



Church of England School
Executive Head and CEO: Dr Hilary Macaulay

20th October 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

Year 11 Science Revision for December PPE's

I am writing to provide detailed information about the upcoming December PPE (Pre-Public examinations) in Science. Students studying both combined science and triple science will sit 3 PPE papers (Biology, Chemistry and Physics) in December, in the Sports Hall, under exam conditions. These PPE papers will comprise past paper questions and will be graded using actual GCSE exam grade boundaries.

Teachers will make decisions about which 'tier' students will be sitting for the PPE exams, based on their prior attainment. This is **not** necessarily the final tier that students will be entered for their GCSE exams, as we use information from these exams to determine final tiers of entry in January/February.

Students should use the 'revision document' provided to revise for these exams, so that we can properly identify areas of strength and weakness in terms of knowledge and understanding of the content, exam technique and scientific skills. Students should be spending at least 1 additional hour per week, per science subject (Biology, Chemistry and Physics) between now and the PPE exams in order to properly prepare. We will also be offering after school revision after half term to support students, this information will be given to students in lessons and displayed around the corridors in the faculty, so that students are aware when these sessions are taking place.

Students will sit additional PPE papers in March, assessing them on the remaining Science curriculum content.

Please discuss the following with your child to help them prepare for the PPE exams:

- Use page 1 of the revision document to **identify which topics they need to revise** for the PPE exams, depending on whether they are studying Combined or Triple Science and the equipment they need to bring to each exam
- Ensure that they are using **effective revision strategies** e.g. RECAP, EVALUATE, REVIEW – this allows students to recap on their knowledge, evaluate strengths and weaknesses and review their understanding using exam questions. Many students are unable to 'apply' their knowledge in exam papers as they only complete the first stage of the revision process by writing out revision notes
- Help your child to complete the **pre-assessment plan**, identifying which areas of the curriculum they are least confident with. This will help your child to identify particular areas that they need to spend longer revising. There are many useful links on the revision document e.g. Cognito, Kerboodle, which your child should use to support their revision
- Help your child to organise a **revision timetable**, with specific slots for each subject/topic.

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PPE papers will be standardised and moderated to ensure there is consistent marking between classes. Once papers have been marked and moderated, students will spend time in lessons going through each paper and adding corrections to determine why they lost marks. Students complete a 'gap analysis' to identify which topics they have understood well and which need additional revision. Teachers will use this information to determine which topics to prioritise when revising in lessons on completion of the GCSE course.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs N Jeffries
Head of Science