

20 May 2019

Dear Parents and Students,

Re: Year 10 Science end of year Pre-Public exams

I am writing to inform you that Year 10 students will be sitting pre-public exams in the week beginning 10/6/19. The exams will take place in their normal Science lessons. All students will sit an exam paper 1 for Biology, Chemistry and Physics. These papers are 1 hour and 45 minutes in length and it is important that students arrive to these lessons on time to ensure that they have access to the complete time allowed, which may extend slightly into break, lunch or after school.

This is the first time that students have been entered for either foundation (grade 1-5) or higher (grade 4-9) full-length papers. We have had individual discussions with students and have used the student's MEG, the advice from Edexcel (the exam board), and the student's performance in other internal testing to decide this. We will use the results of these PPE exams to make further adjustments to tiers of entry as we move into Year 11, for example if students were to show a very strong grade 5 performance at foundation tier we may move them to higher, equally students who cannot demonstrate that they can access the higher tier paper could be moved to foundation tier.

I would encourage all students to prepare thoroughly for these examinations, it is important that they are able to see the standard that has been reached at the end of Year 10. You have received other letters regarding exams with information about useful strategies to revise and I would reiterate the importance of good quality, active revision.

If you do not have them already it is a good point to purchase revision guides and workbooks from www.ccs.northants.sch.uk/revisiionguides. You can also access walk-throughs for all the topics on www.gcsepod.com. A large number of our GCSE students are also using a website 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 Paper 1 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	SP2 – Motion and forces
SB3 – Genetics	SC4 – The Periodic Table	SP3 – Conservation of energy
SB4 – Natural selection and Genetic Modification	SC5/6/7 – Bonding and Types of substance	SP4 – Waves
SB5 – Health, Disease and the Development of Medicines	SC8 – Acids and Alkalis	SP5 – Light and the Electromagnetic spectrum
	SC9 – Calculations involving masses	SP6 – Radioactivity
	SC10 – Electrolytic processes	SP7 - Astronomy
	SC11 – Obtaining and using metals	
	SC12 – Reversible reactions and equilibria	
	SC13 – Transition metals, alloys and corrosion	
	SC14 – Quantitative analysis	
	SC15 – Dynamic equilibria, calculations with volumes	
	SC16 – Chemical cells and fuel cells	

Yours sincerely,

Mr S Gregson Head of Science

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