





Headteacher: Mr G Y Bourgade

The science department at Birkdale High is a dedicated and experienced team that uses sound subject knowledge and strong routines to build a consistent learning environment, raising the outcomes, aspirations and independence of scientists of all abilities.

Currently, we have 7 full time science specialist teachers, each with their own laboratory. To support effective provision of practical science, we have a full time senior technician and are looking to increase our technical support. Each laboratory has an interactive whiteboard, projector and high quality visualiser.

We have developed strong working relationships with students using high expectations and positive language to embed effective routines for learning. The successful candidate can expect strong support from all colleagues in establishing effective habits in their students.

Within a 3 year key stage 4, we deliver the AQA specifications for the GCSE separate Sciences as an option pathway to approximately a third of the cohort, ensuring that groups such as SEND and disadvantaged are well represented. The remainder of the cohort study Combined Science: Trilogy. We are always looking to improve our KS4 curriculum and look forward to including careers related activities that will inspire all students, particularly within the disadvantaged and middle & low ability groups. We have recently introduced a new curriculum in key stage 3 which begins with a science skills unit to support our new students in developing safe and accurate practical skills to an appropriate level of confidence.

We are making excellent progress towards establishing new, standardised pedagogies across the department that have been researched and developed by individual teachers. Our latest developments include: routines for random questioning & subsequent recording of class and individual knowledge gaps, and the use of google form quizzes to check prior knowledge and assess learning. With a highly collaborative and positive ethos, we are able to be forward thinking and ambitious, and deliver changes that support student progress whilst minimising teacher workload.

The successful candidate needs to be a reflective practitioner who is willing to trial, adopt and embed new pedagogies. They will have high expectations of students and be able to form positive, successful relationships of a consistent and caring nature. They will have strong subject knowledge and a passion for developing in others, an enthusiasm for studying the most fundamental of subjects. We are welcoming applications from physics or chemistry specialists from newly qualified teachers to those more experienced.

If there is any further information you would like to know about the science department at Birkdale High, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mr Jerome Woodley Head of Science