



Friday 26th September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers of Year 11 Science Students,

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Year 11 cohort on making a truly excellent start to their science studies this year. Their enthusiasm, focus, and commitment in lessons have been impressive, and we are excited to support them as they continue to build on this strong foundation.

This letter outlines how science homework will work this year, the support available to students, and who to contact for each class should you have any questions or concerns.

Homework Expectations in Science

Science homework this year is designed to build strong foundations in both knowledge and exam technique. There are two key components:

1. Core Knowledge Practice

Each week, students are given 10–15 key questions and answers to learn, found at the back of their topic booklets. This helps embed essential scientific facts and vocabulary. We recommend using the Look–Cover–Write–Check method three times per session, and recording this practice in the back of their exercise books so teachers can monitor progress.

Parents can support at home by quizzing their child using these questions, or encouraging them to create flashcards. Students may wish to use the Leitner system, a proven method for revising with flashcards that prioritises the most challenging content. Teachers will test students weekly to check understanding, and will review the backs of books if scores are low to identify where support is needed.

2. Extended Response Practice

Once per half term, students will complete an extended response question – a longer written answer that develops scientific explanations, applies knowledge, and uses key terminology. This is a vital skill for success in AQA GCSE Science, where students are expected to write clearly and accurately about scientific ideas.

This task also encourages review of previous topics. Students complete the question as an open-book task, using their exercise books, topic booklets, and revision guides. Teachers will collect books, check answers, and provide feedback the following week to help students improve.

Support Available

We want every student to feel confident and supported in their science learning. The class teacher should always be the first point of contact for any questions or concerns. Teachers can be reached via email, by phone through the school office, or in person during break and lunch times. Please note that it's often difficult to have meaningful conversations during lesson time, so we encourage students to speak to their teacher outside of class if they need help.



As we approach the mock exams teachers may choose to assign revision tasks each week which will be in addition to the homework and are designed to support spaced retrieval practice. There are also weekly Kay Science revision tasks set for all students in year 11 which are available for any student to complete as part of their revision.

In addition, we are pleased to offer drop-in revision sessions every Monday lunchtime and Thursday after school from 3–4pm. These are open to all Year 11 students and provide a supportive space for revision, questions, and extra help.

We also recommend the CGP AQA Science revision guides, which are available to purchase via WisePay. These guides are excellent for reviewing key content and practising exam-style questions. If you're unsure whether your child is studying the higher or foundation tier, please speak to their class teacher who will be happy to advise.

Students also have access to Kay Science, an excellent online resource that includes:

- Short video tutorials for every topic
- Practice questions and quizzes
- Revision materials tailored to AQA GCSE Science

Students can log in at www.kayscience.com using the following format for both username and password: firstnamesurname324 (all lowercase, no spaces).

For example, a student named Joe Bloggs would log in with: joebloggs324

Lead Teachers for Year 11 Science Classes

Class	Lead Teacher	Email Address
11n/B1	Mrs C. McMorn	cmcmorn@wootton.beds.sch.uk
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11s/P1	Mr L. Coleman-Hughes	lcolemanhughes@wootton.beds.sch.uk
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Wootton Upper School

Part of Wootton Academy Trust

11s/S4

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11s/S5

Mrs N. Pandya

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Mr S. Thandrala

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We are committed to supporting every student to achieve their best in science this year. If you have any questions or would like further information, please do not hesitate to contact your child's lead teacher.

With best wishes,

Mrs H. Turner

Associate Assistant Headteacher and Head of Science