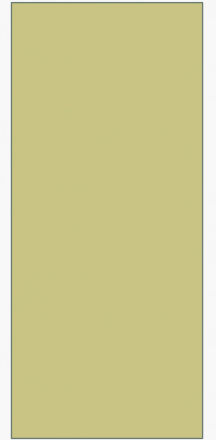


MAKING THE GRADE: SCIENCE
YEAR 9

MRS TOMLINSON



GCSE SCIENCE COURSE OVERVIEW

- Exam board – AQA Linear (terminal exams)
- For each Science coursework makes up 25%
- All other exams are worth 25% too.
- Core exams taken at the end of year 10 (all double students will sit these)
- Additional taken at the end of Year 11 (double scientists will sit these)
- Triple Scientists will then take chemistry GCSE exams at the end of year 10 (C1, C2 and C3) and (P1, P2, P3, B1, B2 and B3)

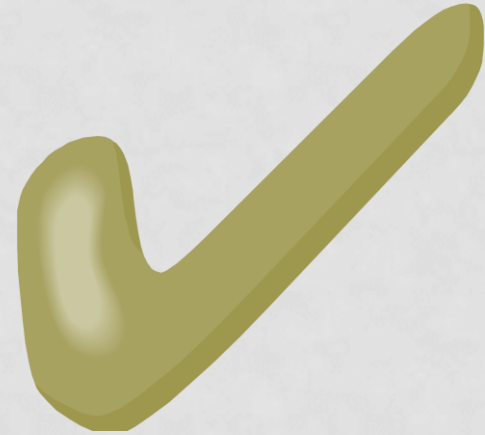
ASSESSMENT

Much like in year 9 as students go into year 10 our pupils are assessed formally each half term and areas for development are written on their tracking sheet.

Teacher assessments from the work completed in their books.

Pupils are aware of their end of year target grade and can track their learning journey for the year.

There are now tests at the end of each double units which enable thorough tracking and identification of students' weaker areas.



Students have the opportunity to go over their papers and reflect on where they made mistakes and carry out corrections!!!

WHERE ARE YEAR 9 NOW?

- Currently all students are in the middle of their core Science Course. All students are either finishing physics 1 or have begun chemistry 1. All students are on the same pathway.
- Students will be re-set going into year 10 to make sure they are in the right GCSE class.
- **What will the setting be based on?**
Performance in end of unit tests, assessed work and P1 and B1 mock exams.
- **What does all this mean?**
 - Students taking triple will be in sets 1 or 2 these are not set according to ability.
 - All other students will be sitting double Science.
 - There is no longer an option for single Science at Varndean.
 - It is important to note that there is equal expectation for all students whether they sit triple or double science.
 - Double Science demands the same skills set for an A/A* as triple Science.
 - Triple Science is essentially just “more science”
 - If students are good at Science but don't see themselves taking Science forward to A level there is no reason that they should be doing triple Science.
 - Each class teacher will also discuss students feeling towards each of the science.

EXAM QUESTIONS

- Short answer questions – 1,2 or 3 marks
- Long answers 6-9 mark questions

- Always read the question first
- Reread underlining key elements
- Think: What is the question asking me?
- Is quality of written response being assessed?

YEAR 10 REVISION SESSIONS FROM SEPTEMBER

- Fridays in D13/14 3.10-4pm
- See board in Science corridor for times and location of additional sessions
- Come along for revision or with any questions/issues or for help with homework.
- In the run up to exams there will be topic based sessions on every night after school
- This is a wonderful resource. Use it!

REVISION GUIDES

- Revision guides are available for £6 each.
- These include sample questions and a workbook.
- All of year 9 have been provided with a revision book that covers units, B1, C1 and P1
- They are available from the Science office



PREPARING FOR YEAR 10

- We are running booster sessions from 3.15-4pm for year 9 until the end of term on Tuesdays and Thursdays. These are open to all students in year 9.
- There will be a sign up sheet outside the Science office.
- For further information email Dr Scorgie on: katrinascorgie@varndean.co.uk

HELP AT HOME- ONLINE RESOURCES

- www.doddlelearn.co.uk

Most students will have sorted their own passwords and log ins at this point and are used to using the website for homework and computer based tasks.

- <http://www.my-gcse-science.com/>
- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/science/aqa/>
- https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/interactive_gcse_science
- <http://www.s-cool.co.uk/>
- <http://www.thestudentroom.co.uk/>
- <http://www.echalk.co.uk/>

AQA website

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/science-a-4405/past-papers-and-mark-schemes>

- Past papers with mark schemes

ANY QUESTIONS?

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