

Okehampton College



Science Schemes of Learning 2020-2021

The Science team are a group of 13 dynamic practitioners with a huge variety of scientific backgrounds and experiences.

We are constantly reviewing our science curriculum so it best suits the needs of our learners, with the aim of engaging and enthusing learners who can apply science knowledge to their everyday lives.

This academic year we have implemented a sequence of learning from Year 7 to Year 11, which was designed by collaboration of several schools in Devon to ensure a wide and varied curriculum was taught to all students, not just targeted towards GCSE specifications. Our science curriculum is designed to introduce pupils to the fundamental core scientific concepts, providing a solid foundation of knowledge which is built upon throughout years 7 – 11 developing students' mastery of science topics as well as developing analytical skills through practical work. The aim of this collaboration is to improve outcomes in science for all students across Devon.

We have detailed Science Curriculum Overviews and Components which describe the curriculum learning aims in detail, allowing our students to take ownership of their learning. The Curriculum Overviews show the composite aspects of learning per assessment cycle, and the Curriculum Components detail the outcomes that we wish for all our students.

In September 2019, following data analysis and a reflection on student engagement in science, we introduced the Science Entry Level Certificate and Horticulture qualifications. Our rationale here was to give students the opportunity to acquire additional qualifications outside of the GCSE suite, as well as introducing science concepts, which are often perceived as difficult by students, in a way that allows those students to realise they can be successful in science, empowering and enthusing them and, ultimately, achieving success at GCSE.

Emma Dean

Director of Teaching & Learning Science Faculty