

<b>Subject</b>	Science
<b>Curriculum intent</b>	I will have the knowledge, skills, and desire to understand and question the world around me.
<b>Key Stage 3</b>	<p>Students are taught in mixed ability teaching groups. Students follow our threshold curriculum and cover three cycles of teaching throughout the year. These three cycles are biology, chemistry, and physics. These cycles cover a range of science topics.</p> <p>In Year 7, students cover particles, acid and alkalis, and chemical reactions in chemistry. Forces, space, and waves are covered in physics. In biology they cover cells, human biology, and plants.</p> <p>In Year 8, students cover electricity, magnetism, and energy in Physics. The periodic table, reactions of metals, and earth chemistry are covered in chemistry. In biology they cover plants, ecology, variation and inheritance.</p> <p>In Year 9, students cover cells, microscopes, plants, and respiration in biology. Elements, compounds, chemical equations, and atomic structure are covered in chemistry. In physics they cover energy resources, heat transfer, and changing state.</p> <p>Students are assessed formally at the end of each cycle, where they sit a Key assessment task (KAT) on the content of the previous cycle. Students are also assessed during each cycle when they complete key practical activities. Students complete Key learning tasks (KLTs) based on these practicals.</p>
<b>Key Stage 4</b>	<p>Students in KS4 follow the AQA GCSE science specifications. Students who choose science in their option block will follow the separate biology, chemistry, and physics GCSE courses, and will be awarded three GCSEs at the end of year 11 if they pass. All other students follow the AQA combined science:trilogy course, working towards two GCSEs.</p> <p>Regardless of their option choices, students are taught biology, chemistry, and physics weekly in separate lessons. They are taught in mixed groups with some setting for ability.</p> <p>As part of these courses, students must complete a range of required practical activities in each subject. These are completed as part of specific topics throughout the course.</p> <p>Students are assessed in external examinations at the end of the two year course, and their final grade is entirely determined by their exam performance.</p>
<b>Key Stage 5</b>	Students who join Aspire Sixth can choose to take a post-16 course in science. Three AQA A level courses are available in Biology, Chemistry and Physics. A BTEC Level 3 course in Science is also offered.