

6 January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

I am writing to provide details of your child's science course for this term and beyond, including information about the Key Stage 3 final science assessment, which will take place during the week commencing 9 March.

The assessment will cover the topics taught in year 9 science lessons, including both scientific knowledge and practical investigation skills. It will not include any content from years 7 or 8. The assessment will use a range of nationally standardised questions designed to assess students' attainment in science and will be completed during normal science lessons under full examination conditions.

To support students in preparing for the assessment, we have provided a revision table (see separate document). This breaks down the main Year 9 topic areas on a week-by-week basis. In lessons, we will introduce students to a range of revision techniques to support independent study at home. The revision strategies developed at this stage will be equally valuable during years 10 and 11, and students are encouraged to engage fully with this process.

The revision schedule includes page references to the CGP revision guide that many students have already purchased from school. We currently have copies in stock, available for £3.20, with payment made via the school's online payment system. There are two versions of the guide: Higher and Foundation. If students are unsure which guide is most appropriate, they should speak to their science teacher for advice.

Students will also be shown how to access additional revision resources, including practice exam questions, which are stored on the school system and can be accessed from home. External resources such as BBC Bitesize, Cognito, and Seneca Learning also provide useful KS3 revision materials.

The results of the KS3 final assessment, alongside assessments completed throughout the year and teacher judgement, will be used to determine the most appropriate GCSE science course and year 10 teaching group for each student. This includes whether students will follow the Separate Sciences course or Combined Science: Trilogy at GCSE. These options and expectations have been discussed with students in lessons and are outlined in the year 9 options booklet. Students following the Separate Sciences route will have an additional one-hour science lesson per week delivered after school.

If you have any questions regarding the assessment or the GCSE science courses, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

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