



3 December 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

RE: Tiers of Entry for Science and Maths

We are writing to you to inform you of the methodology that the Science and Maths departments will be using to allocate their tiers of entry for the Summer GCSE exams this year. The decision about tiers of entry in Science and Maths will be made in January, following the completion of the trial exams. As you may be aware, the grading system for Science is as below:

Combined Science

	99	98	88	87	77	76	66	65	55	54	44	43	33	32	22	21	11	U	
H	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
F	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█

Triple Science & Maths

	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	U
H	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
F	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█

The consideration of tiers of entry is extremely important as a student who does not achieve a 43 in Combined Science, or a 3 in Triple Science, will be awarded a U grade. Last year, a number of Higher Tier students achieved a U grade in Science, all of whom would have achieved a grade if they had sat the foundation tier papers.

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This number could have been greatly reduced by strategically placing students into the H and F tiers depending on their consistent performance across years 10 and 11.

Ultimately, this is a school based decision, which is arrived at using all available data for your child.

In order to avoid students falling off the bottom of the higher tier and achieving a U grade, all higher tier students will need to achieve a strong grade 5 or above in the higher tier papers in the December Trial Exams, as well as having regularly achieved at least a grade 5 across years 10 and 11.

All borderline cases will be looked at on an individual basis and the final decision will be made by the subject leader and senior leadership team line manager.

We fully understand that both students and their parents will have ambitions related to these important subjects and may wish to sit the higher paper against the advice of the school. However, it is important to state that whilst we always listen to the views of students and parents on such matters, the final decision related to each child's tier of entry will be made by the school and will be done in the best interest of each individual child.

We would also like to reassure parents that a pass (4) and a good pass (5) are still achievable on the foundation paper in both Science and Maths.

Thank you parents and carers in advance for their support in this matter. If you need further information regarding tiers of entry in these subjects please contact Ms Holt, Subject Leader, Science or Ms Gill, Subject Leader, Maths via the school office: office@vynersschool.org.uk

Kind regards

Yours sincerely



Ms G Holt
Subject Leader Science



Mrs R Gill
Subject Leader Maths

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