



Curriculum Content	Assessment	What homework will they have?	I'm not an expert, so how can I help?
<p>What will my child be studying this term?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do our choices affect health? • How are features passed on through generations? • How are elements sorted into the Periodic table? • How can substances be separated? • What is the Earth made of? • How do we use electricity and magnetism? • How can we describe motion? 	<p>Summative assessments in the form of written progress tests are carried out at the end of each topic with a longer subject test in Biology, Chemistry and Physics following completion of each subject for the year.</p> <p>Following each test students are given feedback on their performance and have an opportunity to reflect upon what they can do to improve in their next assessment.</p>	<p>Homework will be set regularly during the year to help students extend their understanding of topics studied in lessons. Homework may take different forms from answering questions, carrying out research, drawing graphs, preparing for progress tests to making models. Often students are given a choice of presentation format allowing personal preferences or talents to be developed.</p> <p>Homework may be marked by a teacher or self or peer assessed in lessons.</p>	<p>You can support your child's progress in science in a number of ways – most readily by asking them about what they have been learning and having them explain the concepts to you. Further development at home could be in the form of watching scientific TV programs together, visiting a museum or nature reserve and by discussing science stories in the news.</p>

Content covered:

During year 8 all students will complete topics within Biology (health and lifestyle, ecosystems and processes, adaptation and inheritance), Chemistry (the Periodic table, separation techniques, metals and acids, The Earth) and Physics (electricity and magnetism, energy, motion and pressure). These topics are taught on rotation throughout the year.

Students have the opportunity to explore scientific ideas and questions in a practical and theoretical way. This helps them to expand their scientific knowledge gained in KS2 and prepares them to study concepts more deeply at GCSE level.

Literacy and numeracy:

In science lessons and homework we regularly set tasks which support student's development of literacy and numeracy skills. We particularly focus on the correct use of scientific terminology (including the correct spelling of keywords) and the ability of students to use and manipulate numbers when collecting and analysing scientific data.

What can I do to help my child?

Encourage them to talk about what they have done in school. Support them in revision for tests so they can demonstrate their full potential. They should revise from their class book and from websites such as BBC Bitesize. There are also good free apps that can be used on smart phones and revision guides from book shops or Amazon.

Additional resources and details of core texts used:

We follow the Activate Schemes of Learning (Oxford University Press) and sometimes use the associated text books in lessons. There are a number of KS3 Science revision guides and workbooks available from book sellers which students may find helpful to have access to at home.

Teaching group arrangements:

All groups are set according to ability. We review these arrangements during the year and make necessary adjustments. Most teaching groups have two science teachers who have different subject specialisms.

Where can I get more advice?

Dr V Larner (Curriculum Leader) – vlarner@stratfordschool.co.uk. Please include the name of your child's teacher so the message can be forwarded appropriately.