



## Yewlands Academy

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23 November 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

### **YEAR 10 SCIENCE EXAMS - EARLY ENTRY DECISION**

The Year 10 curriculum and exam entry decisions have always been made to meet the needs of our students. Over recent years, across the country, students in Year 10 have taken some of their GCSE exams early and Yewlands has been no exception to this practice.

Recently, the Academy has been assessing this practice within the Science Department to review whether it is the best option moving forwards, taking into account recently published national data. On reflection of this information, it has been decided to delay Science exam entries for our current Year 10 students until summer 2020 i.e. when they are in Year 11 as the data indicates that students' GCSE outcomes in Science will be higher than if sat in Year 10 due to extended practice time.

Staff within the Science Department will continue to hold scheduled robust mock exams throughout this academic year. This will enable staff to assess progress to ensure that your child is prepared as best as they can be for their GCSE exams the following year.

Further information regarding this decision will be available from members of the Senior Leadership Team, Science staff and the Trust's Director of Science at the next Parents' Evening scheduled for Thursday 29 November 2018 from 3.15 pm – 6.15 pm.

Yours faithfully

Andrew Kelly  
Principal