



The Minster School Science



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The Department

The Science Department has an excellent track record of success. We are strongly committed to making further improvements in achievement and wish to strengthen a good team further by appointing an outstanding teacher of Science

The Curriculum

At Key Stage 3 we follow an “in-house” scheme of work, based originally on the framework provided by the QCA, and now modified to incorporate changes to the National Curriculum. The course is broken down into 36 units and delivered using resources developed by the Science team members. We have used the “Catalyst” scheme and text books as a backbone to the course, but staff constantly revise and innovate using their own resources. We have recently adapted our schemes to give better progression from KS2 to KS4. Regular assessment is conducted using a combination of topic tests, and “Badger” levelled-assessed tasks.

At Key Stage 4 we currently follow the AQA GCSE Combined Science: Trilogy course for most of our students, then around 70 students each year opt to take Triple Science.

At Key Stage 5 students follow the AQA GCE courses in Biology and Physics. The Chemistry team has adopted the OCR course. Uptake is excellent; we have attracted significant numbers of students from other institutions into Year 12 over the past few years. There are usually at least two classes of each specialism in both Year 12 and Year 13, and often more.

Samples of Enrichment Activities



Year 8 visit to Twycross Zoo

Year 12 Biology field trip to the Perlethorpe Environmental Education Centre, Nottinghamshire

Year 12/13 Physics trips to CERN and Jodrell Bank



The Science Department occupies the top floor of one of the “fingers” of the building. We have 11 labs, all fully equipped with PCs, interactive whiteboards and visualisers. In addition we have a trolley of 30 laptops for student use during lessons. We are developing “Data Harvest” technology to facilitate data logging.



The Department

James Theobald	Curriculum Team Leader (Physics)
Maxine Burlington	Assistant Curriculum Team Leader (Chemistry)
Helen Wilson	Assistant Curriculum Team Leader (Biology)
Andrew Jarmyn	Chemistry
Jennifer Stewart	Chemistry
Caroline Murphy	Chemistry
Paula Skoyles	Biology
Gemma Ingle	Biology
Jenny Woodward	Biology
Roger Wood	Physics
Tom Marks	Physics
Harold Myerscough	Physics
Sarah Burns	Technician (Senior Science Technician)
Helen Hayes	Technician
Eleanor Hayes	Technician and departmental assistant
Mark Weston	Technician



RESULTS

Results taken from 2019

At **Key Stage 4** , 81% of students achieved a grade 4-4 or better in Combined Science GCSE at the end of the Year 11 course. In separate sciences the 9-7 rates were 44%, 52% and 56% for Biology, Chemistry and Physics respectively.

At **Key Stage 5** , the number of A level passes at grade C and above in Biology, Chemistry and Physics were 67%, 60% and 56% respectively.



Students visiting one of the detectors in the Large Hadron Collider in Geneva, Switzerland Feb 2017



Students investigate samples of moon rock following the visit of Professor Ed Copeland.

