and careers in Science.

We are a very popular choice for students at A level and we have 2 Biology and 2 Chemistry A level groups, and a good-sized Physics set. Most students in Sixth Form will pick at least one Science.

At Wood Green Academy, we have a highly motivated and driven team of professionals who are committed to ensuring all students make progress and enjoy their learning and school experience.

The Science Department consists of 15 members of teaching staff, including a member of the Senior Leadership Team, a Year Leader and the High Potential Co-ordinator for the school, long standing member of staff some of whom are our in-house trained ex-Teach First and School Direct trainees. We are proud to say that the Science Department boasts a broad range of teaching skills and experiences. The department also has 3 very experienced Science technicians.

Current Leadership postholders in the Science Department:

* Head of Science
* Head of Biology
* Head of Chemistry
* Head of Physics
* Head of Year
* High potential Co-ordinator Whole school
* Assistant Head teacher
* Chief Technician

**Department Resources:**

The Science Department has three main areas for Biology, Chemistry and Physics in different blocks. The department has 13 classrooms and a department prep room. 6 of the Science classrooms have been fully refurnished.

Each classroom has:

* An interactive whiteboard (to be connected to a staff laptop, which is provided)
* Close proximity to a printer
* A visualiser if required
* An AfL resource bank (including a class set of mini-whiteboards, erasers and pens)

The Science Department values practical activities and demonstrations in the role of engaging students and supporting teaching and learning. We have a class set of laptops and iPads for students to use, as well as a classroom with computer access (staff and students have WiFi access across the school).

As a school, we nurture a culture of promoting thinking skills.

The Science Department has a good range of Scientific equipment and experienced technicians who set up experiments and provide help to staff.

All young people have the right to enjoy Science; they enjoy learning and form positive relationships with Science staff; students should make progress and be supported to achieve their best in the subject; and have the opportunity to discover and take part in a Science curriculum which has at its heart the Science investigative approach.

**Curriculum and Examinations:**

Students at Wood Green Academy follow a two-year Key Stage 3 and a three year Key Stage 4. From Year 9, students study some GCSE topics and will complete the course and sit their examinations at the end of Year 11

At key stage 4 we have 1 class of Triple students Biology, Chemistry and Physics OCR Gateway. We also have a Combined Science course Gateway A for the other 11 sets.

At Key Stage 5, the department offers courses in OCR Biology A level, Chemistry and A level Physics OCR gateway A. The Science Department is committed to quality teaching, enriching our students, encouraging them to enjoy learning, as well as developing their culture capital. An extensive intervention programme is available to support students in achieving their best and the department offers a range of extra-curricular support classes.

**Department Successes:**

In summer 2020, the Science Department achieved the following results:

* 100% pass rate in GCSE Combined Science
* 44% grade 5+ in GCSE Combined Science.
* 70% grade 4 In Combined Science
* 100% in Triple Science grades 5 to 9 Biology, Chemistry and Physics.
* 71% Grade 7-9 Biology 89% Chemistry 81% Physics
* 85% A\*-C in A-Level Biology
* 92% A\*-C in A-Level Chemistry
* 100% A\*-C in A-Level Physics

In Summer 2019, the Science Department achieved the following results:

* 100% pass rate in GCSE Combined Science
* 39% grade 5+ in Combined Science
* 64% grade 4+ in Combined Science
* 100% pass rate in Triple Biology, Chemistry and Physics
* 100% grade 5+ in Triple Science
* 32% Grade 7-9 Biology 68% Chemistry 72% Physics
* 53% A\*-C in A-Level Biology
* 58% A\*-C in A-Level Chemistry
* 44% A\*-C in A-Level Physics

**Support and CPD:**

As a school, we are committed to ensuring all staff have opportunities for professional development. In joining Wood Green Academy, you will be offered opportunities to participate in a range of CPD sessions to further enhance your teaching and to support professional development. We have dedicated CPD time each Wednesday afternoon for whole school training, departmental activities and individual progression time. These activities are based on current educational research, such as supporting students’ memory, recall and retention and developing students’ character / learning traits. Whole school CPD also includes the opportunity to be a member of the Teacher Journal Club, where you have the opportunity to read selected up-to-date educational journals / articles and implement these strategies into your teaching; Lesson Study, where you can work in partnership with another member of staff across the school, planning and observing lessons; and to become a member of a Working Group, which includes the High Potential, SEND and ‘I Can, I Will’ Working Groups.

Within the Science Department, all staff have opportunities to lead projects, contribute to the evaluation of our curriculum and schemes of learning, as well as shadow and observe other members of the team to further their teaching and support professional development. A successful candidate will be well supported by another member of the department and by postholders. As a department, we continually strive to support all students in achieving their best and we are proud to be part of Wood Green Academy. We look forward to being joined by like-minded professionals who are motivated, dedicated and passionate and will join a supportive, committed and innovative department.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Mr McTernan

Head of Science