

21st May 2019

Dear Parents and Students,

**Re: Information for Year 9 Science end of year Pre-Public exams 2019**

I am writing to inform you that all Year 9 students will be sitting Science pre-public exams in the week beginning 17<sup>th</sup> June 2019. The exams will take place in their normal Science lessons. All students will sit ONE exam paper containing three sections of questions on the Biology, Chemistry and Physics topics covered since September, when they started the GCSE course in Science. The paper is 1 hour and 30 minutes in length – 30 minutes of questions for each subject. It is important that students arrive punctually to their science lessons to ensure that they have access to the complete time allowed. The PPE will happen in their FIRST science lesson of the week beginning 17<sup>th</sup> June.

All students will sit exam questions covering a range of styles and levels of difficulty. In the actual GCSE exams, and in year 10 PPEs, students will sit tiered exam papers. Foundation tier papers can achieve GCSE grades 1-5 and higher tier papers can achieve GCSE grades 4-9 in full-length papers. We will use the results of year 9, 10 and 11 PPEs to decide the final tier of entry for their GCSE Science papers. However, the year 9 exams are **NOT** tiered.

I would encourage all students to prepare thoroughly for these examinations. It is important that they can see the standard that they have reached at the end of Year 9 and the start of their GCSE course. Useful strategies to revise and the importance of good quality, active revision will have been highlighted in lessons by your child's science teachers.

If you do not have them already it is a good point to purchase revision guides and workbooks from [www.ccs.northants.sch.uk/revisionguides](http://www.ccs.northants.sch.uk/revisionguides). Our exam board is EDEXCEL. It is important that you purchase the correct revision guide. You can also access walk-through information for all the topics on [www.gcsepod.com](http://www.gcsepod.com). A large number of our GCSE students are also using a website [www.senecalearning.com](http://www.senecalearning.com) – most of the content is freely available although it is possible to purchase a premium subscription to this site.

The topics that need revising for the three papers are;

Biology	Chemistry	Physics
SB1 – Key concepts in Biology	SC1/2 – States of matter/separating substances	SP1 – Motion
SB2 – Cells and control	SC3 – Atomic Structure	
	SC4 – The Periodic Table	SP3 – Conservation of energy
	SC5/6/7 – Bonding and Types of substance	SP4a,b,c– Waves
		SP5a,b,c,d,e – Light and the Electromagnetic spectrum

Yours sincerely,

Mr S Gregson  
Head of Science