

## The Science Department at Calthorpe Park School

The Science Department at Calthorpe Park School (CPS) is committed to promoting and motivating progression in all areas of Science.

We have a track record of remarkable organisation and learning activities that have led to exceptional exam achievement. We have high standards for every student, collaborate well, and maintain 'teaching to the top' across all teaching groups. Our students take pleasure in learning Science via enquiry led problem solving exercises often supported by practical investigations.

Our KS3 students are able to enjoy engaging enrichment activities in a weekly after school Science club and also various trips during the school year.

### GCSE results (academic year 2023\_24)

The department consistently support the high progress outcomes for the school and are in the top achievers across the county.

Combined Science	Biology:	Chemistry	Physics
9-4: 85%	9-4: 73%	9-4: 70%	9-4: 71%
9-5: 65%	9-5: 68 %	9-5: 68%	9-5: 68%
9-7: 22%	9-7: 54 %	9-7: 62%	9-7: 57%

\*The results for Biology, Chemistry and Physics are reflective of students entering a mainly higher tier cohort with a small number of foundation tier entries.

### Key Features of the Science Department:

- A large team consisting of 13 full time teachers, 1 part time teacher and 5 technicians
- Established in its own block, over 3 floors with 12 fully equipped laboratories.
- Department meetings and socialising at lunch time provide a vital forum for information sharing, decision-making, planning and policy formulation.
- One of our main strengths is the willingness of our department members to share good practice and support one another.
- We socialise regularly both within our department and also with the wider school, maintaining an enjoyable working atmosphere.
- A large Science meeting room with a small kitchenette area is available for us to use during breaks to support our well being whilst at work.

### Our Curriculum

Science in Years 7 & 8 is taught by all teachers with a multidisciplinary approach using a scheme of work that has investigation and experiential learning at its core. Students learn Science in mixed ability groups. The National Curriculum offers an exciting challenge to broaden Science teaching with more emphasis upon investigation, understanding, application and data usage in everyday situations. We are continually developing on-line resources to be made available via the school website.

Our KS3 course has been condensed into two years to allow the GCSE course to commence at the beginning of Year 9.

At GCSE, students follow AQA Science. Our students are entered for either the AQA double award, GCSE Combined Science Trilogy course or students have the opportunity to study three separate Science GCSE's in Biology, Chemistry and Physics.