



BEAL HIGH SCHOOL



Headteacher: Ms S Snowden

September 2010

YR 9 SEPARATE SCIENCE

Dear Parent/ Guardian,

We were very pleased with our GCSE and A level grades. The Science department at Beal is very successful students enjoy the subject. Sciences at A level are oversubscribed and many of our students go on to study science and related degrees at prestigious institutions. Students successfully progress into a range of careers including medicine, dentistry and pharmacy.

This letter is to inform you that your son/daughter has been selected to study the separate science option for his/her GCSE and as such will be awarded three GCSEs in year 11.

As you are well aware the Science curriculum has undergone a huge change especially in terms of its aims and assessment. The curriculum has been designed so that students can relate to it and apply it to the real world. The GCSE specification has moved away from the traditional content led approach previously taught to a more contextual methods where learners are free to research and apply ideas about Science. In light of these reforms I would just like to clarify how the Science curriculum works and the impact of these changes on the education of your son/daughter. Here is the breakdown of the Separate Science course:

GCSE : Biology J633

| Paper | Content | Weighting | Date |
|-------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|
| A221 | B1, B2, B3 | 16.7% | June 2012 |
| A222 | B4, B5, B6 | 16.7% | June 2013 |
| A223 | B7 & Ideas in Context | 33.3% | June 2013 |
| A229 | Case Study | 20% | Sept 2012 |
| A229 | Mini Investigation | 13.3% | Sept 2012 |

GCSE : Chemistry J634

| Paper | Content | Weighting | Date |
|-------|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| A321 | C1, C2, C3 | 16.7% | June 2012 |
| A322 | C4, C5, C6 | 16.7% | June 2013 |
| A323 | C7 & Ideas in Context | 33.3% | June 2013 |
| A330 | Practical Investigation | 33.3 | Sept 2012 |

Woodford Bridge Road, Ilford, Essex, IG4 5LP

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| Communication & Learning Dept | 020 8418 2602 | 020 8418 2604 | adrienne.wright@redbridge.gov.uk |
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GCSE : Physics J635

| Paper | Content | Weighting | Date |
|-------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|
| A331 | P1, P2, P3 | 16.7% | June 2012 |
| A332 | P4, P5, P6 | 16.7% | June 2013 |
| A333 | P7 & Ideas in Context | 33.3% | June 2013 |
| A339 | Case Study | 20% | Sept 2012 |
| A339 | Mini Investigation | 13.3% | Sept 2012 |

We would like to emphasise that studying Separate Science requires students to be extremely committed and organised over the duration of the course up until June 2013. Pupils who are deemed to be struggling will be advised to leave and continue with the GCSE Science Award which still enables students to achieve two top GCSE grades.

We recommend you discuss the effort required with your son/daughter and the fact that their place on the course can be offered to others if they feel unable to cope. Please inform us as soon as possible if you feel your child should change from the GCSE Separate Science to the GCSE Science Award.

Throughout the year student progress will be assessed by tracking student's achievement in the end of unit tests. An average of these marks will be used as a prediction of the students GCSE grade. Other factors such as student attitude and homework will affect the student tier of entry.

If you have any further queries please feel free to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Ms S Zaneb
(Head of Science)

Ms Y Andress
(Head of Year 9)

Woodford Bridge Road, Ilford, Essex, IG4 5LP

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