



Bishop Wordsworth's School

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

5 December 2017

Dear Parents/Guardians

Chemistry Olympiad

Your son/daughter has the opportunity to sit the Chemistry Olympiad paper which 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 on answering questions which address different aspects of Chemistry. Taking part in the Chemistry Olympiad is very good preparation for the linear A Levels with the final exam papers now having more synoptic questions which bridge different topic areas and we recommend all Year 13 students take part. In previous years the majority of Year 12 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. Preparation sessions have already started with a good deal of success. 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 Thursday 25 January 2018. If you wish your son/daughter 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. Please make your payment by **Monday 8 January 2018** and ask your son/daughter to return the slip below to myself so that I can do the necessary administration.

PAYMENTS:

Online: Via www.scopay.com. If you need a link code please email amh@bws.wilts.sch.uk

Yours sincerely

Andrew Griffin-Raphael
Chemistry Department

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To Mr Griffin-Raphael

My son/daughter wishes to be entered for the external Chemistry Olympiad Competition on 25 January 2018.

Student Name: Form:

Signed: (Parent/Guardian)