



## ST IVO SCHOOL

### Details about the Science Department

#### The Department

The department is highly motivated, dedicated and committed to improving the quality of teaching and learning for all students. We endeavour to provide the highest quality education, in a safe, caring and disciplined environment, enabling all students the opportunity to develop their capabilities and progress. There are thirteen full-time and three part-time staff within the department delivering science to every student in KS3 and 4. We have a healthy uptake at A-Level for all of the sciences and provide a wide range of extracurricular opportunities to students in all key stages. These opportunities and links with local business have resulted in students being awarded Arkwright Scholarships and Gold Crest awards. We have an excellent, highly qualified technician team who are able to provide practicals and offer advice to support teachers in the classroom.

#### Facilities

Housed in our own designated building at the centre of the school site, science classrooms are all fitted with gas taps, sinks, taps and a reliable electrical supply to benches. Each room has an interactive whiteboard and there are fume hoods in 8 of the rooms. All the rooms are equipped with lab ware, and we also have a full set of up-to-date revision resources for the new GCSE in each.

#### Curriculum

The KS3 curriculum has been revamped this year to focus more on the building blocks of GCSE with an emphasis of mastering understanding and skills rather than learning content, this is based on the Activate Scheme of learning. In year 9 students start the GCSE course, and during the options process students can choose to do Separate Science in years 10 and 11. Students who do not do Separate Science go on to do Combined Science in years 10 and 11. A student can go onto A Level Sciences from either course as long as they meet the entry requirements. The exam board we use is Edexcel for GCSE and AQA for A-Level.

#### The Future

The department staff strongly believes that science is a subject to be enjoyed and experienced and that the problem solving and logic skills learnt are essential to young people's education. To this end we aim to constantly review and update our teaching, so that all students receive the best possible range of experiences. We are always looking at new ways to improve outcomes for students and offer them the best science education possible.

Please contact the school should you have any queries about the post or wish to view our school in action.

Andy Flower  
Head of Science  
aflower@stivoschool.org