**Curriculum Information: Science**

The aim of the Science curriculum at Abbeyfield School is to allow students to develop an enquiring mind and to understand the world around them. This involves building students’ knowledge of the methods, processes and uses of science. They will also develop the skills required to investigate and analyse data.

The curriculum is enriched through a KS3 Science club, Y8 Science Fair project work and trips including The Big Bang Fair and Science in Action lecture days.

At KS3 the National Curriculum programme of study is delivered in a series of Biology, Chemistry and Physics themed topics. The development of the working scientific skills is incorporated into schemes of work. In years 7 and 8 Science teachers deliver a Biology, Chemistry and Physics modular curriculum in 7 hours per fortnight. This facilitates an equal emphasis of all three Science disciplines.

In Year 9 time is spent to consolidate and further develop students’ knowledge of the fundamentals of Biology, Chemistry and Physics before starting the GCSE curriculum part way through Year 9. This ensures that key content from the National Curriculum programme of study is fully covered and that there is time to deliver the GCSE content.

At KS4 the majority of students study the double award AQA Combined Science (Trilogy) which leads to two GCSE grades in Science. Students are taught in banded groups and have 10 hours per fortnight of Science lessons. They generally have 3 teachers each teaching their specialism.

Students who opt to study the Separate Sciences at GCSE have 15 hours per fortnight (5 hours per science) and 3 teachers for their science lessons. This ensures students are taught by a subject specialist.

Progress of students throughout Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 is monitored through end of topic assessments and end of year exams.

**GCSE specification:** AQA Combined Science (Trilogy) – 8464

GCSE Biology: AQA 8461

GCSE Chemistry: AQA 8462

GCSE Physics: AQA 8463

**A Level Biology specification:** AQA 7402

**A Level Chemistry specification:** AQA 7405 **A Level Physics specification:** AQA 7408