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**SCIENCE DEPARTMENT**

The Science department consists of a highly committed team of thirteen teaching staff and five technicians. All members of the team are dedicated to providing a consistently exceptional science education for students, continually striving to do this whilst maintaining very manageable teacher workloads.

The department is accommodated in the main school building on two floors: there are eleven laboratories, a newly refurbished science office, and two large preparatory rooms which are staffed by experienced and helpful technicians. All laboratories have interactive technology and are networked to both the school curriculum network and the internet. We benefit from having access to a very large range of equipment, making science practicals at the core of our science teaching and learning.

All students follow a combined bespoke course at Key Stage 3, the objective of which is to allow students to become independent thinkers and develop scientific skills. There are fully written schemes of work with resources for every lesson.

At Key Stage 4 we offer Combined (Trilogy) and Separate Award Sciences following the AQA specifications. The sciences are taught separately with both combined and separate students having Biology, Chemistry and Physics specialist teachers. Science GCSE results are usually in the top 5% nationally for value added each year. The results in 2025 were as follows (2024 in brackets):

* Combined Science: 2025: 80% 5+, 43% 7+ (2024: 70% 5+, 36% 7+)
* Biology: 2025: 100% 5+, 85% 7+ (2024: 98%, 5+, 80% 7+)
* Chemistry: 2025 100% 5+, 81% 7+ (2024: 96%, 5+, 71% 7+)
* Physics: 2025 100% 5+, 87% 7+ (2024: 98% 5+, 76% 7+)

The Sciences are a popular choice at A Level with students studying the three subjects following the AQA specifications. The department achieves high academic success with many of our A-level students going on to higher education courses, often at Russell Group universities, in Science, Technology and Medicine.

Results at A-level are consistently strong with a 100% pass rate for Biology, Chemistry and Physics (2024 in brackets):

* Biology: 2025: 78% A\*-C (2024: 77% A\*-C)
* Chemistry: 2025: 75% A\*-C (2024: 84% A\*-C)
* Physics: 2025: 91% A\*-C (2024: 76% A\*-C)

Department meetings are focused on teaching and learning, and curriculum masterclasses. There are extensive opportunities for CPD, with bespoke CPD sessions, teaching and learning forums, and last year IRIS technology was introduced to support pedagogy development. This has been very popular. We also support colleagues in other schools and share our good practice.

The Science department runs a range of extra-curricular initiatives, including a KS3 Science Club and a Sustainability Team which has achieved the Green Flag Award. We also organise whole school year enrichment days on sustainability in year 7 and ‘The Science Behind Design’ in year 9.

There is also a strong representation from the school in competitions, which has included the SATRO Problem Solving Challenge and the NPL Water Rocket Challenge. There is also a visit to CERN for sixth formers and students have participated in a UK - Japan Young Scientists programme which has involved trips to Japan and Cambridge to take part in a range of workshops. Sixth formers also attend a residential biology field trip.

**Science Team 2025/26**

Alan Johnston Chemistry/Intervention Coordinator

Alex Bishop Head of Physics

Caroline Whitehouse Chemistry/Oxbridge Coordinator

Carrie Reeve Head of Science

Ciara Martinez Biology/ Head of Learning

Greg Woodier Chemistry

Helen Tadd Biology/Lead KS4&KS5

Lara Bramall Chemistry/EPQ Coordinator

Maria Langford Biology

Preeti Parkash Biology

Roy Carley Physics/KS3 Coordinator

Sarah Miles Biology

Shelley Harrington-Hill Biology

Science Technicians Lynda Sugden

Adam Sugden

Marta Friedmann

Nikki Burge

Abirami Krishnan