

GCSE Science

February 2019

Dear Parent

We are aware of the concerns raised by some parents regarding preparation for GCSE Science exams, which take place in the Summer Term. We have been working hard to minimise the effects of some staff absence on pupils but supply teachers have inevitably covered a number of lessons.

To further support pupils we are making some changes to the timetable to enable more of the timetabled lessons to be taught by Science teachers. The changes will involve the following:

Day	Change Affecting Year 11 Pupils
Tuesday Period 3	Science lessons for Triple, Hydrogen and Helium. All other pupils to either ICT or PL.
Tuesday Period 4	Science Lesson for Lithium
Wednesday Period 4-5	Science lessons for Lithium and Beryllium. All other pupils to Maths.
Wednesday Period 6	Science lessons for Triple, Hydrogen and Helium. All other pupils to Maths.
Friday Periods 1-2	Science Lessons to Triple, Hydrogen and Helium. All other pupils to Maths.

All other lessons will be unaffected by changes.

In addition to the changes outlined above the Science Department have prepared an extensive set of revision materials for pupils to use. The GCSE science area on Moodle has been given a face lift to provide pupils and parents with additional resources to guide them in their independent studies. This includes links to curriculum checklists, past papers and exam questions (with mark schemes), revision actives and videos alongside the fantastic Kerboodle resource. All pupils should make use of the wealth of material available via this site, where they can also access the course e-textbooks. All pupils have been given their login details for Kerboodle but should contact their Science teacher if they have any difficulties logging in. Please remember that GCSE Pod is also available for pupils to use whilst revising for all subjects including Science.

Finally, we have been working with teachers from some other schools with which we have links. We are providing a series of Science Masterclasses which will be taken by some of our colleagues from our link school. The first of these Masterclasses, focusing on curriculum content and exam technique, is scheduled for Friday this week. These sessions will be run by Science specialists from outside the school and additional sessions are scheduled for after half term.

HEADTEACHER • MISS L HISCOCK B.ED (HONS)

Roman Road, Stockbridge, Hampshire SO20 6HA — Tel 01264 810555
Email: office@testvalley.hants.sch.uk — Website: www.testvalley.hants.sch.uk

I hope that you will appreciate the efforts that staff are making in order to prepare your child for the forthcoming examinations and I thank you in advance for your support as we aim to ensure that they have the best opportunity for success in Science.

Yours sincerely

Mr A Page
Deputy Headteacher