

# Science at Thomas Aveling

The Science department consists of 9 full time teachers, three technicians and a HLTA.

The department benefits from nine full sized teaching laboratories, all of which are equipped with full lab equipment and interactive whiteboards. The department also has good ICT resources with 50 laptops that can be used booked out to assist teaching and learning within the labs.

## Summary of the Science Curriculum Key Stage 3

All students in Year 7 and Year 8 follow the Exploring Science scheme of work with a heavy emphasis on a skills based approach in Science. Due to the introduction of the revised National Curriculum, students are assessed through a mixture of APP assessments and short summative tests.

In Years 7 and 8 students are taught in mixed ability groups for three, one hour periods a week.

## Key Stage 4

At Key Stage 4, Science has undergone huge change over the last two years and now offers an innovative and flexible curriculum to our students which we now start at the beginning of Year 9.

Across the three year period students will achieve a minimum of two GCSE's in Science with some students being moved onto an accelerated course in order to receive the triple Science award.

## Key Stage 5

G.C.E. 'A' level courses are offered in the three main sciences:

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Applied Science

Uptake at post 16 is increasingly popular with students choosing to stay and study here at Thomas Aveling rather than moving onto college or other school 6<sup>th</sup> forms within the local area

## Where we are now and the future

We are a successful team who work well together with a strong sense of a collaborative approach towards work within the department. Members of the department share good practice. There is staff access to shared resources, reporting and results and all relevant information via the curriculum ICT system within the department. The department also consists of a good mixture of teaching experience and expertise in different subject areas which is another of its notable strengths.