



Science



The KEY STAGE 3 Scheme of Learning (SoL) in Year 8 has been written “in-house” using Pearson Exploring Science resources which, are the precursor to the Edexcel resources used to develop our SoL at KEY STAGE 4. The Key Stage 3 curriculum focuses on depth of scientific knowledge, numeracy and mathematical reasoning skills. Some GCSE concepts are now included at KEY STAGE 3. This will prepare students for the new Science GCSEs which are more rigorous.

Once every half term, students will complete an assessment based on scientific core skills/content. These have been designed to provide students with the opportunity to evaluate their own performance and to set targets in order to make progress. We will be using multiple choice questions to carry out some of our assessments, but we will also be including two, more traditional, written assessments to help students prepare for the style of GCSE exams. Assessment results are recorded in our database to allow teachers to determine the overall level a student is working at. A formal, written exam will be taken by all Year 8 students at the end of the year.

YEAR 8 ASSESSMENT CALENDER

Topic	Style of Assessment
Food and Nutrition	
Combustion	Multiple Choice Assessment (Both topics)
Half Term	
The Periodic Table	
Fluids	Multiple Choice Assessment (Both Topics)
Christmas Holidays	
Plants and their Reproduction	
Light	Written Assessment (Both topics)
February Half Term	
Energy transfers	
Breathing and Respiration	Multiple Choice Assessment (Both Topics)
Easter Holiday	
Metals and their Uses	
Sound	Multiple Choice Assessment (Both Topics)
May Half Term	
Revision	
End of Year 8 Written Examination	
Unicellular Organisms	

How you can help your child:

- The Priestnall Learning Platform (www.priestnall.stockport.sch.uk) has revision resources for the units taught. There are also exam tips and many other helpful support areas.
- Encourage the use of Exploring Science Active Learn to complete homework tasks. Students will be shown during lesson time how to access the website and log on in order to complete tasks at home.
- Encourage the use of revision websites such as www.bbc.co.uk/education.
- Active Learn is a website for homework, revision & independent learning for Science (www.pearsonactivelearn.com). It is matched to the Key Stage 3 specifications so all material is relevant to your child's Science course. It includes a range of guided, interactive learning activities that include short and extended answer questions. Activelearn provides instant automated marking and feedback as well as an online textbook for each school year (7, 8 and

9) which can be annotated. There is also a tracking screen to show your child's progress and attainment. Your child will require a username and password to access the website which has been given to them by their Science teacher. Your child has received training in how to use the website in order for him/her to maximise its potential. Please encourage your child to use this resource beyond activities that have been assigned by their Science teacher.

- Revision Guides are available from the school library at a cost of £5.50 each.
- Encourage your child to see his/her Science teacher for extra help and support if they need it during their teacher's "Office Hours" which are advertised on the school website.
- Encourage the creation of a revision timetable well before the exam date.
- Help students create individual revision materials (i.e. mind maps, flash cards, revision notes etc).
- Ensure that all classwork and homework is complete and is of a good standard. Please use www.showmyhomework.co.uk to keep up to date on homework tasks that are set by your child's Science teacher.