



Outwood Academy Kirkby
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Lead Principal: Mr A Scruby

Friday 23rd January 2026

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we progress through the academic year, we are approaching a vital milestone for our Year 10 students. To assess their progress and ensure they are on the right track for their GCSEs, students will be sitting **Science Mock Examinations** over the coming weeks. The rationale for these mock exams is that the Paper 1 content is due to be finished shortly and as such, it makes sense for it to be assessed sooner rather than later.

Examination Schedule

Please ensure your child is aware of the following dates and has stationary with them for the exams:

- **Biology Units 1-4:** Tuesday 24th February (afternoon)
- **Chemistry Units 1-5:** Wednesday 25th February (afternoon)
- **Physics Units 1-4:** Thursday 26th February (morning)

Each exam will last **1 hour and 15 mins.**

Why These Mocks Matter

While these are practice exams, the results provide an invaluable exam practice learning experience and also provide us with the data needed to make informed decisions regarding:

1. **Setting:** Results will help determine class groupings for the remainder of Year 10 and into Year 11.
2. **Tier Entry:** These scores are a primary indicator of whether a student should sit the Higher or Foundation tier papers in their final Year 11 GCSEs.

Revision Resources

- **Revision packs** – collect these from the corridor outside the science prep room.
- **Homework-** make sure these are completed each week
- **Science.outwood.com (QR code in planner)** – here to support you if you miss a science lesson and for all revision materials

- **20Qs** – test at home to embed knowledge
- **Past papers-** collect past papers from C8, complete the paper at home and hand it to Mr Holloway for marking and feedback

Top Revision Tips for Science

To help your child prepare effectively, we recommend the following strategies:

- **Active Recall:** Instead of just reading the Knowledge Organiser, students should cover a section and try to write down everything they remember.
- **Interleaving:** Study a mix of Biology, Chemistry, and Physics rather than focusing on one subject for an entire day.
- **Past Paper Practice:** Familiarity with the wording of AQA questions is often the difference between grade boundaries.
- **Flashcards:** Great for memorising chemical symbols, physics equations, and biological terms.

Thank you for your continued support in your child's education. If you have any questions regarding the mocks or the tiering process, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely,

M. Holloway

Matthew Holloway

Head of Science