

## SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

Wellington School's Science Department is a high achieving department within the School. It is staffed by 14 Science teachers who are supported by 3 Science Technicians. This includes 5 Biologists, 5 Chemists and 4 Physicists. The Department is based in 10 suited laboratories and 2 classrooms. At KS4/5, staff deliver their own subject specialism exclusively, whilst at KS3, staff deliver all 3 specialisms.

In GCSE Science 2024, 89% of students achieved a grade 9-4 in Combined Science, with 28% of the cohort attaining a grade 9-7. Triple Award Science is also offered as a GCSE option for higher attaining students and it has maintained a very high success record over previous years. In 2024, students attained a high number of grade 9-7's; 65% in Biology, 60% in Chemistry and 65% in Physics.

Around 20% of students opt to do the separate Sciences course in Year 10 & 11. The remaining students follow the Edexcel GCSE Combined Science.

The aim of Key Stage 3 is to develop students into scientists. An emphasis is placed on practical work and the skills needed to plan, carry out and evaluate investigations. Alongside this, scientific knowledge and concepts are covered to develop inquisitive, resourceful and committed learners.

The Department offers A-Level courses in Biology, Chemistry and Physics. All A-level subject disciplines follow the AQA specifications. All Science subjects are very popular and this is reflected in the numbers of students taking up places in Year 12. Results are consistently good, with the 2024 A-Level students achieving 100% A\*-E across two Sciences and 63% A\*-B in Chemistry, 44% A\*-B in Biology and 67% A\*-B in Physics.

A very well attended Science Club takes place on a weekly basis. The club operates on a weekly topic basis and students complete a range of practical activities. In addition, the department also runs a cross-curricular STEM club and a 'Grow-it' club for budding Ecologists and Gardeners.

There are a large number of opportunities for students to attend extra-curricular visits to enhance their learning. These include an annual Year 7 visit to Chester Zoo, Year 9 trip to the Big Bang Fair, Planetarium visits, KS4 Science live visits, Year 13 Physics trip to CERN, Year 10 Physics trip to Alton Towers and various other events through the year. There are a number of enrichment activities that take place during British Science week, as well as other 'special weeks' throughout the school calendar.

The Governors seek to appoint an excellent and reflective classroom practitioner with the energy, drive and enthusiasm to continue to build upon and develop standards within the Science Department.