

## YEAR 8 SCIENCE PROGRAM

All students complete a common course of four units, beginning with:

### ■ *Working Scientifically*

This subject is an introduction to secondary science. Its aim is to provide students with the prerequisite knowledge and skills needed for all further secondary science studies. It covers:

- an introduction to the science laboratory and laboratory skills
- library research skills
- the methods of science
- using these methods to solve everyday problems.

The remaining units will be taught in different orders to different groups of classes. They are:

### ■ *Life and Living*

This subject allows students to study living things, their characteristics and life processes. The subject covers:

- the differences between living and non-living things
- the characteristics of plants
- the characteristics of animals
- how the living world has been classified
- the importance of plants and animals
- investigation of life processes

### ■ *Investigating Chemistry*

This is an introductory chemistry subject. It examines atoms as the building blocks of matter, elements, the Periodic Table, compounds, solubility, simple separation techniques, chemical and physical changes as well as the preparation, properties and uses of some important gases.

### ■ *Investigating Physics*

There are many forces in nature. All sorts of devices, tools and machines are used to put these forces to work and make work easier. Students doing this course will do many activities to find out about forces, how they can be measured and what forces can do. In modern society knowledge about forces, machines and technology is very important. Forces at work within our Earth are also investigated.

The subject covers simple machines, energy, forces, friction, gravity, earthquakes, volcanoes, faulting and folding, and weathering and erosion.