

# BEAMINSTER SCHOOL



## The Science Department

Spring 2023

Dear Colleague

Thank you very much for your interest in this post, and we hope that the information provided encourages you to make a formal application.

Should you have any further questions, or would like to come and visit the school, please contact the Office Manager, Mrs Nicola Chalkley: [NChalkley@beaminster.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:NChalkley@beaminster.dorset.sch.uk) or 01308 862633.

We can offer you the rare opportunity of working in a small, rural, vibrant school community, situated in a delightful part of Dorset close to the Jurassic Coast, a World Heritage site.

The Science department is one of the most successful subjects in the school, however, we are not complacent. These exciting and dynamic times in education mean that we are constantly refining our work and considering new curriculum opportunities to provide the very best for our students.

The Science block was built in 1995 and consists of 6 purpose-built labs, a well-resourced preparation area and an open plan atrium. Every member of staff has their own laptop. There is a projector in every room and access to a set of student laptops. The Science team consists of 4 full time and 4 part time teachers (1 a member of SLT), 2 full time Technicians and a Science TA. All teaching staff are also required to act as a form Tutor.

At Key Stage 3 students follow a newly developed Science programme based on the Exploring Science suite. Staff teach across all three disciplines with, where possible, one member of staff leading. Year 7 is taught in streamed groups, whereas from Year 8 onwards, all groups are setted. For another year, our end of Key Stage 3 survey revealed that over 95% of students enjoyed their Science.

At Key Stage 4 students can opt for Separate Sciences or the AQA "Trilogy" Award course. Over recent years the average 9-4 pass rate for GCSE Double Award Science has been a very encouraging 70%, with over 93% 9-4 and over 40% 9-7 in the Separate Sciences.

At Advanced level the OCR syllabus is followed in Biology, Chemistry and Physics. The department shares teaching with the Sir John Colfox Academy in Bridport and staff from both sites work closely together on the planning and delivery of Sixth Form courses. Students travel between the sites as required, but staff teach only at their base school.

The department has well developed links with our feeder primary schools and works closely on the transition process. In recent years we have participated in the 6<sup>th</sup> Form Engineering Education Scheme, the Leonardo's Flying Start Challenge and visits to Hinckley Point in KS4 and Bristol Zoo with Year 9, whilst The Natural History Museum have been working with Year 7 on an Urban Nature Project. We also run a SustainableYou group, linked to Imperial College London, across all ages.

We look forward to receiving your completed application and thank you, in advance, for what we know is a time-consuming process.

**Closing date: Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March**