

FITZHARRYS SCHOOL CURRICULUM SUMMARY

SCIENCE

Science is all around us. Science has changed our lives and is vital to the world's future prosperity.

In Science lessons, we aim to develop the inquiry, discussion and questioning skills necessary for students to become scientifically literate and responsible citizens as well as our next generation of inspirational professional scientists.

KS3

Throughout KS3, students learn to work both independently and in groups to carry out experiments. They learn to plan their work, use scientific equipment, collect data, analyse results, draw conclusions and evaluate. Students at Fitzharrys enjoy Science because of the diverse range of activities in which they participate.

In Year 7, students study cells, the structure of body systems, reproduction, particles, elements & compounds, chemical reactions, acids & alkalis, forces, sound, light and space.

In Year 8, students study health & disease, adaptation, ecology, the periodic table, separating techniques, the Earth, electricity, motion and energy.

These are assessed through a range of tasks including tests, making scientific posters, writing-up experiments and presenting data.

KS4/GCSE

Students study either Triple Science (Biology, Chemistry, Physics) leading to three GCSEs or Combined Science (a combination of Biology, Chemistry and Physics) leading to two GCSEs. Both courses follow the AQA specification. Both courses have plenty of opportunities for practical work and both pathways can lead to A' level Sciences.

All GCSE Science courses are assessed on written exams but students participate in practical lessons on a regular basis in order to enhance their understanding of key concepts and complete the necessary required practicals.

Work in lessons is supported by a lunchtime Science clinic to help with revision of key concepts and a drop-in session where students can access help with homework and classwork. We are also running Chemistry masterclasses with Abingdon School to support learning.

Extra-Curricular Opportunities

We run a successful Science Club aimed at Year 7 and 8 pupils where pupils can take part in fun experiments but also complete a Crest Award – a national certification programme.

Gardening Club enjoy designing the Science Garden and growing a range of flowers, fruit and vegetables. We recently won three prizes in a local horticultural show.

We also have strong links with Abingdon School and Oxford University. This allows us to run community Science projects and take part in real research projects. For example, we are currently involved with a project involving motion-sensored cameras to capture wildlife data.