

COMBINED SCIENCE

QUALIFICATION	GCSE
EXAMINING BOARD	Edexcel
CONTACT TEACHER	Mr Dobbyn
LESSONS PER FORTNIGHT	10

Assessment

Overview

(The structure below is the same for each of the biology, chemistry and physics components of the combined science award). There are six exams in total.

Paper	Duration	Marks	Assessment Objectives (AOs)	Weighting	Contribution to Final Grade
Paper 1	70 minutes	(60 marks)	AO1: Demonstrating knowledge and understanding of scientific ideas, techniques and procedures.	40% of paper	1/6 th of final grade
			AO2: Apply knowledge and understanding of scientific ideas, techniques and principles.	40% of paper	
			AO3: Analyse information and ideas to interpret and evaluate, make judgements and draw conclusions and develop and improve experimental procedures.	20% of paper	
Paper 2	70 minutes	(60 marks)	AO1: Demonstrating knowledge and understanding of scientific ideas, techniques and procedures.	40% of paper	1/6 th of final grade
			AO2: Apply knowledge and understanding of scientific ideas, techniques and principles.	40% of paper	
			AO3: Analyse information and ideas to interpret and evaluate, make judgements and draw conclusions and develop and improve experimental procedures.	20% of paper	

- Combined Science GCSE is assessed by six 60 mark papers, each one assessing half of the biology, chemistry or physics content. Each exam counts towards 16.67% of the final grade.
- Each paper will consist of multiple-choice, short answer questions, calculations and extended open-response questions.
- Assessment within the papers requires students to work across different parts of the qualification to show their accumulated knowledge and understanding of each topic.

Course Overview

- Students who do not choose the option of Separate Sciences will study towards 2 GCSEs in Combined Science.
- Students are awarded with 2 mixed science GCSE grades at the end of Year 11.

What you will learn

GCSE Biology topics

'Key concepts in biology', 'Cells and control', 'Genetics', 'Natural selection and genetic modification', 'Health, disease and the development of medicines', 'Plant structures and their functions', 'Animal coordination, control and homeostasis', 'Exchange and transport in animals' and 'Ecosystems and material cycles'.

GCSE Chemistry topics

'Key concepts in chemistry' (atomic structure, the periodic table, ionic and covalent bonding, types of substance, calculations involving masses), 'States of matter and mixtures', 'Chemical changes', 'Extracting metals and equilibria', 'Groups in the periodic table', 'Rates of reaction and energy changes', 'Heat energy changes in chemical reactions', 'Fuels and Earth science' and 'Earth and atmospheric science'.

GCSE Physics topics

'Forces', 'Motion and forces', 'Conservation of energy', 'Waves', 'Light and the electromagnetic spectrum', 'Radioactivity', 'Energy- forces doing work', 'Forces and their effects', 'Electricity and circuits', 'Magnetism and the motor effect', 'Particle model' and 'Forces and matter'.

Careers and Pathways

- A-Levels in Biology, Chemistry and Physics
- BTEC Level 3 in Applied Science
- Level 3 Health and Social Care Diploma
- Science related apprenticeships
- Any number of science-related degrees such as veterinary science, marine biology, nuclear physics, engineering, astrochemistry and chemical engineering

