

Science at Weatherhead is an extremely successful and popular subject that is delivered by a dedicated and highly professional team of 18 teachers, 2 Science Teaching Assistants and 4 Technicians. The department is constantly striving to raise attainment, through curriculum development, focusing on teaching and learning strategies, sharing good practice and continued evaluation of all aspects of departmental work, in order for students to realise their highest possible potential. We are an outstanding department, with a consistent track record of high achievement in examinations, compared to national data.

At Key Stage 3 our bespoke curriculum provision is in line with National Curriculum requirements, with practical, numeracy and literacy skills embedded into teaching to both engage and motivate students, and to develop the skills needed to make a smooth transition to Key Stage 4. At Key Stage 4 students follow GCSE AQA Biology, Chemistry and Physics (Separate Science) or AQA Combined Science (Trilogy and Synergy), with the route chosen to meet the needs of each individual. At Key Stage 5, A Level courses are offered in Chemistry, Physics and Biology, and Level 3 BTEC Applied Science. The facilities at Weatherhead are exceptional and the department has an excellent range of resources available to support and enrich teaching and learning. The Science Department consists of 13 fully-equipped teaching laboratories, 2 preparation rooms serving lower and upper floor laboratories, and a science office for staff.

The Science Department recognises the value of extracurricular activities and opportunities to involve the students in outside visits and challenges are fully utilised. At Key Stage 3 students are offered the opportunity to complete the CREST award through Science club and are given the chance to go beyond the curriculum by taking part in a variety of STEM opportunities, Science at Work days at Daresbury Laboratories and experiencing Science lectures at the ACC in Liverpool. In the Summer term, Weatherhead hosts its very own "Mad Science Day" for students in Year 7 where students spend the whole day immersing themselves in science activities led by outside agencies and the Science Department. At Key Stage 5 students are given many opportunities to see science taking place outside of the classroom and an impressive number of students have taken part in many of the opportunities offered over recent years including; Young Analyst of the Year competition at Liverpool University, Nuffield Bursary, Bristol Myers Squibb work experience day, Chester Zoo, Martin Mere, Intromed and visiting the Large Hadron Collider at CERN. For further information please visit our curriculum page and gallery.

For all staff there is an extensive tailored support and professional development programme. As a Centre of Excellence for Leadership we provide specialist courses for NQTs through to Senior Leadership development opportunities. We also focus as a school on leadership in the classroom where our priority is all aspects of teaching and learning.

For further information please visit the school website, Teaching School Alliance section for details of professional development opportunities at Weatherhead.