

July 2021

Dear Parents

2021-22 Curriculum Setting Structure

Each year the core subjects (English, maths and science) review data from assessments and, where necessary, make changes to the sets that students are placed in for teaching the following year. The review process enables us to ensure that students are placed in teaching groups that will facilitate progress in each subject.

The structure of our sets across Key Stage Three (KS3) and Key Stage Four (KS4) is as follows:

| | Key Stage 3 (Years 7, 8 and 9) | Key Stage Four (Years 10 and 11) |
|----------------|---|--|
| English | Our Key Stage 3 timetable includes a set for students with a Greater Depth pathway and a set for students who require support with literacy in able to fully access the curriculum. The rest of the sets are broadly mixed ability. | <p>In KS4 English sets are arranged so that we are able to teach the year group all at the same time. This allows greater flexibility when setting students.</p> <p>The structure in English at KS4 is similar to the structure in KS3. We operate a set for students who will achieve grade 7+ at GCSE, and a set for students who require intensive support to access the curriculum. Students in the other sets in the year group will predominately achieve grades 4-6 at GCSE.</p> |
| Maths | <p>Our Key Stage 3 timetable in years 7 and 8 includes a set for students with a Greater Depth pathway. The groups are then arranged by ability as we begin to establish whether students are likely to sit higher tier (GCSE grades 9-4) or foundation tier exams (GCSE grades 5-1) when they begin their GCSE courses in year 10. There is also set for students who require additional support with numeracy in able to fully access the curriculum.</p> <p>In year 9 the maths sets are arranged so that we are able to teach the year group all at the same time. This allows greater flexibility when setting students.</p> | <p>In years 10 and 11 the maths sets are arranged so that we are able to teach the year group all at the same time. This allows greater flexibility when setting students.</p> <p>Two groups will sit the higher tier paper (GCSE grades 9-4).</p> <p>The remainder of the groups will sit the foundation tier paper (GCSE grades 5-1). The final tier of entry will be decided following the year 11 November mock exams.</p> <p>These arrangements are regularly reviewed, so it may be the case that in some years, for example, three groups (instead of two groups) sit the higher tier exam.</p> |

Wey Valley Academy

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| <p>Science</p> | <p>Our Key Stage 3 timetable in years 7 and 8 includes a set for students with a Greater Depth pathway. The groups are then arranged by ability as we begin to establish whether students are likely to sit higher tier (GCSE grades 9-4) or foundation tier exams (GCSE grades 5-1) when they begin their GCSE courses in year 10.</p> | <p>In years 10 and 11 the science sets are arranged so that we are able to teach the year group all at the same time. This allows greater flexibility when setting students.</p> <p>One group will sit the higher tier triple science exams (GCSE grades 9-4) in biology, chemistry and physics.</p> <p>One group will sit exams in higher tier trilogy science (this qualification combines the three separate sciences into two GCSE grades).</p> <p>Four groups will sit the trilogy foundation paper in science.</p> <p>The final tiers of entry will be decided following the year 11 November mock exams.</p> |
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The school will contact parents about individual set changes prior to these being made. If a parent or student disagrees with the decision to move a student down a set then a 'trial period' of three weeks will be agreed, during which the student will remain in their existing set but need to demonstrate progress in agreed areas in order to remain in the group.

If you have any questions about this information, please contact me using the details below. If your question relates to a specific subject then please contact the relevant Curriculum Area Leader.

Yours sincerely,



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