Science Department Improvement Plan – 2020/2021

1. To ensure high quality teaching and learning is delivered across the department.

Weekly CPD provided virtually for all staff to engage with though online delivery, Seneca etc. Resources are planned collaboratively across the department using medium term planning documents which also map skills, maths and literacy. These resources are QA’d by Science Leadership to ensure that the resources are of high quality to be differentiated and delivered for all students. Lessons are being developed with a consistent format focussing on high quality delivery of instruction and the opportunities for independent practise, practical is only used when appropriate. This is being done for all cohorts of students, the whole curriculum is being refined and resourced.

1. To improve the delivery of Maths in Science across the department by developing links with the maths department to allow a consistent delivery across both subjects.

EBL to meet with SYO from the maths department to develop consistent approaches to math delivery across subjects. Science department CPD has also been provided to support the consistent delivery of graphs and equations to ensure that all students are being taught with the same approaches.

1. To improve the use of assessment in Science as a tool to identify weakness in student knowledge and improve the delivery of feedback and intervention.

Assessments are being written to ensure that the focus is on identifying area of weakness within student understanding. The tests aim to cover the majority of the specification to allow teachers to appropriately intervene with any areas of underperformance. The frequency of KS3 tests is being reduced to ensure that they are meaningful and provide students with an opportunity to experience exam practise. There will be additional CPD provided on post-test intervention, the development of examiner’s reports as a tool for student feedback. QLA is also being introduced for mock exams so that trends can be observed across the whole cohort.

1. To improve the delivery of Literacy in Science across the department.

BGO and AHA have a focus on literacy for their study group. This supports the department priority to improve literacy and oracy with a focus on subject specific language and the skills needed to unlock new words that they experience. Reading is being planned into the curriculum and mapped across each unit to ensure that the opportunity is provided within lessons.