



GCSE Combined Science

Examination Board: AQA
Course Specification: 8464

What is GCSE Combined Science all about?

GCSE Combined Science builds on the science covered in KS3 to give students a sound foundation in scientific concepts. Students must take GCSE Combined Science if they opt not to do Triple Science.

Course Structure:

GCSE Combined Science will be taught 10 hours per fortnight.

Year 10

Candidates will study 3 units: Biology 1, Chemistry 1, and Physics 1.

Year 11

Candidates will study 3 units: Biology 2, Chemistry 2, and Physics 2.

How will I be assessed?

All formal exams will take place at the end of Year 11. Each of the 6 exams are equally weighted and are 1 hour 15 min in length (foundation and higher tier options are available). Practical skills will be assessed in the external examinations.

GCSE Combined Science is worth two GCSEs and will be awarded as two combined grades e.g. 8-7, 7-7, 7-6 etc.

Exam structure:

- Biology paper 1: Cell Biology; Organisation; Infection and response; and Bioenergetics.
- Biology paper 2: Homeostasis and response; Inheritance, variation and evolution and Ecology.
- Chemistry paper 1: Atomic structure and the periodic table; Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter; Quantitative chemistry; Chemical changes and Energy changes.
- Chemistry paper 2: The rate and extent of chemical change; Organic chemistry; Chemical analysis; Chemistry of the atmosphere and using resources
- Physics paper 1: Energy; Electricity; Particle model of matter; Atomic structure
- Physics paper 2: Forces; Waves; Magnetism and electromagnetism

What could I do next with Combined GCSE?

A-Levels in Science are well respected by Universities and employers. Students would normally choose triple science if they are sure they want to do study science at A-level. This however is not a requirement, and we have many students choose A-level sciences after studying GCSE combined science.