



## **Science Department Key Stage 3**

As a practical subject where many lessons are practical in nature marking will take place at approximately half way through a topic of work and at the end when a milestone has been completed.

### **Light touch marking:**

Work will be acknowledged with a tick or cross against learning intentions in theory lessons regularly. Homework will also be marked in this way.

### **Deep marking:**

Students' work in science will be marked and, where possible, levelled for detailed knowledge and understanding against curriculum level descriptors at least once every 3 weeks. Students will be given detailed feedback that identifies areas of strength (WWW) and areas for development (EBI) that are personalised to help the student move towards their target. The students will be given time to reflect and act upon the advice given in line with the whole school policy.

### **Verbal feedback:**

Verbal feedback will be given weekly to support students' progress in science and this will be clearly signposted with either the code VF or the department stamp for verbal feedback. Students will be encouraged to write down their feedback and respond to it.

### **Self-assessment:**

In Science students will be asked to self-assess a piece of work at least once every half term to compliment the peer and teacher marking taking place. The students will be given specific success criteria to assess their work against and will be asked to write their feedback to highlight areas of strength (WWW) and an area for development (EBI). The self-assessment will be clearly indicated with the marking code SA or a department stamp and the date.

### **Peer assessment:**

In Science students will be asked to assess a piece of another student's work at least once every half term to compliment the self and teacher marking taking place. The students will be given specific success criteria to assess the work against and will be asked to write their feedback to highlight areas of strength (WWW) and an area for development (EBI). The peer-assessment will be clearly indicated with the marking code PA or a department stamp and the date.

### **Examinations and revision:**

During periods of examinations written feedback in books will be replaced by feedback on the examinations. This will follow the deep marking policy. Once these are completed the normal marking cycle will resume. Any revision notes made by the students in preparation for examinations will not be marked by staff.

**Presentation:** Students will be encouraged to be proud of their work in line with whole school policy and will use the science specific presentation assessment sheet to assess the presentation their work at least once every half term.

**Literacy:** In order to support the development of literacy in science written work will be corrected for subject specific spellings using the school marking code with no more than four terms corrected per page. Students will be encouraged to correct these terms and practice their spelling to improve the quality of their writing. Dictionaries will be available in each science rom and students will be encouraged to use them to develop the use of the correct technical terms.

#### **Key Stage 4**

As a practical subject where many lessons are practical in nature marking will take place at least once every 3 weeks.

#### **Light touch marking:**

Work will be acknowledged with a tick or cross against learning intentions in theory lessons regularly. Homework will also be marked in this way.

#### **Deep marking:**

Students' work in science will be marked and, where possible, levelled for detailed knowledge and understanding against GCSE curriculum grade descriptors at least once every 3 weeks. This will provide students with detailed feedback that identifies areas of strength (WWW) and areas for development (EBI) that are personalised to help the student move towards their target. The students will be given time to reflect and act upon the advice given in line with the whole school policy. Milestone assessments such as end of unit examinations will also be marked in this way.

#### **Verbal feedback:**

Verbal feedback will be given weekly to support students' progress in science. When verbal feedback has been given students' books will be acknowledged with the abbreviation VF or stamped. Students will be encouraged to write down their feedback and respond to it in line with school policy.

#### **Self-assessment:**

In Science students will be asked to assess a piece of work at least once every half term to compliment the peer and teacher marking taking place. The students will be given specific success criteria to assess their work against and will be asked to write their feedback to highlight areas of strength (WWW) and an area for development (EBI). The self-assessment will be clearly indicated with the marking code SA or a department stamp and the date.

#### **Peer assessment:**

In Science students will be asked to assess a piece of another student's work at least once every half term to compliment the self and teacher marking taking place. The students will be given specific success criteria to assess the work against and will be asked to write their feedback to highlight areas of strength (WWW) and an area for development (EBI). The peer-assessment will be clearly indicated with the marking code PA or a department stamp and the date.

#### **Examination marking:**

At key stage 4 during periods of mock examinations book marking will be replaced by feedback on the examinations until they are complete and then we will return to the normal marking cycle. This will include when controlled assessments are taking place.

#### **Revision:**

Any revision notes made by students in their books after a course is completed will not be marked as part of the normal marking cycle. However any examination booklets completed as part of their revision will be marked and given targets for improvement or students will be given access to mark schemes to allow them to check their progress.

#### **Presentation:**

Students will be encouraged to be proud of their work in line with whole school policy and will use the science specific presentation assessment sheet to assess the presentation their work at least once every half term.

**Literacy:** In order to support the development of literacy in science written work will be corrected for subject specific spellings using the school marking code with no more than four terms corrected per page. Students will be encouraged to correct these terms and practice their spelling to improve the quality of their writing. Dictionaries will be available in each science room and students will be encouraged to use them to develop the use of the correct technical terms.