

Science at the Ashley Academy School is taught with a strong emphasis on investigative, practical activities. It is taught across the school in all three Key Stages.

Key Stage 2

Pupils in key stage 2 are currently following the International Primary Curriculum (IPC). IPC is a comprehensive, thematic, creative curriculum for 3-12 year olds, with a clear process of learning and with specific learning goals for every subject, for international mindedness and for personal learning.

Each IPC unit incorporates a range of subjects including Science, History, Geography, ICT, Art and PE and provides many opportunities to link literacy and numeracy.

Pupils in Year 6 are taught by both the class teacher and by a specialist science teacher, in preparation for a smooth transition to Key Stage 3.

Key Stage 3

Pupils follow a KS3 National Curriculum Science Course which engages learners working at all levels. This links practical experience with scientific ideas, creative thought and contributions to technological change. They learn to question and discuss issues that affect their own lives, different societies and the world. Pupils need to understand key concepts in order to deepen and broaden their knowledge, skills and understanding.

All pupils are taught by specialist science teachers in the science laboratory. Pupils in Years 7 and 8 cover all four attainment targets through half-termly modules.

Year 9 pupils begin a course based on short modules in preparation for beginning their AQA Entry Level course in Year 10. It is an accredited course which is accessible and relevant for learners at the Ashley Academy School. The Entry Level course is divided into short modules related to the three main areas of science; chemistry, biology and physics. In each module all skills and knowledge are taught through practical, differentiated activities. Entry Level Science comprises three internal assessment units. These encompass 6 End of Unit Tests that are set by AQA and a Practical Task. All elements are marked by teachers and a sample is moderated, externally, at the end of Key Stage 4.

Key Stage 4

At Key Stage 4 all pupils follow an AQA Entry Level Science programme of study. This is an accredited course which is accessible and relevant for learners at the Ashley Academy School. The Entry Level course is divided into short modules related to the three main areas of science; chemistry, biology and physics. In each module all skills and knowledge are taught through practical, differentiated activities. Entry Level Science comprises three internal assessment units. These encompass 6 End of Unit Tests that are set by AQA and a Practical Task. All elements are marked by teachers and a sample is moderated, externally, at the end of Key Stage 4.

For those who are more able, there is the option to follow a Foundation GCSE course which covers all three areas of science. The Ashley Academy School has a history of excellent success rates in GCSE Science.

<http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/by-type/entry-level/>

<http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/by-type/gcse/>