

The Science Department aims to stimulate and sustain curiosity, interest and enjoyment in Science, and its many applications and promote awareness that the study of Science is relevant to everyday life. Whilst recognising that some pupils may have difficulties, it is important to inspire every pupil to achieve their full potential. This should contribute to all pupils becoming open minded, responsible and caring citizens with respect for others, and for their environment.

Science is taught to all students up to the end of year 11. In years 7 and 8 Science is taught on a 5 periods a week basis. Year 9 is taught separate Sciences on 6 periods per week (2 per science) and by the end of this year, (although they do not sit the national test at KS3) all KS3 requirements will be fulfilled plus some basic GCSE work. In year 10 all pupil are taught 'core' GCSE material, with appropriate differentiation, in each of the three sciences on 9 periods per week. In the main these courses contain only material found on the Dual Award Science syllabus. In year 11 pupils are targeted according to their ability. Typically the top set of three will all do Separate Sciences, the second set will do Dual Award Higher Tier and the third set will do Dual Award Foundation Tier. All sets are taught on 9 periods per week towards the AQA examinations.

In the Sixth Form numbers are healthy for all three Sciences. The Sciences are taught on 7 periods per week at AS and A2 level. At present each Science follows the AQA syllabus with all AS modules sat at the end of the Lower Sixth, one module sat in January of the Upper Sixth and the final two modules in June of the Upper Sixth.

All students are assessed throughout the year with regular end of topic tests.

There is significant work being undertaken in bringing IT more into the everyday teaching of Science and every laboratory is now networked with all labs now having their own multi-media projector system and these are now an essential part of much of the teaching that goes on in Science.

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