



Tomlinscote School

1 July 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

Year 8 Science Classes from September

Thank you for the support you have given your children with their science learning this year, particularly during their assessments. It has been a very positive year, and our Year 7 students have made excellent progress, which we are delighted to see.

From September, students in Year 8 will continue to be taught in mixed classes, as introduced this year. This approach has been very successful. We have seen that students benefit from working alongside a wide range of peers: it helps to build confidence, encourages collaboration, and promotes deeper understanding through discussion and shared ideas. We have also found that it supports strong progress and positive attitudes to learning across all groups.

All students will continue to follow the same high-quality science curriculum. Our teachers will maintain high expectations for every student, ensuring that lessons provide both challenge and support where needed. This means that students are stretched to achieve their best while also receiving guidance to help them succeed.

Students' learning will continue to be checked regularly through short, low-stakes quizzes using their iPads, alongside two more formal written assessments during the year. These assessments, together with results from Year 7 and the end of Key Stage 3 in Year 9, will help inform the grouping of students when they begin their GCSE Science courses in January 2028.

To help you stay informed about your child's learning, an outline of the curriculum will be placed in the back of their exercise book so you can see what topic they are studying. In addition, "Gold Sheets" will continue to be used to provide regular updates on progress, alongside information shared at Year 8 progress meetings.

We are confident that this approach will continue to provide a supportive, engaging, and effective environment for your child's science learning.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me using the details below.

Yours faithfully

Mr Juan

Key Stage 3 Science Lead

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Tomlinscote School is part of The Weydon Multi Academy Trust, registered in England number 07552535
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