



# Bishop Wordsworth's School

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Head Master: Dr S D Smallwood BSc (Hons) PhD NPQH

16<sup>th</sup> October 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians,

## Re: Yr12 &13 Chemistry Olympiad

We are offering your son the opportunity to sit the Chemistry Olympiad paper. It forms the first part of the National Chemistry Olympiad competition, organised by the Royal Society of Chemistry, for the best young chemists in the country. The questions posed often stimulate much debate on, and enthusiasm for Chemistry. Tackling the paper also provides a good opportunity to develop some of the skills required for study at university and beyond. The majority of students in previous years have achieved either a Gold, Silver or Bronze certificate. Achievement at this level supports advanced problem solving and allows students the opportunity to develop their skills in answering questions which address different aspects of chemistry. Taking part in the Chemistry Olympiad is very good preparation for A Level examinations, in which students will have to answer synoptic questions which bridge different topic areas. For this reason we recommend all Year 13 students taking part. In previous years the majority of Year 12 students have entered the competition; an award is something they will definitely wish to put on their UCAS form.

The paper is deliberately challenging and goes beyond the normal demands of standard 'A' level questions and we will be running some additional after school sessions to help prepare the students. The first of these sessions will be run by Dr Baker on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November from 4-5pm. These sessions will be vital for year 12 to attend and any year 13 students who feel they may need to refresh some of their knowledge. Those students who spend some additional time outside of these sessions, to become more familiar with the style of questions, will improve their chances of achieving more highly in the competition. Further information and materials can be found on the school website with links to relevant information and past paper questions.

The paper will be sat in school on the afternoon of Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January. If you wish your son to take part we ask that you make a contribution of £5 to cover the assessment costs. No student will be barred from the competition on account of non-payment due to circumstances. I hope that your child will choose to take part. Receipt of payment will be taken to mean you wish your son to sit the paper.

### Deadline for payment: 8<sup>th</sup> November 2019

**Online:** To pay please follow the WisePay link shown below. The payment item can be found under the **Trips and Visits** tab. If you have any issues accessing WisePay please email [Trips@bws.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:Trips@bws.wilts.sch.uk), Parents/Guardians who may find it difficult to meet the deadline for payment should contact the Finance Office.

<http://www.bws-school.org.uk/insight/wisepay/index.html>

Yours sincerely

Colette Maunder  
Chemistry Teacher