The Weald
community school
and sixth form

6 November 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

Separate Science course - information regarding selection for year 10.

In year 9 all students are following the same science pathway. During this year we will be using assessments, teachers recommendations and professional judgement to decide who will be offered the Separate Science GCSE course (Biology, Chemistry and Physics) that starts in Year 10. We will be running a class of up to 32 pupils on each side of the timetable next year so two classes.

There are three main Science assessments that are taking place in year 9.

The first is in the week beginning **14 December 2026**. This will cover the following topics that students have covered in the first term of year 9. The topics are B1 (Cell Biology), C1 (Atomic structure and the periodic table), and P1 (Energy). This will comprise of a number of multiple choice questions completed in exam conditions.

The second assessment is in the week beginning **15 March 2027**. This will cover the following topics covered in lessons B2 (Organisation), C8 (Chemical analysis), C9 (chemistry of the atmosphere), P1 (energy - calculation type questions). This assessment will be a written paper completed under exam conditions.

The third assessment is in the week beginning **17 May 2027.** This will cover the following topics: B3 (Infection and Response), C8 (Chemical analysis), C9 (Chemistry of the atmosphere), P3 (Particle model of matter). This will comprise of a number of multiple choice questions completed in exam conditions.

Students do have access to a range of revision resources that may be useful to help them prepare for the Science assessments. These can be found on google drive in the folder 'Science students'.

We will send out invitations to students we feel will be most suitable for following the Separate Sciences as soon as possible after the third assessment has taken place. Parental responses to this offer will need to be prompt as we have a short turnaround time to confirm classes starting in September 2027.

As a reminder our selection process for triple science will be based on several aspects:

- KS4 data (including the three assessments)
- pupils' motivation and commitment
- our own professional judgement

There are, however, several things that need to be considered about the Separate Science Course. Firstly, there will be more content to cover in the time so the lesson pace would be increased and the quantity of work required outside of the lessons would be greater. This means that your child needs to be committed to and prepared to undertake the extra work involved. Secondly, the

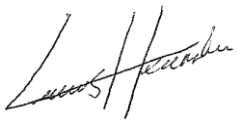
pathway taken through year 10/11 will be different to the rest of the year group. This means that it would not be possible to move to combined Science if your child changes their mind about taking the Separate Sciences after initially opting in.

The benefits to the triple course are that the students obtain an extra GCSE (compared to combined science) and there is more exposure to some of the more conceptually challenging topics.

Although we are unable to accommodate all the students on the triple Science pathway both triple and combined Science qualifications enable students to study A level Chemistry, Physics and Biology.

Thank you for your understanding and support. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any further questions or queries.

Yours faithfully,





Mr L Hearnden
Director of Science

Mr S Carter
Key Stage 4 Coordinator Science


EVERY CLASS,
EVERY CHANCE