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|  | **GCSE Science Options Year 8 into 9** |
| Which Teacher is in charge of the course? | Mrs P A Birt |
| What is the course that I will be following? | We follow GCSE science courses for all of our pupils. The courses are:  1.    GCSE Science which is studied over three years and allows students to gain two GCSE grades.  2.    GCSE Triple Sciences which is studied over three years and allows students to gain three GCSE grades in the Separate Sciences: Biology, Chemistry and Physics.  The GCSE Triple Science qualifications are offered as part of a more able and talented programme. Pupils who show an aptitude and commitment for the sciences are being offered the opportunity to study this specification.  Access to the Triple Award will only be for those working to a sufficiently high standard and are on course to gain a Science Level 7. A key part of the entry requirements for access/selection are that students will have to sit a summer examination based on work they have covered this year. Students will be selected on the basis of these results. |
| What kind of things will I study? | **GCSE Science:**All of us, as citizens, need to be able to cope with the science that shapes our lives. This course prepares students to deal with science issues they may meet in everyday life, such as mobile phone safety, childhood vaccinations, food safety or the sustainable use of resources. In year 11 the course explores scientific concepts in more depth, and develops students’ understanding of how scientists work. |
| How will my work be assessed? | **GCSE:** Examinations are worth 75% and controlled assessments 25% of the total grades.  Your science tutor will keep you informed of the progress you are making towards your target grade and tell you about the opportunities to improve your performance. |
| How can I use this course after Year 11? | Science qualifications are highly regarded by employers and universities alike. The research, analytical and application skills gained during the course studied will allow access to a range of exciting career pathways post-16 and beyond.  The GCSE courses are appropriate for students who may wish to progress to one or more of the sciences, or indeed other, A-levels.  Students gaining at least one C grade in GCSE Science may wish to continue their study at KS5 with Applied Science.  Students gaining at least one AB in Double Award Science or one A grade In Triple Award Biology/Chemistry/Physics (in addition to a GCSE in mathematics) will have shown the aptitude to continue with the separate sciences of Biology, Chemistry and Physics at A level. |
| What else do I need to know? | GCSE Science grades are awarded separately and independently of each other producing grades which may be different.  Examination Revision books: The Science Department sells these very popular books.  **Where can I get more information?**  http://www.wjec.co.uk/ |