

St Crispin's School

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DR/SH

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Dear Parents/Carers,

As we look move to the mid-point of a new term, we will soon be assessing your son/daughter's progress in Science. Our Year 9 students will all be sitting a combined test paper on **the week commencing 23rd November during lessons**. This exam will be in two parts. The first part will involve a multiple choice quiz using Microsoft Forms. This will help students identify areas they need to develop. The second part will be a written paper that will be approximately 50 minutes long and contain questions on topics that students have been taught since the start of Year 9. Students have been informed both in lessons and by email.

These tests will help us to identify how well our students have progressed in Science since the start of the GCSE course, but most importantly, the preparation for this test will help boost long term memory. We will use this data and the data from class and personal study to review our current setting. Additionally, following the test, we will guide students through the weaknesses on their exam and direct them to follow up activities that will help to develop understanding of these areas.

The topics to be covered are:

- Biology – Ecology and Ecosystems (B7, Paper 2)
- Chemistry – Atomic Structure and the Periodic Table (C1 &2, Paper 1)
- Physics – Energy and Energy Resources (P1, Paper 1)

A selection of content from the above topics will be assessed, as well as scientific investigation skills. It is important that some revision is done in preparation for this assessment, however please do not place undue pressure on your son/daughter. For these tests, **approximately 1.5-2.5 hours of revision** would be appropriate.

To help structure any revision activities at home, here are a range of suggested strategies:

- Use the Personalised Learning Checklists (PLCS) to decide on the weakest areas of understanding.
- Use Doodle or revision guides to create revision flashcards or mind maps. Templates have been sent to students. Students should write a short and easy to remember answer to each flashcard on the reverse. Do not aim to complete all of them, use the checklists to identify the most important ones.
- Use our exam bank website to access practice exam questions or multiple choice quizzes to check understanding. We have also built a new parent portal which explains how to support your son/daughter's revision.

To better help parents and students, we have made all of our resources available on our Exambank website which can be located at www.tiny.cc/eb2 This will direct students to PLCs, flash cards, mind maps, exam packs and Doodle resources and multiple choice quizzes.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact either your son/daughter's teacher(s) or myself.

Yours faithfully,

Dr Rose
Head of Science

