



THE  
KING'S  
SCHOOL

GRANTHAM

## The Department

CANDIDATE INFORMATION



### THE SCHOOL

For centuries, The King's School has been committed to academic excellence. Our first mention as an educational institution dates back to 1327, but it was in 1528 that the school was re-founded by Bishop Foxe of Winchester and, since then, has gone on to provide an exemplary education to thousands of boys – one of which was Sir Isaac Newton!

Although we are incredibly proud of our heritage, we adopt a forward-thinking approach to education. We are keen to recruit and train our colleagues in order to provide the best possible opportunities for our students during their time in school and beyond.

We believe that a student's education extends further than their academic attainment, and we work to ensure that our boys are also equipped with tools to help them navigate adulthood, as well as the qualifications they need to succeed. As a Grammar School, we endeavour to enable our students to achieve the highest grades and enter the most competitively sought-after universities, careers and professions.

## OUR AIMS

We aim to inspire intellectual curiosity, encourage a competitive spirit and develop creative thinking. We foster social responsibility and leadership skills within our students and a strong sense of community underpins everything we do. We value commitment, we celebrate success, and we offer an environment which not only leads to academic success but also to self-discovery and a sense of personal worth.

## THE POST

We look forward to welcoming a successful candidate who will fit in well with our thriving and forward-thinking department. Our teaching methods are in line with the objectives established in the Person Specification and overall, we seek to facilitate the growth and progression of our employees as well as the children they teach.

## THE DEPARTMENT

The Science Department is staffed by 10 full-time and 4 part-time teachers, along with a technician allocated to each subject area. There are 10 laboratories and 5 preparation rooms.

### *Chemistry*

Most members of the Science Department teach in their specific area across Years 9-13, some also teach KS3 Science to Years 7 & 8.

In Year 7 students are taught Science in form groups, in Years 8 & 9 they are split into mixed groups. In Years 10 & 11 students are taught in groups with 2 equal top groups, 5 equivalent middle groups and a slightly smaller bottom group to enable more support. GCSE groups are usually around 24 students.

As a department we have agreed on a whole-class, interactive teaching style. The students respond positively to this approach and parental feedback is encouraging. Innovative teaching methods and new ideas for future development of courses are always

## ASSESSMENT & LEARNING

The school aims to deliver outstanding lessons, inspire curiosity, and develop students' genuine interest in their subjects.

Every class is taught in a way to prepare students for their examinations. Ongoing assessment, both teacher and peer, is a key element of the department's approach and the use of both formative and summative assessments on a regular basis provides vital information. Staff can initiate intervention strategies for areas where students require extra support, and their progress can be easily tracked. All members of the department are expected to use 'assessment for learning' strategies to inform their lesson preparation and teaching. The department assesses all work in terms of effort and attainment to further stretch gifted and talented students and provide additional support where needed.

Students are assigned homework once per 6 lessons in years 7-9. Key Stages 4 and 5 are expected to complete set homework where appropriate, being theory or project-based. Feedback is carried out quickly and accurately and is based on examination criteria where appropriate.

welcomed and encouraged and we actively engage in available opportunities to enthuse and inspire our students.

The department presently follows the AQA GCSE Chemistry course [8462].

Chemistry A level is a popular choice. In the current Year 12 & 13 there are 2 groups. The department follows the OCR A level Chemistry A, course [H432]. A large number of our students go on to study: Chemistry, Medicine, and Engineering based subjects at university each year.

Each year we encourage all Year 12 learners to enter the Cambridge C3L6 challenge. We also enter a team into the Cambridge Chemistry Race.

Teams are frequently entered for the RSC's Top of the Bench competition. Lower school learners are regularly entered into the Slaters' Festival of Chemistry competition.

