

10 January 2018

Dear Parent/Carer,

I would like to introduce myself to you as the new Head of Science at the Mark Hall Academy. I look forward to working with you over the next few months in order that your child may fulfil their potential in this summer's terminal GCSE Science examinations. To this end, I would like to remind you of the **Science intervention sessions** which continue to be run after school on **Thursdays, each week, from 3.20pm to 4.20pm** in the laboratories at school.

These sessions are compulsory and will include the revision of Year 9, 10 and 11 work, focusing on the more difficult concepts, exam technique and will ensure that any gaps in students' coverage of the specification have been filled, as well as providing the chance for much needed past-paper practice. **Please note that it is Academy policy that students who refuse to attend these sessions will be sanctioned with an hour's detention after school.** These intervention sessions augment the revision which will take place during normal timetabled lessons.

Student success is a three-way partnership between the Academy, students and parents. Therefore, I would like to iterate a few ways in which you may support your child's progress:

- **Revision guides** – we recommend: CGP (although other perfectly suitable publications are available):

Higher: www.cgpbooks.co.uk/Parent/books_gcse_science_combined_revision.book_SAH45

Foundation: www.cgpbooks.co.uk/Parent/books_gcse_science_combined_revision.book_SAF45

Biology: www.cgpbooks.co.uk/Parent/books_gcse_science.books_gcse_biology_revision.book_BAR45

Chemistry: www.cgpbooks.co.uk/Parent/books_gcse_science.books_gcse_chemistry_revision.book_CAR45

Physics: www.cgpbooks.co.uk/Parent/books_gcse_science.books_gcse_physics_revision.book_PAR47

- **GCSEpod** (an on-line resource consisting of 4/5 minute videos) – Please contact Mr Stockdale if you experience issues with logging on: www.gcsepod.com
- **Logon Science** (another on-line resource of revision questions & hints) – Please contact me if you experience issues with logging on: www.logonscience.com/html/
- **Past papers, mark schemes and examiners' reports from the AQA exam board.** These may be found at: www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse

Our specification is Combined Science: Trilogy (8464). However, Triple Science students follow Biology (8461), Chemistry (8462) & Physics (8463). You will also find the legacy (old specifications) exam materials useful (4401, 4402, 4403, 4405 & 4408), but these should be used with a little caution, as some content may differ from the current one.

I would like to thank you for your anticipated support and please do contact me if you have any queries as to how you may best support your child in the build up to these crucial exams.

Yours sincerely



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