

Ref: KOL/awl

12 December 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

The first wave of mock examinations are now winding down and end-of-module reports are being written. The current assessment level for students for Science is calculated as an average from their Biology and Chemistry papers.

Our exam board, OCR, are releasing a full set of practice papers at the beginning of January 2018. All Year 11 students will be sitting a second round of Science mocks in January 2018 as these papers will actually mirror what they will be sitting in the summer, these will give us the best idea of the cohort's true academic levels. Based on the scores of these papers, the decision will be made whether to enter your child for the higher/foundation tiered papers. The higher tiered papers will award levels from 9-9 to 4-4: foundation papers will award levels from 5-5 to 1-1. Every student will still be required to sit 6 examination papers in total: two each for Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Attached is the breakdown to show what topics are covered in which paper.

There are some areas in which you can help:


1. Tassomai - the programme is brilliant however only 5 students are on target. Everyone needs to be completing 2% per week, so as of 20 December, everyone should have completed 25% of the tasks set. (Thank you for your emails - if you asked for access to Tassomai you will hopefully have it next week.)
2. Kerboodle - the digital text books, interactive activities and progress quizzes are all here for revision.
3. Doodle - has even more than Kerboodle: whole lessons, videos, presentations, powerpoints, interactives, mini quizzes and lots more.
4. Calculators - May I take this opportunity to remind all students that they must bring their own calculator to each lesson and to the exam.

Students need a calculator for Maths and Physics and because of the functionality they are expected to know and calculate, they need practise on their own calculators so they are familiar pressing the correct buttons in the correct order. We feel the Casio fx83 range is the simplest to use and is available from Amazon (£8.39), Wilko (£8.50), Tesco (£9.99), WHSmith (£12.49).

5. Revision schedule - we have put together a rigorous after school timetable for the Year 11 students. It is not optional. Now the mocks are finished, Science lessons finish at 4pm on Mondays for the z-band and Thursdays for the y-band. Every subject has a late night finish, therefore if your child needs a medical appointment, ideally it should be made outside of school hours.

If you have any questions regarding the GCSE Science provision please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for your support



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