

## **The Science Department**

The Science department is a strong department within the school. There are currently nine members of staff who teach Science and three laboratory technicians. We are all specialists, and work very much as a team bringing to it a wide range of expertise and interests. We all share a love of the subject.

The department aims to participate in initiatives within and beyond the school as part of our professional development. Over the last year, the department has linked with several schools in Norfolk and many outside agencies. Our use of CASE and mind mapping materials has established us as a leading department for thinking skills in Norfolk.

In Year seven, the pupils are taught in mixed ability groups throughout the year. In Years eight and nine, pupils are grouped according to ability. At the end of Year eight, the top sixty pupils are invited to start GCSE Science at the beginning of Year nine. These students then follow Triple Science (three separate Science GCSEs). In Years ten and eleven, those pupils not following Triple Science, will take Double Science (two Science GCSEs). Pupils are entered at either Higher or Foundation tier for their Science examinations.

### **Courses**

Schemes of work and resources follow the Key Stage three National Curriculum for Science.

At GCSE, the Year ten pupils follow the AQA Science A specification using the Pearson Longman materials. Year eleven follow the AQA Additional Science specification also using the Pearson Longman materials. The Triple scientists follow the AQA Biology, Chemistry and Physics specifications, again, using the Pearson Longman materials.

We offer AS/A2 Biology, Chemistry and Physics (AQA specifications).

### **Accommodation and Resources**

Science is taught in eight fully-equipped, modern laboratories. The laboratories form part of a purpose-built Science block (which also includes a large Preparation Room and office). All laboratories have whiteboards linked to projectors and DVD players.

The Science department is well-resourced. The school has two fully equipped ICT suites with 30 computers in each. The library is well stocked with Science literature.

### **Events and Activities**

The Science department offer a range of events and activities throughout the year. In fact, our current Year 10 Triple Science group are the holders of the prestigious Norfolk and Suffolk 'Top Class in Science' trophy.

These include:

GCSE and GCE revision days

Coursework 'clinics'

Astronomy Club  
STEM Club  
Regional competitions  
Visits and trips  
Impact Days (Years 7 and 9)  
Visiting speakers  
Involvement with scientific community  
And much, much more.....

February 2015