

Science Curriculum Area

Vision

To deliver an outstanding Science curriculum that engages and inspires students of all abilities and backgrounds, fostering within them an interest in how Science can be applied to their lives.

The Oak Academy Science department is committed to ensuring ALL students make outstanding progress across all Key Stages in Science.

We continually promote the values of the Academy and encourage students to live and breathe a culture that believes "High Expectations lead to High Achievers."

The following principles and provisions help us make this vision a reality:

- **Practical work at the heart of Science** – Science is a practical based subject that often lead to vocational careers. Therefore, our lessons need to reflect this. We have recently invested over £10,000 in the Science department to create a scheme of work supported by a full practical delivery programme.
- **Scientific Skills** – The Oak Academy Science curriculum places great emphasis on the need for students to master a wide range of scientific skills. These skills are not just taught through the schemes of work but also through whole Science practical days which are built into Key Stage 4.
- **Rigorous, knowledge-based curriculum** – Our Science curriculum has been designed to be rigorous and challenging. The curriculum we follow is a 5 year AQA scheme of work which allows for consistency with key terms and how answers are structured. Comprehensive schemes of work and assessments are in place for every unit taught. As well as, this our curriculum is differentiated at GCSE for all of the required practicals (at grades 4, 6 and 8 with differentiated resources). This allows accurate assessment and challenge for all students, a crucial concept when this is guaranteed to be in all theoretical papers.
- **Taking risks** – We believe that students who make great academic progress are those who are taken out of their comfort zone on a regular basis. In the Science Department at Oak Academy, we welcome teachers adapting schemes of work and taking risks in lessons to inspire students.
- **Continuing professional development** – We offer regular CPD opportunities both within the department and across the whole school. At Oak Academy, you will have the ability to personalise your own development programme in order to achieve your career goals.

Curriculum Provision

- ❖ In Years 9, 10 & 11, students sit the AQA Trilogy GCSE at Foundation or Higher level.
- ❖ In KS3, students undertake a two year AQA designed scheme of work to prepare for the upcoming challenge of GCSE.

Accommodation

The department is currently housed in A Block. Each room is a fully functioning lab with whiteboards and desktop PC. Two labs have full IT facilities which can be booked/swapped into.