

# St Richard's Science Department



The Science Department is noted for its excellent teaching across both Key Stages reflected in consistently strong academic results. Specialist Science College status, PTI accreditation as an Associate Department and the award of Space Education Quality Mark at Gold level, all reflect our progressive, leading practice with a focus on enrichment both within and beyond the national curriculum.

St Richard's chairs the East Sussex Science Subject Leaders' Network and takes the lead role in the Ogden East Sussex Alliance in supporting KS2/KS3 science transition work with a physics focus in 10 partner primary schools.

All members of the department contribute to the improvement and development of excellence in our subject areas. We host National Science Week events annually, involving themed laboratory practical days at the school; we deliver primary school transition days; there are extra-curricular clubs for each year group and we have excellent links to the Universities of Brighton, Greenwich and Sussex. We have enjoyed success in local, regional and national competitions. Learning beyond the curriculum is further enhanced with a multitude of trips and visits.

Our 'out of this world' radio contact with Major Tim Peake on board the ISS was a particular highlight, drawing together schools from across every age group. Similarly, our live conference with a polar explorer scientist in the Arctic Circle was most memorable. These activities have been publicised across all media platforms including local television and radio press, BBC South East and St Richard's and SSAT websites.



The strengths of the department are evident in the excellent qualifications, experience and enthusiasm of the staff. The staffing of the department is as follows:



Subject Leader/Assistant Principal  
KS4 Co-ordinator  
KS3 Co-ordinator  
Five Main Scale science teachers: three part-time, three with other whole-school responsibilities

## Results

Results for two good GCSE sciences were 78% at 4+ and 63% at 5+ in 2019  
CAGs for two good GCSE sciences were 85% at 4+ and 74% at 5+ in 2020

GCSE : Physics, Chemistry and Biology – all achieved 100% 4 and above and typically 80% achieved 7+ grades.

Our aim is to improve upon this level of success and achievement for all pupils.

## Schemes of Work



The department is committed to the redevelopment of Schemes of Learning in KS3 and KS4 in the light of the National Strategy, and KS3 is now fully in place. At KS4, we begin the work in Year 9 leading to two Science GCSEs. More able pupils can opt to upgrade this to three separate sciences in Year 11.

## Laboratories and Prep Rooms

The department has seven well equipped laboratories. All laboratories have been refurbished in recent years. One laboratory offers full ICT facilities and is accessible to all Science staff and we also have mobile notebook computers. All laboratories are networked and contain IWBs. The laboratories are served by three prep rooms staffed by three experienced technicians. Very good communication between teachers and technicians ensures the efficiency and smooth running of the department.



This post represents an excellent opportunity for a suitable candidate to join a thriving, forward-thinking and well-organised department of teachers and technicians.

