

7 February 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

Re: Key Stage 3 Final Science Assessment and Start of GCSE Transition courses

I am writing to provide details of your child's Science course for this term and beyond, and the details of the assessment students will take in the week commencing 24 March. The assessment will cover the topics taught in school science lessons during Year 9 including scientific concepts and science investigation skills. It will not contain any content from years 7 or 8.

The assessment will use a range of national standardised questions, which are specifically designed to assess attainment in science. It will be completed in science lessons under full examination conditions.

To help students prepare for the assessment, a revision table has been provided which breaks up the main topic areas from Year 9 by week. To support additional revision at home, we will introduce students to a variety of revision techniques. The revision strategies that students develop now will be equally useful in Years 10 and 11 and I would encourage them to engage fully with this process.

The revision schedule page numbers refer to the CGP revision guide that many students have purchased from school; we currently have copies in stock, which are available for £3.25. Payment can be made via the school's online payment system. There are two versions of this revision guide, a higher and a foundation. If students are unsure which revision guide would be the best choice for them, they should talk to their science teacher.

Students will also be shown how to access additional revision resources (including practice exam questions) stored on the school system and accessible from home. BBC Bitesize, Cognito and Seneca Learning are also useful revision aids with dedicated KS3 resources.

The results from the KS3 final assessment, along with assessments completed throughout the year and teacher impression, will be used to determine the most appropriate course and Year 10 set for GCSE science. This will include a decision as to whether your child will study the separate science or the combined Trilogy science course at GCSE. We have discussed the differences and expectations with students in lessons, and details of the courses are outlined in the Year 9 options booklet. Students following the separate science route have an extra one-hour lesson per week delivered after school.

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

Yours sincerely



John Goode
KS3 Science Lead
jgoode@klbschool.org.uk