

March 2015

Dear Parents/Carers,

At the Subject Evening, you will have discussed your child's Science GCSE Course Options with their teacher. The Science Department is offering three courses. Each of these courses is outlined below and the course your child has been allocated to has been indicated. Should you have any concerns or queries then please do not hesitate to contact me.

At Wood Green we deliver the OCR Twenty First Century Science Syllabus. Each of the three GCSE options has a different focus, depending on the students' anticipated needs. Details of the three options are below:

Course	Who takes it?	Route to AS/A levels?	How many GCSEs worth?
Option 1: Core GCSE + Additional Applied GCSE	A select group of students more interested in Science at a vocational level who achieve better in teacher-led coursework. Most entered at foundation level.	NO	2
Option 2: Core + Additional GCSE	All abilities who tend to achieve in literacy-based exams. Both foundation & higher level.	YES	2
Option 3: Triple GCSE	Level 6b+ students at KS3. Higher level only	YES	3

We currently have your child in a class to study Option 1: Core and Additional Applied GCSE. This course is appropriate for students who find science more relevant in work related contexts. There is a strong focus on applications in everyday life, at home and in different occupations. Students look at science in the life care, materials and manufacturing and consumer protection industries.

The Core GCSE will require students to sit 3 exams and carry out the same coursework as those sitting Option 2. The Additional Applied Qualification will involve 60% coursework plus 2 exams in the summer of Year 11.

The Core and Additional Applied GCSE option is suitable for students who definitely know they do not wish to do science after GCSE, as it is not sufficient preparation for AS study in Science. Wood Green School, in line with other local schools, will not accept students onto AS level Science courses with less than a B grade in the Core and Additional option. Students who study the Core and Additional Applied option cannot do AS level Science. The course is suitable preparation for college courses and would not stop students from studying other AS subjects at Wood Green.

I hope this letter has answered any questions you might have about your child's Science course for next year. Any further queries can be discussed between your child and their teacher. If not, please feel free to contact me at school using the attached reply slip.

Yours faithfully,



Mr G Davies
Acting Head of Science

Please complete and return this slip to the Science Department by Friday 17th April, 2015

Student _____

The student's science teachers recommend that next year they would be most suited to study:

Option 1: Core and Additional Applied GCSE

After discussion with our child it is our wish that he/she studies (please circle)

Option 1: Core and Additional Applied GCSE

Option 2: Core and Additional Science

Option 3: Triple Science

for his/her GCSE Science course next year.

Signed _____ Date _____