



Wootton Academy Trust

Wootton Upper School and Kimberley 16 - 19 College (in the nearby village of Stewartby), are both operated by Wootton Academy Trust [WAT]. The two institutions are 3 miles apart and linked by a shuttle bus.

WAT is ambitious and its vision is to provide outstanding education in all of its component parts.

Wootton Upper School, with 900 pupils across Years 9 -11, was rated good by Ofsted in November 2017. Results across the core subjects are very high. Progress 8 was 0.13 in 2017; 0.26 in 2018 and 0.2 in 2019.

Most of our students come from two local middle schools.

Kimberley 16 - 19 College has 600 students. In September 2021 this will rise to 650. Around 175 pupils in each year group join the College from Wootton Upper School; the rest join from other local schools.

Kimberley is rated as good by Ofsted with outstanding for Personal Development, Behaviour and Well-being. The College has regularly featured in the Sunday Times list of the top Sixth Form Colleges in the UK based on the proportion of students getting 2As and 1B or better in facilitating subjects. In 2019 Kimberley College was ranked as the 14th highest Sixth Form College in the UK.

The Science Department

We recognise that our staff are our most important asset and therefore, we work hard to ensure that career development opportunities are at the heart of our thinking. Many staff move on to internal promotions within the Trust. We want all of our staff to enjoy working here and we want our pupils and students to be taught by colleagues who are passionate about science teaching and who want to contribute to our wide array of extra-curricular opportunities.

WAT Science department consists of a dedicated team of seventeen subject specialists who teach one or more of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Science is very popular and very large numbers continue to study science in Years 12 and 13 with at least two [and often three] classes in Biology, Chemistry and Physics in both Year 12 and Year 13.

Our team of science teachers all work really hard for our pupils and students. Many teachers work across the 13-19 age range and, therefore, teach at both Wootton Upper School and Kimberley 16-19 STEM College. A minority teach only at Wootton Upper School or at Kimberley 16-19 STEM College.

There is a structure of TLR holders to support the successful candidate. This currently includes individuals leading Physics, Chemistry and Biology and a second in science all of whom support the Assistant Head who leads Science across the Trust.

Year 9 students are largely taught by just one science teacher in their first year at Wootton Upper School.

As part of our STEM provision there are a range of science enrichment activities that take place at Wootton Upper School and also at Kimberley College including visits to CERN, competitions and much, much more.

Our main science accommodation at Wootton Upper School consists of eight laboratories and prep room; this has recently received a £1million refurbishment. At Kimberley there are four specialist laboratories and two open learning spaces along with a prep room.

There are three technicians and a laboratory assistant who work hard to service all the laboratories across the Trust.

In Year 9, all pupils have six hours of science per two-week timetable cycle. In Years 10 and 11 the majority of students are taught Combined Science. However, approximately a third of the year group opt for Triple Science. Combined Science students have nine hours of Biology, Chemistry and Physics per timetable cycle. Students choosing triple science have a further five hours of science lessons per timetable cycle.

In the sixth form, each 'A'-level block is allocated eleven periods per two-week timetable cycle. There are four Year 12 and three Year 13 A level Biology classes; three Year 12 and three Year 13 A level Chemistry classes and two Year 12 and two Year 13 Physics classes at Kimberley College. Mathematics and Science subjects are the most popular subjects at Kimberley.

Outcomes in Science at A level are strong; progress measures are broadly in line with national expectations.

For further information on the Science department please contact: **Sarah Chick, Assistant Head, Director of Science at Wootton Academy Trust** [schick@wootton.beds.sch.uk]