****

**Caldew Science Department**

The department is led by the Head of Department and two TLR2 post holders who are responsible for the leadership and development of Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 5 science courses. They work with a wider team of permanent full-time teachers, part-time teachers, one Higher Level Teaching Assistant and two Technicians.

The school has made good progress in Science in recent years. In particular, attainment at Key Stage 4 which was in excess of 70% of students achieving 2 or more science GCSE’s at grade 4 and above in 2018 and 2019, with progress in line with national averages. At Key Stage 3 we follow the AQA Activate scheme of work with staff delivering all three sciences. All Key Stage 4 groups follow the AQA syllabus, split into trilogy and triple science where we expect them to be entered for at least two GCSEs. In reality, this means that in the current Year 11, 2 classes of students are entered for Triple Science- taught by a subject specialist, with the remaining students studying Double Award GCSE- here staff are expected to deliver across the range of subjects. The department is working very hard to further improve progress for all students. Whilst improving, we believe that there is much still to be done to enable the department to become outstanding.

At Key Stage 5 the department delivers three courses, AQA A Levels in Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Recent A-Level results have been good with high ALPs scores and positive Value Added.

Here at Caldew School we are very fortunate to have 10 fully equipped teaching labs serviced by two full time Technicians. In addition to this we are in the unique position of having our own farm which allows us to offer additional Science courses such as BTEC Level 1 and 2 Animal Care.

As a school, we are committed to encourage our staff to grow beyond their role and supporting their career development. We run an extensive induction and support programme for NQTs as well as CPD that is personalised to the needs and interests of individual teachers.