



Bishop Rawstorne Church of England Academy



11 January 2017

Dear Parent/Guardian

I am writing to inform you of important information regarding your son's/daughter's science education. All Year 9 students will now start to study GCSE Science. Recently all Year 9 students have been developing their scientific, mathematical, practical and investigative skills in preparation for GCSE work and we will be working towards AQA GCSE Science qualifications. Students will receive four lessons a week on various topics from Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Later in the year students will be given the opportunity to opt to study the separate sciences resulting in three separate GCSE qualifications in Biology, Chemistry and Physics. The remaining students will continue studying GCSE Combined Science: Trilogy in Years 10 and 11 resulting in two GCSEs.

For more details on each of the GCSEs we offer, including specification and assessment details, please use the links below:

GCSE Biology - <http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/biology-8461>

GCSE Chemistry - <http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/chemistry-8462>

GCSE Physics - <http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/physics-8463>

GCSE Combined Science: Trilogy - <http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/combined-science-trilogy-8464>

All qualifications are linear. Linear means that students will sit all their exams at the end of the course; there is no opportunity to re-sit exams. There is no coursework, however, all students will have to carry out numerous required practicals over the next two years, the knowledge of which will be tested in the final examinations.

To support their learning, all students have access to a digital copy of the GCSE textbooks and resources we use in school. These can be found at www.kerboodle.com. All students have a username and password to access this site where they can also complete certain homeworks and assessments that have been set online. In addition to this, useful revision resources can be found on the school website.

Finally, it is very important that students keep all their GCSE work organised ready for exam preparation. They will need three A4 ring binder folders with file dividers to store their GCSE work; one each for Biology, Chemistry and Physics work, although only two will be needed at any one time as we rotate the teaching of the different subjects.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions you have. Thank you for your support in this matter, and I assure you we will continue to give your son/daughter our ongoing help and encouragement.

Yours sincerely

Mrs L Petts
Curriculum Leader, Science

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