

25th July 2019

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Headteacher  
Mrs E Leigh-Bennett

### Year 9 Science Curriculum Update

Dear Parent /Carer,

I am writing to update you on alterations to our science curriculum pathways. There have been significant changes to the GCSE science curriculum since 2016 and we have been adapting our curriculum to ensure that students are on the correct curriculum pathway.

In the past, we have selected separate science students at the end of Year 8; with the increased demands of the new GCSEs, this is no longer appropriate.

Year 9 going into Year 10 will complete all of the remaining combined science modules so that they will sit mock exams at the end of year 10 on the paper 2 content.

We will then make decisions on the most appropriate science pathway for students to be entered for in Year 11, including separate science entry.

Please can you encourage your son/daughter to keep working hard in science over year 10 as all pathways are available to them and their final pathway will be decided by performance in the year 10 mock exams.

Year 9 students have been issued with a science holiday booklet to help them improve on, one of the areas identified in the paper 1 mock exams as an area of weakness. They need to complete the note sections with some written revision notes on the specific topic and attempt all of the exam questions. Mark schemes are in the booklets so that they can green pen their work.

**All booklets have to be completed and bought back into school on the first science lesson.**

If your son/daughter does not have a booklet, there will be some available to collect from the school reception during the holiday. Alternatively, the booklet is available on SMHW and students could write down the answers on lined paper if they cannot print it.

Yours Sincerely,

Mrs A Cassey  
Science Department leader