



# Backwell School

An Ofsted Outstanding School  
A National Teaching School

Station Road, Backwell,  
Bristol BS48 3BX  
Tel: 01275 463371  
mailbox@backwellschool.net  
www.backwellschool.net

Headteacher: Jon Nunes MA

March 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

## **Revision Support for GCSE Combined Science and Triple Science students**

As a reflection of their continued hard work, your child is hoping to achieve excellent grades in their Science GCSE exams this summer. This requires them to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of their work over the last three years by sitting six papers (two in each of the Sciences). They therefore need to revise for each paper separately and thoroughly. To facilitate this crucial revision process and maximise chances of success, I would like to make you aware of the range of support measures available for your child at this important time.

**Revision books:** We recommend the CGP Revision Guides, 'complete revision and practice'. We no longer have a school shop, but the Revision Guides are available to purchase direct from CGP ([www.cgpbooks.co.uk](http://www.cgpbooks.co.uk)) or from other online retailers. They offer both Higher and Foundation tier versions, and also many other support materials, e.g. help with the Maths skills in Science. If in doubt, please ask your child to check with their Science teacher. Pupil Premium students will have been given the guides at the start of Year 10.

**Past papers and Specimen Papers:** There is no substitute for practising the application of knowledge through exam questions. These papers and their respective mark schemes are available to download from the exam board website ([www.aqa.org.uk](http://www.aqa.org.uk)) or from the 'GCSE Science Resources' area of Frog. To save your printers at home, we will also sell hard copies at cost price to students from the 'Past Paper Shop' – open every Friday lunchtime in lab SC0.

**Lunchtime revision classes:** Every Friday lunchtime, from Friday 8 March, support sessions will be held in lab SC0. This is an opportunity for students to be tutored by Science staff in concepts/skills they have identified as areas of weakness, as well as attempt past papers. All the study materials held in our area of Frog will be accessible during these sessions, as well as there being an adjoining IT suite for quiet study/tutoring. There are also 'Master Classes' running at lunchtimes, where specialist teachers will cover the trickier content. Students will see the list of topics and session times advertised within the department.

**Online support:** Our GCSE Science homepage on Frog is full of useful links and resources for revision. Backwell School subscribes to a number of websites on our students' behalf: **KerBoodle** is an excellent resource that your child is hopefully already making use of. They have their own personal login, which allows them access to full copies of the main textbooks used in class, as well as online worksheets and questions. **FrogPlay** contains engaging online self-tests, designed to promote recall of key facts and ideas. Instructions on how to get started are on Frog. It would be helpful for your

.../cont

child if you could ensure that they know how to access these websites via Frog from home. There is also **GCSEPod**, a site that has videos of all the key concepts, which can be viewed on the site or downloaded onto a portable device. The website [www.senecalearning.com](http://www.senecalearning.com) is also extremely popular with students. Should they encounter any problems accessing these sites, please contact your child's teacher, so that we can resolve any issues. The Science area of Frog has lots of useful resources, including specimen papers and mark schemes for the all the AQA GCSE exams, as well as practice questions relating to the Required Practical element. It also has a Virtual Lab where they can practise any of the Required Practicals that could be assessed in the exams.

We would be grateful if you could support the school by ensuring that your child is made fully aware of how important their Science GCSEs are and how good grades within these subjects can widen future educational and employment choices.

Yours sincerely

M Lake  
Director of Science