



December 2014

Dear Parent/Carer

B-Tec Qualifications in Science

As you are probably aware your son/daughter is currently studying for a Science GCSE after beginning a Level 2 B-Tec qualification in Applied Science last year. There have been considerable changes to the B-Tec qualifications in recent years; including the introduction of an examined component and a decrease in the value of the qualification, in terms of GCSE equivalence. For these reasons we decided to switch to a GCSE programme of study this year.

Having compared student's exam results and predicted grades from the B-Tec qualification and their current working at grades in the GCSE, and also considered the amount of work still required to achieve a pass in the B-Tec qualification, we have decided to focus purely on achieving the highest possible grade in the Science GCSE this year. We believe that this qualification will be more valuable to your child as they move on through their education and career.

So far this year all the Year 11 students have completed the controlled assessment, equivalent to 25% of the GCSE, and the results have been very pleasing. They have also done a considerable amount of learning of the subject content in preparation for the exams in June. In January the students will be completing mock exams and from January we will be offering after school revision sessions every week which I hope your child will be able to attend. I would also like to take this opportunity to remind you that we have revision guides available to purchase from Reception.

If you have any queries about the information above please don't hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Jane Roughley
(Curriculum Leader for Science)