

March 2011

TO PARENTS OF Y10 STUDENTS

Dear Parents/Carers

Your son or daughter will be taking their GCSE Science examinations in June. Triple students will be sitting the same papers; ie Unit 1 for the Biology, Chemistry and Physics qualifications.

They sat a mock examination on the first half of the syllabus in December. We will be setting mock examinations on the second half of the syllabus in the first week of May.

It is important that students use some of their Easter holiday to revise the work covered during Year 10. We'd like to make some suggestions for revision:

- The AQA endorsed textbooks supplied by the school are very thorough and contain lots of practice examination questions
- The revision guides published by CGP are very clear and concise. They are relatively inexpensive and are available from the CGP website. The correct version, for Double Science students, is titled "GCSE AQA Core Science Revision Guide". Separate guides are available for each subject, for Triple Science students.
- The BBC's GCSE Bitesize website contains a section devoted to AQA Science and is an excellent summary of the basics.
- The AQA website has past papers and mark schemes. We are entering our students for the Science B specification (4462). Please ignore references to "New Sciences" or "Sciences 2011": your son or daughter is sitting the older specification. Once on the subject page, they should click on the tab marked "Key Materials" for past papers. However, we suggest leaving 2009 and 2010 papers alone: we intend to go through these in class.

Whatever resources are chosen, we recommend that your son or daughter revises in an active way by making notes, constructing summaries and answering questions. This is usually much more effective than simply reading the material.

We very much want our students to be well organised and to allocate their time effectively over the holidays. Of course, we want them to revise thoroughly but we also hope they find time to relax and refresh themselves ahead of a busy Summer Term.

Yours sincerely

G SARGEN
HEAD OF SCIENCE