

BEAMINSTER SCHOOL

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15th September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Key Stage 3 Science – Year 9

I am writing to outline how Science will be taught to Year 9 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 8 material before we move on to our normal Year 9 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

Following the catch-up programme of lessons we will enter our normal Year 9 schemes of learning. Students will do three Key Stage 3 modules on the following topics:

Genetics, Evolution and Plants
Reactions and Materials
Forces, Motion and Electromagnetism.

This work will finish in approximately March when students will then sit an end of Key Stage 3 assessment. The result of this assessment, combined with students' performance from throughout KS3, will determine their teaching group for the GCSE course in Year 10. After this assessment, students will enter into a rotation of modules designed to be an introduction to GCSE, and which will prepare them for GCSE learning.

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