



Science at Woking High School

The Science department is a dynamic and successful department with a dedicated team who are passionate about their subject and who deliver Science in a stimulating and engaging way.

Staffing and structure

At present there are fourteen full- and part-time Science teachers as well as a dedicated team of four technicians. The Head of Department is supported by a Second in Department and an SLE / Lead Practitioner.

Accommodation

Most Science lessons take place in six laboratories; there is also a classroom dedicated to Science lessons. All of the classrooms and labs have interactive whiteboards, and we frequently make use of online practical simulations as well as technology such as dataloggers and visualisers.

Courses

Students in Year 7, 8 and 9 receive seven hours of Science teaching per 10-day cycle and they follow the current National Curriculum. Classes will have one or two Science teachers, and are taught 2 Science topics per half-term.

At Key Stage 4, half of the cohort follow the AQA Triple Science course, and half follow the AQA Trilogy Science course. All students are taught Physics, Chemistry and Biology by subject specialist teachers. In our most recent set of GCSE results, a record 11% of our Science GCSEs were awarded at a Grade 9, 34% at Grade 7 and above, and 90% at Grade 4 and above.

Enrichment activities

At Key Stage 3 all students have the opportunity to enrich their understanding of Science through off-site visits and on-site challenges and themed days. There is a well-attended Science club for Years 7 and 8, a Space Club, and a STEM Club for all year groups. All students have the opportunity to be involved in the Science Department through the Science Council, and we are developing links with a variety of providers to enhance our careers provision at Woking High.

Many students also have the opportunity to be involved with small group activities and competitions, such as the Salters Chemistry Competitions, the Shell "Make the Future Live" event, the Siemens Health Challenge and the RSC "Top of the Bench" competition.

As an additional enrichment opportunity, we have recently started teaching GCSE Astronomy to a group of Year 10 students after school.