

SUBJECT SPECIFIC INFORMATION TEACHER OF SCIENCE
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STAFFING

We have a large Science team, including a Curriculum Leader, three Deputy Curriculum Leaders and various bursary holders. There are three laboratory technicians and we benefit from a team of admin support officers to produce all of our teaching resources and complete all data entry.

The Science team is friendly and incredibly supportive. We are committed to improving the lives of our students and having a good work-life balance. For example we have recently changed our marking policy to help with teacher well-being, this has not only benefited students, but also staff.

FACILITIES

At present, the Science Curriculum Area has 11 fully operational laboratories with 4 preparation rooms. The main teaching rooms are made up of 5 hexagonal pods with electric and gas supply. All laboratories have a SMART board and a traditional white board. An 'environment area' is available for ecological studies and comprises a large pond and managed wildlife area. Our preparation rooms are well stocked so teachers can be creative with their lessons and practical activities.

CURRICULUM

KS3 students are enjoying 3 periods (60 minutes each) of Science a week. At KS3 the Science Curriculum area has developed its own schemes of work and lesson plans. These are based around Activate from Oxford University Press and we make use of Kerboodle and its resources. Students are assessed regularly and accurately using a range of strategies, so that effective progress can be monitored well for each year group.

Students begin their GCSE courses in Year 9. At KS4 we use AQA specifications, tailoring the courses completed by students to their individual needs. At KS5, we use AQA specifications for AS/A2 Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Medical Science and Applied Science.

Science is incredibly popular at Barnhill Community High and we have two classes for each Science at KS5.

EXTRA CURRICULAR

Science Club offers KS3 students a chance to sample the 'applied' nature of Science. We have recently organised outside speakers including an Aerospace Engineer, a Particle Physicist from CERN and representatives from Kings College University.

The Science team is incredibly committed to helping our students to progress and to achieve their full potential, this includes many teachers volunteering to run (paid) Saturday morning revision sessions, and supporting students in securing work experience placements and University run courses outside of the school.

Throughout the year we organise revision sessions at appropriate points for all year groups, including holidays, to assist the students in achieving their potential. Universities and places of interest in London are used to enhance the learning experiences of students.

Prospective medical students are given support in several ways; mentoring by a current medical student, help with interview techniques by a professional from St. Georges and through assistance with work experience placements.

The Curriculum Area runs a STEM club and is working with Brunel University, who are setting up a STEM centre to support local schools.