

BEAMINSTER SCHOOL

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15th September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Key Stage 3 Science – Year 8

I am writing to outline how Science will be taught to Year 8 in the next academic year.

Catch-up Arrangements

Due to the school closure last year we understand that students are all at different stages in their learning and are also anxious about the return to school. Therefore, in Science, we have planned a 6 week catch-up program to refresh and review Year 7 material before we move on to our normal Year 8 curriculum.

Setting Arrangements

We usually set students based on the previous year's record of attainment in Science and have tried our best to place all students into the correct sets, which has been a more difficult task than usual. Setting this year has been based on Science attainment prior to lockdown. Students are put into one of 5 sets alongside students who have been working at a similar level of ability. We will monitor all students closely to ensure that no student falls behind their potential.

Course Outline

Students will continue to follow the Pearson Exploring Science Key Stage 3 model and this year will be studying a course consisting of 6 science modules, each split into two sub topics:

Nutrition and Plants
Combustion and The Periodic Table
Fluids and Light

Respiration and Unicellular Organisms
Metals and Rocks
Energy, Earth and Space.

Each module is approximately 15 lessons and ends with a test. The average result of the tests over the year will be used to determine their teaching groups in Year 9.

Targets

Students in Year 8 are given a target to aim for in their assessments which is based on their Year 7 Science performance, so students are encouraged to work hard and to always aim high.

Revision Guides

I strongly recommend that all students own their own copy of **CGP KS3 Science Revision Guide (ISBN: 9781841462301)** to support their classroom work, and help them with independent learning skills. This revision guide is suitable for the **whole of Key Stage 3** so will be useful for Years 7, 8 and 9.

If your child does not already own a revision guide they are available at most good book shops, or can be ordered through ParentMail +Pay at a discounted cost of **£2.60** (RRP £4.95). Please place your order with us online by **10th October 2020** so we can then place one bulk order with CGP, and collate and distribute the books within school, usually around October half term. **Please note that there is no need to order another revision guide if your child already has one.**

If you have any questions about Science at Beaminster then please don't hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Mr J Crossland
Head of Science