



aim high

Helping Your Child to Succeed in Science

7th October
2015



The Course

- The new KS3 curriculum consists of 10 modules in Years 7 (4 Biology, 3 Chemistry and 3 Physics) and 7 in Year 8 (3 Biology, 2 Chemistry and 2 Physics)
- There is a mixture of practical and written work
- There is a module test for each module which generates a National Curriculum level
- Each lesson has levelled questions so students can have instant feedback on their working level

A lesson

- Lessons give students the opportunity to access the work at levels appropriate to their ability
- Differentiation can be by task or outcome
- All book spreads have a “for your notes” summary which is very useful for revision
- Self assessment questions check understanding

How can lessons be supported?

- Try and find time to ask “what have you learnt today?” Reflecting on the day’s work helps to transfer it from short term to longer term memory
- Does the record of the work show that your child has understood what has been done and can it be used for revision?
- Is the work complete?
- Have all questions been answered as full sentences or as question followed by answer so that the topic can be revised?
- Has the “for your notes” been recorded anywhere?

Helping with Independent Study


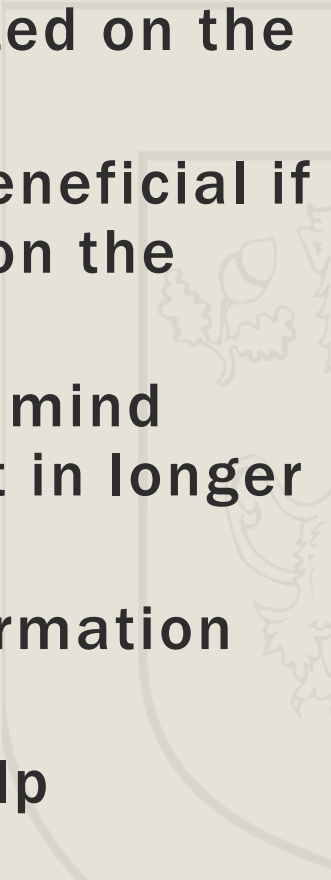
- Problems often occur if the question has not been read carefully enough
- If your child is stuck, check that they have actually understood the question, try and rephrase it for them
- Other problems occur when the information required is on the sheet but the whole sheet has not been read.
- Encourage your child to search carefully for the information they need:
 - Is it on the sheet?
 - Do they need to refer to the previous lesson or work from earlier in the module?

Module tests

- Before each module test, students should complete a revision lesson which may include producing revision posters, quick quizzes, games, presentations, models etc
- This enables them to find which sections of the module they understand well and which parts may be causing problems

Helping with Module Revision


- Know when module tests are likely to take place and make sure your child doesn't leave revision until the last moment
- Many students set, as a target for the next module, "to revise better"
- Students need a good set of notes to revise from, including "for your notes" and any relevant revision sheets
- When revising students should know, from their revision lesson, which parts of the module they need to spend more time on
- Students need to learn the material: this requires an active process

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- Many students will benefit from being tested on the material that they are learning
 - As part of the revision process it is very beneficial if the student has to answer oral questions on the material
 - Written or pictorial summaries (including mind maps) process the information and fixes it in longer term memory
 - Kinaesthetic learners can summarise information on index cards
 - Sometimes the right kind of music can help concentration (but TV doesn't!)

- Use revision sites such as BBC Bitesize early and regularly (it helps no end for GCSEs)
- www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize takes you to the revision site, select Key Stage 3 then Science
- <http://e2bn.skool.co.uk/index.aspx> includes revision materials, hints on revision and a section for parents
- www.samlearning.com revision and tests. School identity is ox17cs. User name and password are both set to date of birth as 6 numbers followed by 1st and last initials eg. 020698ab

TARGET STICKERS

NAME	
FORM	TEACHER
EXPECTED TARGET GRADE	<input type="text"/>
ASPIRATIONAL TARGET GRADE	<input type="text"/>



SCIENCE



PROGRESS

	Y7			Y8		
	Autumn	Spring	Summer	Autumn	Spring	Final Level
W	1b	2c	2b	2a	3c	3b
1	2c	2b	2a	3c	3b	3a
2	3c	3b	3a	3a	4c	4b
3c	3b	3a	4c	4c	4b	4a
3b	3a	4c	4b	4b	4a	5c
3a	4c	4b	4a	4a	5c	5b
4c	4b	4a	5c	5c	5b	5a
4b	4a	5c	5b	5b	5a	6c
4a	5c	5b	5a	5a	6c	6b
5c	5b	5a	6c	6c	6b	6a
5b	5a	6c	6b	6b	6a	7c
5a	6c	6b	6a	6a	7c	7b
6	6a	7c	7b	7b	7a	8c