

11 September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

For science, we have placed year 9 students in sets using the structure:

A side					Z side		
9A1					9Z1		
9A2a	9A2b	9A2c	9A2d	Parallel mixed ability sets	9Z2a	9Z2b	9Z2c

We based setting on attainment across all assessments in year 8 and teacher impression. Please accept my apologies that we did not communicate the setting process last year.

We will continue to review these sets at each assessment point this year. Science assessments are scheduled for November and January and will cover:

Assessment one (November): *Inheritance and Electromagnetism topics*

Assessment two (January): *Pathology and Reactivity topics*

Looking further forwards to GCSE, the majority of students will follow a Combined Science path; a double award course, equivalent to two GCSEs. In addition, two sets of students will follow the path leading to the award of Separate Science GCSE's in each of Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

We make the decision about which students study Combined Science vs Separate Sciences in the summer of year 9. Students make progress at different rates and students can go on to study either path from any of the year 9 sets. Furthermore, every year we see students successfully progress from either GCSE path to study A levels in any science related discipline. Year 9 sets do not pre-determine or limit future options or choices.

If you have any questions about the information above or any other Science curriculum matters then please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours faithfully

R Shaw



Head of Science

J Goode



KS3 Science Coordinator