Charters School

Specialist Sports and Science College

29 September 2011

Dear Parent/Carer

YEAR 10 SCIENCE SETTING

As you are aware, Charters School offers students the opportunity to either take Double Science (2 GCSEs: Science and Additional Science) or Triple Science (3 GCSEs: Biology, Chemistry and Physics). The selection for this course was based upon the Year 9 data.

In the recent year, the GCSE courses have changed and the demands of the practical aspect of the course have increased. This increase in demand will put more time pressures on the students and perhaps not allow them to perform their best. As a consequence, we would like to review the suitability of Triple Science for some students. Therefore, the students will sit a one hour test comprising of a combination of Biology, Chemistry and Physics questions. The students will then be allocated to the appropriate double or triple science group. This test will be taken by all Year 10 students during the week beginning 10 October 2011. I aim to have the setting completed before half term and you will be informed of the changes.

To ensure students prepare properly for the test, the subjects covered will be:

Biology: Interdependence and Adaptation
Chemistry: Polymers and Plant Oils
Physics: Waves and the Electromagnetic Spectrum

Whichever course your child begins, they will not be hindered from doing science at AS and A2 level. The entry requirement is either a B in the individual science or a B at Science and Additional Science.

I hope you understand the rationale behind the decision and the aim is to ensure your child achieves their true potential and has the optimum number of choices for the future. I believe that achieving two Bs at GCSE Science and Additional Science is better than three Cs at Triple Science.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

Yours sincerely

MR P WRAGG
Head of Science
wragp001@rbwm.org

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Charters Road, Sunningdale, Ascot, Berkshire SL5 9QY
Tel: 01344 624826 | **Fax:** 01344 875182 | **Email:** charters@chartersschool.org.uk | **Web:** www.chartersschool.org.uk
Co-Headteachers: Martyn Parker & Richard Pilgrim

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