

Science

Intent:

Science lessons at Kickstart Academy aim to give students a broad yet strong understanding of the world around them; as well as developing specific skills and knowledge required to think scientifically and understand the processes and implications of Science.

We believe that a high quality science education provides the foundations for understanding the world through the specific disciplines of biology, chemistry and physics.

Students are encouraged to develop and use a range of skills including observations, planning and practical investigations. In addition to this they are encouraged to question the world around them, work as a team and helped to begin to develop the required skills to become independent learners.

We intend to provide all students; regardless of ethnic origin, gender, class, background, aptitude or disability; with a broad and balanced science curriculum.

Implementation:

Each form is allocated a minimum of 3 Science lessons a week. This may be affected by students' individual timetables. The Science department is provided with planning time, during PPA and PD days, to plan a relevant and suitable curriculum.

All students are given the opportunity to sit an Entry Level qualification as well as having the possibility of progressing to GCSE level.

Lessons are planned to fit in to a specific topic area each half term - Biology, Chemistry or Physics – and are taught in smaller units often over 1-2 weeks (with relevant extension and challenge activities) to allow for progression and understanding without losing student interest. Students are given access to a range of lesson formats including practical sessions, modelled activities, theoretical sessions and visual aids. As relevant trips or visits from experts can be utilised to enhance the learning experience.

Impact:

Our Science Curriculum is well thought out and planned to cover a range of necessary topics within a restricted timescale. Student progress is tracked both through marking and end of unit tests. It is understood that if good understanding of the subject is shown and students are keeping up with the curriculum, they are deemed to be making good or better progress. Students that show good or above progress will be considered for alternate GCSE input. Science is taught as discrete units and lessons where needed to ensure coverage.

The impact and measure of this is to ensure students not only acquire the appropriate age related knowledge linked to the science curriculum, but to give best possible chance for students to achieve appropriate qualifications.