



Looe Community Academy

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Headteacher: Mrs H R Jenkins BSc

Reference: SPG/LMA

23 February 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

GCSE Triple Science – Twilight Lessons

Firstly let me thank you for continuing to support your child in their Science lessons; they are undertaking a very demanding new GCSE course and early indications are that their class are rising to the challenge.

We decided back in Year 9 that your child, due to their ability, should be following the three Science subjects of Biology, Chemistry and Physics, instead of the Double Award in Science. Despite having no finalised exam board specification until June, we did our best to start the work on this with their group. However, after publication of the specifications, and after we found out how rigorous the exams will be, it became obvious by November that we were going to struggle to finish the curriculum with any kind of rigour to allow your child to get the best grades.

The issue we are mainly struggling with is the massive increase in content in the Biology and Chemistry modules and the new Maths skills required in Physics. We are working hard with the Maths department to help with this, but it still leaves us with the issue of finding sufficient time to complete the course.

The Academy has therefore looked at how we might provide more time, without impacting on other studies and I am afraid that the only solution is for us to offer twilight sessions for those wishing to do the three Sciences. These will take place on Monday evenings from 3.20 to 5.20, starting on Monday 27 February 2017 and we will ensure that students get an adequate break after school before they start and will organise transport home for those students who need it.

This will only be for those students who want to take the three GCSEs in Science. Those choosing not to do the three Sciences will stay in Set 1 and do the Double Award. I would however strongly urge students and their parents/carers to opt for the three Sciences if they ever plan to work in a Science discipline area.

I appreciate this is far from ideal. We had no idea the of the size of content we were dealing with until the start of Year 10 and since then we have been working hard to try and find a work around to avoid this, but it is clear we will be stopping students from excelling in Science if we do not take action now, as we are committed to providing the very best in Science education.

Please complete the reply slip below. Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully

Lee Matthews
Leader of Learning for Science

Looe Community Academy Trust

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Please return to Student Services

GCSE Triple Science – Twilight Lessons

Name of Student _____ Tutor Group _____

- I give permission for my child to attend the Monday twilight lessons for GCSE Triple Science starting Monday 27 February 2017.
- * I will make arrangements for the safe transportation from the Academy at 5.20pm / * I would like the Academy to provide transport for my child.

Signed _____ (Parent/Carer) Date _____

* please delete as necessary