

9th September 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 7 – Science

I wanted to write to firstly welcome you and your child to science at Ely College, and thought it would be helpful to give you some information which will hopefully clarify any queries and prevent any worrying.

Content this year - Year 7s will complete 6 units in Science this year starting with ‘The scientific method’ where students will learn about the rules of the laboratory, how to use equipment and how to undertake a scientific investigation. You will receive half termly emails from your child’s science teacher with updates to what the next topics will be. There will be lots of opportunities for practical work too.

Homework - Homework this year will be completed using the App Tassomai, which students will be able to join in class, and can be completed on phones, laptops or tablets. Students will be expected to complete **half an hour or 4 daily goals (whichever is achieved first) per week** and will get weekly reminders in order to complete their homework. I appreciate homework can be a worry for a lot of our Year 7s so I want to reassure you that during this first full week that homework is set, no behaviour points will be given for not completing homework while we make sure everyone is able to access the App and understands how it works.

Tests and learning checks - Each topic is assessed with a learning check, which is a task completed in class and then marked, and an end of topic test. The end of topic test is used to allow teachers to check understanding and the following lesson is a ‘close the gap’ lesson which aims to correct any misconceptions and improve understanding in key areas. Teachers will set an assignment on Teams to give a weeks’ notice before any test and are more than happy to speak to anyone that might be feeling a little nervous.

Equipment - To complete all the scientific disciplines, it is really important that all students bring the following equipment to each science lesson:

- Pen
- Pencil
- Ruler
- Green Pen
- Scientific calculator

If you are unable to purchase this equipment or unsure which to buy, then please email your child’s House office and they will be able to help you.

We are all really looking forward to welcoming your child to science lessons at Ely college and hope this letter helps with any questions or worries after the first few days. If there is anything else that you are unsure about or would like to talk about, then please don’t hesitate to get in touch with either myself or your child’s science teacher, I can be reached at: soneil@elycollege.co.uk

Yours faithfully

S. O'Neil

Sam O’Neil

Assistant Curriculum Lead of Science