



Newton Abbot College

Imagine what's possible ...

SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

Approach

We teach science because we find the world fascinating. We believe that it is every child's cultural right to understand and appreciate how the scientific method has revolutionised every area of human endeavour. We want our students to see the beauty and complexity of the universe through the lenses of Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

Although we all have specialisms, we see ourselves as teachers of Science. This means we have opportunities to model the intellectual curiosity that we expect and encourage from our students

We have high expectations of our students with regard to progress, achievement and behaviour and high expectations of ourselves with regard to the quality of our teaching, feedback and care of students.

The Team

There are ten teachers in the department, all of whom teach across the ability and age range of the 11-16 part of the College. Most teachers are also involved in teaching A level Science. We also have a well-qualified intervention coordinator and a well organised and supportive technician team.

Departmental meetings occur regularly and are an important part of our drive to improve the quality of teaching and learning in Science. Meeting time always has a professional development focus, ensuring we all continue to develop in our practice and so provide the highest quality lessons possible for our students.

All team members take an active part in departmental meetings and take on responsibilities that contribute to our curriculum and staff development.

Resources and Teaching Rooms

There are seven purpose-built, fully equipped laboratories, and two science teaching rooms. The laboratories are all equipped with standard apparatus and we have a wide range of specialist equipment. All the teaching spaces have data projectors and interactive whiteboards, and all the teachers have a laptop.

Curriculum

We have carefully designed and well-resourced KS3 and KS4 programmes of study. Our aim is to have great resources and logical schemes of work that reduce planning workload thus allowing us to focus on improving our teaching and helping students.

In year 8, students make a free choice between separate sciences in Biology, Chemistry and Physics and Combined Science. We use the Edexcel specification for GCSE.

Post-16 we offer a range of qualifications: Applied Human Biology BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate, A-Level Biology (OCR), A-Level Chemistry (OCR) and A-Level Physics. The uptake for A Level courses is increasing year on year and we strive to provide an excellent personalised education for all our Sixth Form students.

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