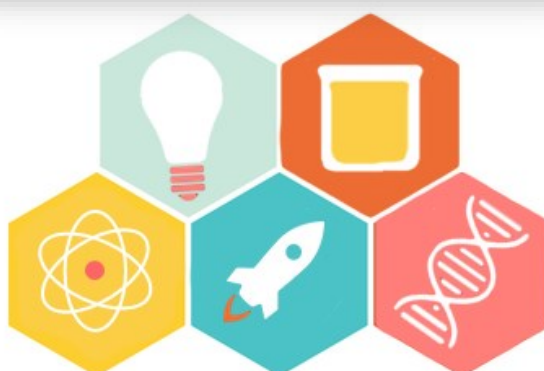


Welcome to **SCIENCE**

at Meadowhead



The Science Department is a strong team of twenty teachers and three technicians, with plenty of specialists in each of the three areas of biology, chemistry and physics. We love our subject and aim to develop our students' scientific knowledge and skills through high quality teaching and learning with plenty of opportunities for practical work.



What do students learn?

In Year 7 and 8 students follow our own schemes of work designed around the “Big Ideas” of science, such as Particles, Forces and Organisms. The scheme is based broadly on the AQA scheme of work for Key Stage 3 so that we can ensure our students are prepared well for their GCSE studies. Within each topic there are opportunities for students to develop their science skills by carrying out experiments and learning how to present and interpret data.

For GCSE students will choose either Combined Science, worth two GCSE grades, or Triple Science which is worth three. We encourage any student who is consistently achieving grade 6 at the end of Key Stage 3 to consider choosing Triple Science. Both courses follow the AQA specification and students can be entered for foundation tier or higher tier examinations as appropriate. As part of their GCSE studies, all students complete a series of required practicals to ensure that they develop the necessary experimental skills.

What other opportunities does the science department offer?

As well as offering some of the most interesting learning opportunities of any subject (where else can you dissect a heart, make your own fossil and test for acids by using a cabbage?) we make sure that there are lots of extra activities for students to get involved in. These include:

STEM Club — students can attend an after school club to take part in exciting experiments and learn more about science, technology, maths and engineering.

Meadowhead meets the Met Office — launching our own weather balloon to send us data about what's going on in the atmosphere.

Inspirational speakers and trips — students have been to the Royal Hallamshire hospital to learn about how MRI scans work; Nottingham University to learn about motors and the science of colour, and a nuclear physicist from Sheffield Hallam University came to show our students how to measure the width of a human hair.

Chickens — students can watch eggs hatch in our incubator and are always amazed at how quickly they grow!



How successful are our students?

Students studying science at Meadowhead can expect to do very well. In 2018, over 73% of our students gained grades 9-4.

Our A-level students are similarly impressive. More than 46% of students studying biology, chemistry or physics A-levels gained A*-B grades in 2018 and every one of our BTEC Level 3 Applied Science students gained a distinction grade.

Our students have gone on to study medicine, mechanical engineering, nuclear physics and more at some of the best universities in the country such as Cambridge, Newcastle, Sheffield and Durham. We're exceptionally proud of them and look forward to helping your child achieve their full potential too.

