



## SCIENCE AT CALDERSTONES



Science

At present there are twenty members of staff delivering Science at Calderstones. Technical support is provided by five term-time technicians. The Department works as a team and the sharing of resources and ideas is the norm.

There are fifteen laboratories. Each is well equipped and has access to a preparatory room. There are interactive whiteboards in each laboratory, access to a large amount of science software and a new VLE has just been set up across the school. In addition, there is an ICT suite which Science has for the majority of the week. This year 60 netbooks, for sole use in Science laboratories, have been added to the resources available. All of the laboratories are housed in a separate Science Wing that includes secretarial support, pupil toilets, offices and a staff room.

In September 2003 Calderstones achieved Science Specialist status and we have since been redesignated. As a result of this, help with Science work is delivered to 11 local Primary Schools, enrichment activities are provided for our own pupils, we are involved in community projects and support the curriculum across the school.

In Key Stage 3, Year 7 and 8 pupils have three lessons of Science a week which are delivered as Physics, Chemistry and Biology. Year 9 pupils have two lessons per week of Physics, Chemistry and Biology. The Key Stage 3 Science SAT results were significantly above the national average.

At Key Stage 4 pupils will be directed into Learning Pathways. Science offers the three separate Sciences, Science with Additional Science, for a small number just Science and BTEC in Applied Science. Just as with KS3 the individual subject identities are maintained and pupils are taught by a subject specialist.

Physics, Chemistry and Biology are popular options in Key Stage 5. Typically there are at least two sets in each subject in Year 12. Level 3 BTEC Applied Science is a recent addition to the options available in the sixth form.