



*Growing in Wisdom*

P R I M A R Y   S C H O O L   A N D   H I G H   S C H O O L

**Re: Year 10 Science Changes 2016**

Dear Parent/Caregiver

This letter is to inform you of some important and exciting changes to Year 10 Science this year. These changes have taken place for four main reasons:

- to raise the level of scientific understanding and skills at the College
- to motivate students
- to enable students continuing with science subjects at the SACE level to be better equipped to succeed in their final two years of schooling
- to enable students not continuing with Science past Year 10 to learn scientific concepts and skills relevant to their life.

**Changes are documented below:**

- Semester 1:
1. All Year 10 students will undertake 3 units of work: Biological Science (Genetics and heredity), Earth and Space Science (Global systems) and Psychology
  2. Science will be studied in four class groupings of students from different Homerooms. Each class has between 15 and 17 students enabling more teacher-student individual time.
- Semester 2:
1. Students planning to continue with any science subject at SACE level will study Pre-Year 11 Physics and Pre-Year 11 Chemistry in two class groupings. The minimum grade to be selected for this option is a B grade in Semester 1 coursework. Students uncertain of their pathway should be aiming for this option.
  2. Students not planning to continue with any Science subjects at Year 11 & 12 will be able to choose elective units of Science in 4 week blocks. These units are designed to develop students' skills for life outside of school and include Sports Science, Food Science, Health and Beauty Science and Forensic Science.

Year 10 Science teachers (Mrs Kerri-Ann Sweet, Mrs Emma Shaw, Mr Herman Du Preez and Mr Jon Dabrow) will make a recommendation on the Semester 2 pathway for each of the students in their classes in the middle of Term 2. The progress of your child can be discussed at the Term 2 interview on May 10. The recommendation will be communicated to you via a letter and there will be opportunity at this time to discuss the class that the teacher has placed your son/daughter in. All students will be encouraged to continue Science at the highest level possible.

If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me at the College.

Regards

Tracey Hopps

Science Coordinator