Science Department Information

Introduction to the Department

The science team comprises nine full-time and four part-time science specialist teachers with responsibility for teaching Years 7 to 13. The department is led by the Director of Science, assisted by the Heads of Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

All full-time members of the department have the lessons timetabled in their own laboratory and work with a dedicated technician. There are five part-time technicians.

Teaching

- **KS3**
  Students complete the Activate programme of study in years 7, 8 and 9. Year 9 begin their GCSEs at Easter.

- **KS4**
  We offer AQA Trilogy Double Science and AQA Separate Science. There are 8 groups studying Trilogy and 2 groups studying separate sciences. In 2024, in Trilogy 79% of students achieved grade 9 - 4, with an average of a grade 55. In separate science, 96% students achieved grade 9-4 in Biology, 99% in Chemistry and 96% Physics with an average grade of 7. As part of the EBacc subjects, the average point score for science was in the highest 20% of schools nationally and the proportion of entries was at or above the national average for double science. Science value added was significantly above the national average and in the highest 20% of all schools in 2022.

- **Sixth Form**
  The sciences are a popular choice at A level. In year 12 & 13 there are generally two Biology groups, two Chemistry groups and two Physics groups. All A level classes are shared between two teachers.

Learning Outside the Classroom – Enrichment Activities

There is a thriving STEM Club and there are a number of trips organised throughout the year, for example, a KS3 trip to 'We the Curious, KS4 to Science Live! KS5 Physics trips to Airbus and KS5 Biology and Chemistry trips to Wessex water.

Environment

There are 12 dedicated laboratories, 3 of which are part of a new build with an additional classroom space in the new block. The standard of equipment and resources is very high.