

Being successful in GCSE Science



1. The Courses

We follow the AQA specification for all our courses.

- 11ATT-11FEY are studying AQA Combined Science Trilogy Foundation Tier (FT). *Students will achieve 2 GCSE grades ranging from 1-1 to 5-5*
- 11GAL, HAL, NEW are Studying AQA Combined Science Trilogy Higher Tier (HT). *Students will achieve 2 GCSE grades ranging from 4-3 to 9-9*
- 11IMM are Studying AQA Single Science (Triple Science). *Students will achieve 3 distinct grades ranging from 3-9*

2. Assessments and Mocks

Students sit six exam papers at the end of the course. In Double Science, these papers are 1Hour and 15 minutes. In Triple Science, these exams last 1Hour and 45minutes to account for the 30% additional content. We have detailed the content of these papers below:

Paper 1s

The content covered will be as follows:

- Biology: Cell biology; Organisation; Infection and response and Bioenergetics
 - Which are B1- B9 in the revision guide or Specification topics 1-4
 - 10% Maths and Required practicals assessed within paper.
- Chemistry: Atomic structure and the periodic table; Bonding, structure and the properties of matter; Quantitative chemistry; Chemical change and Energy changes
 - Which are C1 - C7 in the revision guide or Specification topics 1-5
 - 20% Maths and Required practicals assessed within paper.
- Physics: Energy; Electricity; Particle model of matter and Atomic structure
 - Which are P1 - P7 in the revision guide or Specification topics 1-4
 - 30% Maths and Required practicals assessed within paper.

Paper 2s

Content covered as follows, but any understanding of fundamental principles from Paper 1 can be assessed in Paper 2. Maths and required practicals are assessed in the same proportions as in paper 1.

- Biology: Homeostasis and response; Inheritance; Ecology
 - Which are B10 - B18 in the revision guide or Specification topics 5-7; homeostasis and response, inheritance, variation and evolution, ecology.
- Chemistry: The rate and extent of chemical change and Organic chemistry
 - Which are C8 - C15 in the revision guide or Specification topics 6-10. Rates of reaction and equilibria, organic chemistry, chemical testing and environmental science (atmosphere and resources)
- Physics: Forces and Waves
 - Which are P8 - P15 in the revision guide or Specification topics 5-7; forces and motion, waves, electromagnetism (Light and Space – Triple only).
- **October Mocks are Paper 1 (Year 10 learning)**
- **February mocks are Paper 2 content**
- **There will be some resetting after both mocks to ensure the best preparation**

3. Revision must be specification led:

- **Bare necessities** - do, mark and learn, turn them into flashcards, on paper or using a flashcards app (like CHEGG+). This covers all the recall content.
- **Knowledge organisers** – Use the knowledge organisers shared with you to make flashcards. Cover check, repeat.
- **RAG sheets** – RAG yourself throughout your revision using the spec linked RAG sheets, these have been shared with you on Google classroom.

4. Required practical revision:

- **Step 1:** Watch a YouTube video for the required practical, either to refresh your mind or to start your note taking on the practical (Malmesbury School & Free Science Lessons produce some good ones).
- **Step 2:** Go to BBC Bitesize, find the required practical (in the unit content, these are not separate), and make notes, or add to them from the video – skills focus.
- **Step 3:** Use the Kerboodle required practical sheets (student and teacher) to write out the full method, add to your notes, answer and mark the questions on these. **Skills and maths focus!**
- **Step 4:** Use your notes or from memory complete the required practical revision maps.

5. Exam Practice Questions

- Use “Walking Talking Mock” style exam break-down skills to work out what the question is asking of you
- Make good use of Self marking time; where did you lose marks? Why? Was there any indication that this was the answer in the question?
- Use the mark schemes! These can be turned into flash cards; they are the perfect answer for that question.

Past papers: [AQA | GCSE | Combined Science: Trilogy | Assessment resources](#)

Key Dates:

- **Bio Paper 1 – 13th May 2025 (PM)**
- **Chem Paper 1 – 19th May 2025 (AM)**
- **Phys Paper 1 – 22nd May 2025 (AM)**
- **Bio Paper 2 – 9th June 2025 (AM)**
- **Chem Paper 2 – 13th June 2025 (AM)**
- **Phys Paper 2 – 16th June 2025 (AM)**

Don't forget we have science revision every Wednesday after school 15:15-16:00 starting after half term

Each exam will also have a “masterclass” session the evening before and a “hot lesson – top tips” the morning of the exam 08:15-08:50.

Remember:

You get out of your GCSE the work and effort you are prepared to put in!

Revision resources available



Resource	What?	Where?
<p>1) Free Science Lessons</p> <p>2) Cognito Science</p> <p>3) Oak National Academy</p> <p>4) Continuity Oak</p>	<p>These are revision videos and lessons. If students need a recap or revision, we would recommend 1+2.</p> <p>However, if they miss a lesson or need more in-depth help, 3+4 provide full lessons with teacher explanations as well as tasks and feedback.</p>	<p>https://www.freesciencelessons.co.uk/</p> <p>https://www.cognitoresources.org/</p> <p>https://www.thenational.academy/</p> <p>https://continuityoak.org.uk/Lessons</p>
<p>Google Classroom</p>	<p>The Google Classroom contains self-study modules, help and revision materials for every topic already available on GC. This includes links to powerpoints, online lessons, revision tasks, videos. Everything you need in one place!!!</p>	<p>Google Classroom code – bb5gj6f (all year 11)</p> <p>Triple Science Additional classroom - himn7js (students for triple should be in both classrooms)</p>
<p>Kerboodle</p>	<p>Online textbook, animations and tasks and quizzes available.</p>	<p>Log in: ensure you are signed into your school emails then click “log in with google”</p> <p>https://www.kerboodle.com/users/login</p>
<p>BBC Bitesize app or website</p>	<p>Double - Combined Science, AQA trilogy specification</p> <p>Triple - Biology, Chemistry or Physics (single science) AQA</p> <p>Example Google Search – “BBC bitesize GCSE AQA Combined Science Trilogy” or “BBC bitesize GCSE AQA Biology”</p>	<p>https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/z8r997h (Combined Trilogy)</p> <p>https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zpgcbk7 Triple Biology</p> <p>https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/z8xtmnb Triple Chemistry</p> <p>https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zsc9rdm Triple Physics</p>
<p>Revision Guides</p>	<p>We recommend the CGP “Revise and Practice” as the best value for money.</p>	<p>https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/secondary-books/gcse/science</p>
<p>AQA Specification and Past Papers</p>	<p>The Specification is the port of call to understand exactly what you need to know.</p> <p>Past papers can all be found on the AQA website; when completing past papers it is essential that students read and use the mark scheme themselves. There is so much to learn from the mark scheme (especially the “extra information section”) for what examiner allow / will not allow.</p> <p>We are happy to check the marking on an past paper that student has marked themselves first.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/combined-science-trilogy-8464/specification-at-a-glance Combined Science Spec • https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/biology-8461/specification-at-a-glance Bio Spec • https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/chemistry-8462/specification-at-a-glance Chem Spec • https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/physics-8463/specification-at-a-glance Physics Spec • https://www.aqa.org.uk/find-past-papers-and-mark-schemes - Past paper finder

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