

Combined Science



Qualification: 2 GCSEs

Equivalent to: 2 GCSEs (Linked Grades 9 – 1)

Combined Science is a qualification that provides an insight into key scientific concepts which we encounter on a daily basis. Current scientific issues and how our scientific ideas have changed are discussed. Throughout the qualification, practical and scientific enquiry skills are developed through hands-on experience of scientific concepts.

Course Content

Biology units include: Cell biology; Organisation, Infection and responses; Bioenergetics; Homeostasis and response; Ecology; Inheritance, variation and evolution.

Chemistry units include: Atomic structure and the Periodic Table; Bonding, structure and the properties of matter; Quantitative chemistry; Chemical changes; Energy changes; The rate and extent of chemical changes; Organic chemistry; Chemical analysis; Chemistry of the atmosphere; Using resources.

Physics units include: Forces; Energy; Waves; Electricity; Magnetism and electromagnetism; Particle model of matter; Atomic structure.

Assessment

Students will sit 6 written examinations (two Biology, two Chemistry and two Physics equally weighted to the final grade at 16.7% each) lasting 1 hour and 15 minutes each. Higher (Grades 9 – 4) and Foundation (Grades 5 – 1) tier papers are available. The final GCSE grades are linked and will be an average of the grades from all examination papers. This means student will receive two grades that will be a maximum of one grade away from each other. There is no longer a Controlled Assessment unit attached to this qualification.

Who would enjoy and be successful on the course?

Combined Science is for all students who enjoy Science and enjoy learning more about makes things work. An inquisitive mind and a desire to ask questions about what is happening around us is important.

Progression – Sixth Form / Further Education / Careers

Combined Science can lead to studying A Levels in Biology, Chemistry, Physics, or even Environmental Science and Applied Science. This can then see students moving on to study courses and pursue careers in Medicine, Biochemistry, Marine Biology, Engineering, Veterinary Science, Physiotherapy and Pharmacy degrees at university, which can then result in them pursuing careers in these areas.