



The Astley Cooper School

Responsibility Respect Resilience

January 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Year 11 Science

I am writing to inform you about useful resources and events coming up that will help support your child with revision in the lead up to their summer examinations. The GCSE Science examinations will take place on the following dates:

- Biology Paper 1 – Tuesday 13th May 2025
- Chemistry Paper 1 – Monday 19th May 2025
- Physics Paper 1 – Thursday 22nd May 2025
- Biology Paper 2 – Monday 9th June 2025
- Chemistry Paper 1 – Friday 13th June 2025
- Physics Paper 1 – Monday 16th June 2025

Mock examinations

The second mock examination window is approaching and we are doing all we can to prepare your child for these examinations. It is important that they take these mocks seriously because the data will be used to finalise which tiered paper your child will sit in the summer examinations and it will also help us to assess potential gaps in students' learning and inform us where interventions are needed. On each classes Google Classroom there will be advice on what to revise in the coming weeks and suggested resources. We recommend that at home, students should spend at least one hour on a range of different revision resources as well as using their class notes, revision guides and workbooks to enhance their learning. Some suggestions include BBC BiteSize, Physics and Maths Tutor, Seneca homework, as well as useful revision videos by Primrose Kitten, Free Science lessons and Malmesbury Education. It is important that students are well prepared for these examinations and have fully revised. I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that your child should come equipped with the correct examination equipment including pens, sharp pencils, a ruler, rubber and scientific calculator, a highlighter is also always beneficial.

Intervention sessions

Intervention sessions for Science will be taking place this term, starting the week commencing 13th January 2025. These will run Tuesday's afterschool, 3.15pm to 4.15pm, with all students invited to attend. These sessions will focus on topics where students have shown gaps in knowledge as well as aiming to arm your child with the key skills required to answer the examination papers; including graphing skills, maths skills and how to approach different extended writing questions.

Morning intervention during form time is already taking place for some students. There is also monthly Saturday intervention starting this month targeting those students taking the higher tier Science papers, with their first session beginning on Saturday 18th January, 10.00am to 2.30pm.

Herts for Learning Workshops

We are pleased to inform you that Herts for Learning will be running their annual online GCSE revision workshops on four consecutive Saturdays after half-term. These workshops are an excellent opportunity for your child to enhance their revision and better prepare for their upcoming GCSE exams.



Headteacher:

Sam Orsborne

St Agnells Lane, Hemel Hempstead

HP2 7HL 01442394141

admin@astleycooper.herts.sch.uk

[Twitter@Astley_Cooper](https://twitter.com/Astley_Cooper)



The Astley Cooper School

Responsibility Respect Resilience

For full details, including session topics, dates, and times, please refer to the attached flyer. Each 50-minute session, led by county Science advisors, is priced at £10 per student. The workshops are designed to be interactive, with students completing short revision tasks and submitting their answers via online polls. They will also have the chance to submit questions if anything is unclear.

To accommodate students' schedules, all sessions will be recorded and made available to those who have booked a place, should they be unable to attend part or all of a session.

We encourage you to share this flyer with your child and invite them to book a place by scanning or clicking on the QR code included on the flyer.

If you have any questions or would like more information, please feel free to get in touch with me.

l.white@astleycooper.herts.sch.uk - Subject Leader Science

We hope your child takes advantage of these valuable opportunities to support their GCSE preparation. Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Miss L White
Subject Leader Science



Headteacher: Sam Orsborne
St Agnells Lane, Hemel Hempstead
HP2 7HL 01442394141
admin@astleycooper.herts.sch.uk
Twitter@Astley_Cooper