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## **SCIENCE FACULTY**

The Science team at Nower Hill are an innovative and enthusiastic group of teachers who work extremely well together to provide exciting, challenging and relevant Science lessons across all abilities and Key Stages. The team consists of 33 specialist staff (21 teachers, 3 Science faculty teaching and learning assistants and 9 technicians) working in partnership to plan and deliver an inspiring curriculum. Practical work features strongly in Science lessons at Nower Hill and this, combined with the use of high quality resources and excellent teaching, inspires many of our students to continue to study Science in the sixth form and beyond. The faculty is highly collaborative and meet regularly to review and improve lessons, resources and teaching. The leadership and management of the faculty is both widely and deeply distributed; the Head of Faculty and Deputy Head of Science are supported by Subject leaders.

In Years 7 and 8, we follow the Exploring Science scheme of work and complete KS3 in two years. Students study the Edexcel Combined GCSE from Year 9 and the majority go on to study three Science GCSEs. The new GCSE is well resourced using a combination of Edexcel Activeteach and in house resources. At KS5 we offer A levels in all three sciences. We have a very large number of students taking A levels with a total of 5 Biology groups, 4 Chemistry groups and 4 Physics groups. Additionally, as part of our thriving enrichment programme; Astronomy GCSE is offered to 40 Year 9 and Year 10 students as a supplementary qualification. It is run by a dedicated team of staff after school.

Our record of exam results in the faculty is exceptional. More than half of our GCSE students sit Separate Sciences, compared to a national average of 26%. In Separate Sciences, we averaged more than 53% of students achieving grades 7 or above and our pass rate at Combined Science was 73% in 2024. We also achieved a value added score in the top 10% nationally for A Level Physics and the top 25% nationally for Biology.

There are 16 science laboratories, which are situated in one area of the school.  Eight are newly refurbished and all labs have PCs, TV screens and whiteboards.  The faculty makes very effective use of our on-line Managed Learning Environment, with all homework set centrally and high quality supporting resources provided for homework and revision. Furthermore, the faculty has a class set of Chromebooks which are used to enhance the students’ learning experience.

A highly experienced team of full and part time technicians support our teachers, led by our Science Technical Managers. The Faculty has three well equipped preparation areas and in addition to a well-stocked chemical store a wide range of specialist equipment is also available. There is a Science team area containing networked computers and a wide range of resources. We also have 3 specialist faculty teaching and learning assistants.

The successful candidate will be joining a flourishing and ever developing Science Faculty in a school in which there is huge enthusiasm for Science. Teaching in this environment is both productive and exciting. The Science team and the school are supportive and friendly with a strong emphasis on continuous professional development.

**Steve Meunier**

**Head of Science Faculty**