KING EDWARD VI
SCHOOL LICHFIELD

SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

There are currently 13 specialist teaching staff in the department and three full-time science technicians. The Head of the Science Department is Dr Maxwell; working alongside Dr Squire (Second in Department and Head of Biology), Mr Phillips (Head of Chemistry), Mr Mills (Head of Physics) and Ms Shaw, Key Stage 3 Coordinator. All staff teach largely within their specialisms from GCSE onwards and strong subject knowledge is a strength of the department.

There are 12 specialist science teaching rooms, with the majority at the lower end of the Johnson site and three Chemistry laboratories at the upper end of the site in the Bader building. There is one main Prep Room plus a number of smaller prep areas and storage rooms. Our able technician team support teaching staff with equipment and practical set up across the entire ability range and year groups in all three science subject areas. All of the laboratories have interactive whiteboards.

Our Key Stage 3 curriculum reflects the national changes and the department uses Activate to support learning throughout Key Stage 3. Students make the transition to GCSE during Year 9 and our curriculum provides additional time for those who take Triple Science. This is a popular pathway with students and each year 40-50% of our cohort started the new GCSE courses in Biology, Chemistry and Physics. 9-4 pass rates for Triple Science are close to 100% and are also strong in Combined Science. Our students follow the AQA Science course.

Science A levels are very popular options in the 6th Form. At A level we offer courses in AQA Biology, AQA Chemistry, and AQA Physics with 2-year linear courses. We run at least two groups in each subject and Physics is an extremely popular choice. We also offer a Medical Science course post 16.

Students have the opportunity to enter the British Olympiad in Year 13 in Physics and Chemistry where students have seen success in these from participation all the way through to Gold. We hope to replicate this success next year and enter students for similar challenges in Biology. In providing a broad and engaging extra-curricular experience, students have also had the chance to visit the Large Hadron Collider at CERN, make visits to relevant industries such as breweries and quarries as well as attend lectures and science roadshows across the key stages. Many of our students pursue science in higher education, in courses such as Medicine, Biological Sciences, Chemistry, Physics and Engineering, as well as other science related fields.

Applications are welcome from both experienced colleagues and newly qualified teachers. Visits to the school prior to application are welcome but not essential.

June 2019