

Curriculum Statement for Science

Curriculum aims

At Vanguard School, the Science curriculum is designed with a clear purpose to ensure that:

- pupils make progress through drawing connections between content, methods, assessment, insight, and evaluation to deliver a holistic learning experience, within which the science curriculum bases knowledge, skills, strategies, and competencies around individual opportunity and progression.
- pupils' progress is secured by embedding frameworks of content and concepts that enable them to access future material.
- pupils retain abstract concepts through meaningful examples and repeated encounters in different contexts.
- we deliver a well-sequenced, inclusive, and skills focussed curriculum that enables all students to take ambitious next steps in their education and beyond.
- all our pupils, no matter their previous social and academic experience, leave school as confident, articulate, well-qualified and responsible young adults.
- our learners value learning for its own sake and become resilient, independent thinkers.

How we teach Science

Our approach to teaching Science is through:

- Provide clear and coherent curriculum pathways for each scientific domain across each key stage.
- Hold high expectations, aspirations, and ambitions for all learners expectations are clearly defined, and challenge and scaffolding are provided in curriculum resources.
- Support engaged, self-regulated, and metacognitive learning.
- Promote development of learner identity and identification with each subject
- Responsive teaching and learning that continually evolves and improves.
- Stimulate fascination, awe, and wonder in discovery of self and the world around us
- Ensuring that teaching and curriculum design secure pupils' practical skills, subject knowledge, literacy skills and numeracy skills.
- Giving pupils opportunities to study the science curriculum in a hands-on way utilising scientific investigation
- Supporting pupils to learn new content through combined mediums of teacher disposition, digital learning platforms and practical experiments.

Specific resources and schemes

At Vanguard school we support the teaching of Science with the use of:

- Oxford Smart Curriculum for Science and their assessments and resources.
- Online learning in class and at home utilising a variety of online platforms including Kerboodle and Seneca Learning.
- Hands on experience performing Practical Experiments in our fully functioning Science lab's and with the support of our full time Science technician.
- Visits to places of Scientific interest.

Qualifications

When our pupils leave Vanguard School, they will have been offered a tailored route to obtain Key stage 4 and, if appropriate, Key stage 5 Science qualifications. Our curriculum is built around the Oxford Smart Curriculum for Science which allows our students the flexibility of completing a Combined Science GCSE or separate Biology, Chemistry or Physics GCSEs. This decision will be made based on the students needs and with consultation from parents and carers for what is the best outcome for that student.

Exam board:

AQA (Assessment and Qualification Alliance)