



## Caldew Science Department

The department is led by the Head of Department and two TLR2 post holders who are responsible for the leadership and development of Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 5 Science courses. They work with a wider team of permanent full-time and part-time teachers and two technicians.

The school has made good progress in Science over recent years. In particular, attainment at Key Stage 4 which is consistently in excess of 70% of students achieving 2 or more science GCSE's at grade 4 and with progress in line with national averages. At Key Stage 3 we follow the AQA Activate scheme of work with staff delivering all three sciences. All Key Stage 4 groups follow the AQA syllabus, split into trilogy and separate science where we expect them to be entered for at least two GCSEs. In reality, this means that in the current Year 11, 2 classes of students are entered for Triple Science- taught by a subject specialist, with the remaining students studying Double Award GCSE- here staff are expected to deliver across the range of subjects. The department is working very hard to further improve progress for all students. Whilst improving, we believe that there is much still to be done to enable the department to become outstanding.

At Key Stage 5 the department delivers four courses, AQA A Levels in Biology, Chemistry and Physics and AQA Applied Science. Recent A-Level results have been good with high ALPs scores and positive Value Added, notably, Chemistry achieving ALPS 2. Many of these students go on to continue their studies at Russell Group Universities or higher-level STEM apprenticeships.

We are very fortunate to have 10 fully equipped teaching labs supported by two experienced and hard-working technicians. In addition to this, we are in the unique position of having our own farm which allows us to offer additional Science courses such as Level 1 and 2 Animal Care. The department demographic is an eclectic mix of youth and experience that work collaboratively to support each other and most importantly provide the best outcomes for all of our students. We are all passionate about our subject and work to ensure all students leave Caldew having a greater appreciation for the world around them.

As a school, we are committed to encourage our staff to grow beyond their role and supporting their career development. We run an extensive induction and support programme for ECT's as well as CPD that is personalised to the needs and interests of individual teachers.