

4th December 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

I am writing to you with respect to your child's pathway in Science. In Year 9 we offer some students the opportunity to pursue Separate Sciences which lead to 3 discrete qualifications in Chemistry, Physics and Biology.

Other pupils pursue the Combined Science qualification which leads to two GCSE grades, and is the most common route students take to science qualifications in England. Pupils following the Combined Science pathway will either follow the Higher Tier pathway or the Foundation tier pathway. Both the Triple Science and Combined Science qualifications will prepare students for A-levels in science subjects.

Next week, week beginning 4th December 2023, Year 9 pupils will start the Key Stage 4 pathway. Due to the different courses and tiers, this will involve some pupils moving between classes and bands. This is to ensure pupils are following the correct course and the correct tier, so they can achieve success at their GCSEs and beyond. The sets are not necessarily permanent; Pupils can move between sets depending on their work ethic, performance in assessments and through teacher professional judgement.

If you would like any further information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Yours Faithfully

Mrs Sohel (Head of Department) and Mr Ward (KS3 lead)