



Hall Green School An Academy

September 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to inform you about your child's science course over the next year. Pupils will finish the Key Stage 3 programme of study at the end of year 8 and start the GCSE course at the beginning of year 9. All GCSE exams will be taken at the end of year 11 and there will be no controlled assessment.

As a part of this transition your child will be placed into a new teaching group for their science lessons at the start of year 9. Set 1 will study Edexcel Biology, Chemistry and Physics as three separate GCSEs, while the remaining sets will study Edexcel Combined Science, which will be worth two GCSEs. These teaching groups are not final and will be reviewed both halfway through year 9 and at the end of year 9. If we feel that a pupil has not been placed appropriately then they could be moved at this point.

To help us to arrange pupils into teaching groups there will be a test at the end of year 8 that will cover all of the science topics that have been taught since the start of year 7. Marks from this will be combined with each child's marks in their end of unit tests, alongside the professional judgement of their science teachers.

To help ensure that your child is placed correctly please assist them in revising for end of unit tests (all details will be posted on Class Charts) and impressing on them the importance of being fully focused in lessons. I will write to you again in the summer term, giving details of the end of year test and how your child should prepare for it.

Yours Sincerely,

Mr S. Clarke

Head of Science