



November 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

GCSE Science Live!, London - Friday 23 January 2026

We are pleased to offer Year 10 students the opportunity to attend an intensive one-day conference at Apollo Theatre, London, on Friday 23 January 2026. This conference aims to improve GCSE science results with top tips on examination success from an experienced science examiner. Alongside this, students will have the chance to see and hear five of Britain's top scientists, all working at the cutting edge of their specialisms. The scientists are carefully chosen for their ability to communicate with students of this age in a direct and exciting way and include Professor Robert Winston, Professor Andrea Sella, Professor Jim Al-Khalili, Professor Sophie Scott and Dr Maggie Aderin-Pocock.

Each pupil will receive a well-produced booklet with details about each scientist, the lectures and some inspirational articles about studying science and working as a scientist. The booklet will also contain articles and guidance from an experienced chief examiner on success with the Science GCSEs.

The cost of this trip is **£54** per student. We are limited to 40 places on this trip and anticipate that it will be popular; places will therefore be allocated via a **ballot process**. If you would like your child to be entered into the ballot, please fill in this [google form](#) by Wednesday **3 December 2025**. If we notify you that your child has been successful in the ballot, payment should then be made by ParentPay by Thursday **11 December 2025**. If your child is unsuccessful in the ballot, they will be placed on a waiting list and contact will be made if a place becomes available. Once made, payments are non-refundable.

We will be travelling to and from the venue by coach, which is included in the cost. Students should arrive at Ashlyns School by **8.30am** in school uniform with a packed lunch as there will be no opportunity to purchase food at the venue. We plan to return to the School by around **4.45pm**.

Please be aware that the school's policy is that trips and other activities outside the normal teaching programme should be self-funding. Contributions are voluntary; however, if these are insufficient, the trip may have to be cancelled. In cases of genuine hardship, please contact Ms Stringer (jstringer@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk) in the Finance Office in confidence by Tuesday 9 December 2025.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Gunton
Head of Science

Mr Crean
Teacher of Science