



Malmesbury School

SCIENCE FACULTY

The Science Faculty currently consists of 18 teachers together with 4 lab technicians. It is a dynamic team at the forefront of science curriculum development and innovation. The Science Faculty currently holds the prestigious STEM Learning Science Mark at the highest level, Platinum.

The faculty is housed in a suite of 10 laboratories located over two floors with each floor having access to a large preparation room. We also have a dedicated Psychology teaching room. Each laboratory is equipped with an interactive whiteboard or Clevertouch screen and computer, as well as an ordinary whiteboard. Most full-time staff have their own laboratory as well as workspace in the faculty office where all paper resources and textbooks can be found.

We teach a condensed KS3 Curriculum in years 7 and 8. The current curriculum is in electronic format using in house materials with a key focus on developing practical and investigative skills. Students in years 7 and 8 are assessed periodically through scientific skills tasks and traditional tests. These test scores are matched against CAT scores to assess progress and to highlight any significant underachievement so that we can provide extra support for those students. Students in Key Stage 3 are taught in mixed ability tutor groups. Year 9 consists of a transition course to bridge the gap between key stage 3 and 4. A small number of students follow the AQA Entry Level certificate instead of this course as it is a more appropriate route into GCSE.

In Year 10 and 11, students follow either the AQA Trilogy Combined Science GCSE or the AQA Separate Science GCSE courses. For the last 2 years at least 83% of our students gained a minimum of 2 GCSEs at grades of 9-4. Our success is due largely to a willingness of teaching staff to share ideas and employ a wide range of teaching and learning styles. Students are taught in ability bands and all groups are shared between two teachers which means that staff often teach outside their normal subject specialisms at GCSE.

The faculty offers four successful 'A' level courses – Biology (AQA), Physics (AQA), Chemistry (Salters OCR), Psychology (OCR) and last year, 53% of all A-Level exam results across all these science subjects were graded at A*-B.

We are therefore looking to appoint someone who is creative and innovative, who is keen to work as part of a team, willing to share ideas and adapt quickly to change. A willingness to contribute to the extended curriculum through science clubs, primary liaison, careers day and arranging extra-curricular events is essential. In return, we offer a very supportive environment where a new teacher can quickly develop a wide range of teaching strategies and a sound preparation for further promotion.

Gabrielle Peers-Dent - Senior Curriculum Leader - Science
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