

Our Ref: KBA/shd

10th October 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

Re: Year 9 Life Sciences Academy

I am delighted to inform you that your child has secured a place at the Life Sciences Academy. The competition for places was very high and your child performed brilliantly in interview.

The Academy begins with a launch event and a motivational session and will continue with regular workshops at either the STEM Discovery Centre or North Hertfordshire College. Students will also be taken on three free trips during the course of the academic year. We will share more details about the trips in the coming weeks. Here are the details of the launch event and weekly sessions:

The Launch Event, Monday 30th October, STEM Discovery Centre, 10 Argyle Way, Stevenage, Herts, SG1 2AD

We are pleased to be able to invite parents to join us for the official launch of the Life Science Academy on Monday 30th October. At the launch you will hear more about this fantastic initiative. Due to limited space we are only able to offer two places per student and this includes siblings.

On the launch day students should attend school as normal and we will walk across to the STEM Discovery Centre together. Students must bring a snack and drinks with them for the day.

The outline for the day is as follows:

8:30am: Students meet at the school car park gate and walk to the STEM Discovery Centre with Thomas Alleyne staff

9:30am: Arrival for parents and visitors at the STEM Discovery Centre

10:00am-11:30am: Launch Event (with parents)

11:30am: Parents and visitors depart

11:30am: Students introductory session

12:30: Depart and walk back to school

Workshops:

Following the launch event students will attend the STEM Discovery Centre or North Hertfordshire College on the dates indicated below. The sessions will run from 2-5pm weekly on a Monday. Students will need to purchase lunch at break-time or bring a packed lunch on these days. Students will need to be collected from the STEM Discovery Centre on these dates or may be given permission to make their own way home from here. If students wish to take their bike with them they will be able to do so from the second session.

The dates are:

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| Week 2: Session1 6th November 2023 |
| Week 3: Session2 13th November 2023 |
| Week 4: Session3 20th November 2023 |
| Week 5: Session4 27th November 2023 |
| Week 6: Session5 4th December |
| Week 7: Session 6 11th December |
| Week 8: Session7 8th January 2024 |
| Week 9: Session8 15th January 2024 |
| Week 10: Session9 22nd January 2024 |
| Week 11: Session10 29th January 2024 |
| Week 12: Challenge1 5th February 2024 |
| Week 13: Challenge2 12th February 2024 |
| Week 14 26th February 2024 |
| Week 15: Challenge3 4th March 2024 |
| Week 16: Challenge4 11th March 2024 |
| Week 17: Challenge5 18th March 2024 |
| Week 18: Challenge6 25th March 2024 |
| Week 19: Challenge7 15th April 2024 |
| Week 20 22nd April 2024 |
| Week 21: Challenge8 29th April 2024 |
| Week 22: Challenge9 13th May 2024 |
| Week 23: Challenge10 20th May 2024 |

The outline for the weekly sessions is as follows:

1.30pm: Students meet at the school carpark gate and walk to the STEM Discovery Centre or be taken to the college by minibus.

2.00pm: Various workshop Activities

5:00pm: Dismissal from STEM Discovery Centre or North Hertfordshire College, Stevenage. We will notify you weekly where the session is taking place.

Please complete the reply slip [here](#) to give permission for your child to attend the events, be dismissed from the STEM Discovery Centre, indicate if you are able to join us at 9am on 30th October and select a hoodies size.

If you have any questions about the challenge, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours faithfully

K Bailey

Katie Bailey
Assistant Head Teacher