



Specialist Status

September 2003 saw the school designated as a Specialist Science College, by the DfES.

This status has given the school many opportunities to develop: innovative approaches to Teaching and Learning, enrichment activities, career pathways in maths and science based subjects, work with the local community including our family of partner primary schools.

Specific targets have been set until 2007, and these are reviewed by the Science College Management Group and the Governing Body. The targets cover a range of academic, enrichment and community work across the fields of science and maths.

Science at Heathcote

- To raise attainment at KS 3 & 4
- To introduce a broader curriculum, including vocational and separate science GCSE qualifications.
- To enrich and improve attainment by the increased use of ICT in teaching and learning.
- To increase careers opportunities and retention of our pupils in post 16 science based education or training.

Maths at Heathcote

- To raise attainment at KS 3 & 4
- To introduce a broader curriculum
- To enrich and improve attainment by the increased use of ICT in teaching and learning
- To reduce class sizes at KS3
- To increase the number of pupils taking a maths related course or career post 16

Science, Maths & The Community

- To support partner primary schools to raise achievement in Science – Experimental & Investigative activities.
- To enrich the Science curriculum at KS2.
- To support Heathcote School science department, in terms of sharing good practice and extending Professional Development opportunities.
- To engage parents / members of the neighbourhood in healthy living.
- To raise standards of Numeracy and ICT skills with parents / members of the neighbourhood, to improve employment prospects.

All the extra funding from Science College Status to carry out our activities has made it possible to divert more resources to other departments and initiatives in the school. This benefits your son and daughter even more.

If you have any questions about or interest in the Specialist Status of the school, please contact Babrik Patel – Director of Science.