

Information for Parent/Carers: AQA GCSE Science 2027

Key Information




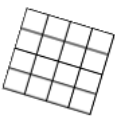
All students sit terminal AQA GCSE Science exams at the end of Year 11 (summer 2027). There is no coursework; however, required practical work is assessed through exam questions. **Students study either Combined Science: Trilogy (2 GCSEs) or Triple Science (3 GCSEs – Biology, Chemistry and Physics which covers more depth and content than Combined Science, with higher mathematical demand and application).** Students will sit Foundation or Higher tier (same tier for all papers)- these will be finalised after the second Mock examinations in Year 11.

AQA GCSE Combined Science Biology

The Exams

Paper 1 16.7% 1hr 15 mins	Topics: Cell Biology, Organisation, Infection & Response and Bioenergetics
Paper 2 16.7% 1hr 15 mins	Topics: Homeostasis & Response, Inheritance, variation & Evolution and Ecology

Required Practicals




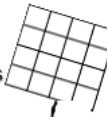
	Paper 1: Microscopy Osmosis Food Tests Enzymes Photosynthesis	
	Paper 2: Reaction Time Field Investigations (quadrats & transects)	

AQA GCSE Science Biology

The Exams

Paper 1 50% 1hr 45 mins	Topics: Cell Biology, Organisation, Infection & Response and Bioenergetics
Paper 2 50% 1hr 45 mins	Topics: Homeostasis & Response, Inheritance, variation & Evolution and Ecology

Required Practicals




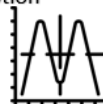
	Paper 1: Microscopy Microorganisms Osmosis Food Tests Enzymes Photosynthesis	
	Paper 2: Reaction Time Plant Responses Field Investigations (quadrats & transects) Decay	

AQA GCSE Combined Science Physics

The Exams

Paper 1 16.7% 1hr 15 mins	Topics: Energy; Electricity; Particle model of matter; and Atomic structure.
Paper 2 16.7% 1hr 15 mins	Topics: Forces; Waves; Magnetism and electromagnetism

Required Practicals





	Paper 1: Specific Heat Capacity Resistance I-V Characteristics Density	
	Paper 2: Force and Extension Acceleration Waves Radiation and Absorption	

AQA GCSE Science Physics

The Exams

Paper 1 50% 1hr 45 mins	Topics: Energy; Electricity; Particle model of matter; and Atomic structure.
Paper 2 50% 1hr 45 mins	Topics: Forces; Waves; Magnetism and electromagnetism and Space

Required Practicals

	Paper 1: Specific Heat Capacity Thermal Insulation Resistance I-V Characteristics Density	
	Paper 2: Force and Extension Acceleration Waves Light Radiation and Absorption	



AQA GCSE Combined Science Chemistry

The Exams



Paper 1 16.7% 1hr 15 mins	Topics: Atomic structure and the periodic table; Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter; Quantitative chemistry; Chemical changes; and Energy changes.
Paper 2 16.7% 1hr 15 mins	Topics: The rate and extent of chemical change; Organic chemistry; Chemical analysis; Chemistry of the atmosphere; and Using resources.

Required Practicals



Paper 1:
Making Salts
Electrolysis
Temperature Change



Paper 2:
Rates of Reaction
Chromatography
Water Purification



AQA GCSE Science Chemistry

The Exams



Paper 1 50% 1hr 45 mins	Topics: Atomic structure and the periodic table; Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter; Quantitative chemistry; Chemical changes; and Energy changes.
Paper 2 50% 1hr 45 mins	Topics: The rate and extent of chemical change; Organic chemistry; Chemical analysis; Chemistry of the atmosphere; and Using resources.

Required Practicals



Paper 1:
Making Salts
Neutralisation
Electrolysis
Temperature Change



Paper 2:
Rates of Reaction
Chromatography
Identifying Ions
Water Purification



How can Parents/Carers Support

(More Info at the Connect event on the 28 Jan)

- Encourage short, regular revision sessions
- Support your child identify what concepts/skills they find difficult and encourage them to **start** their revision on these areas. (Pupil progress overviews could be a starting point for discussions)
- Focus on active revision such as practice exam questions- **Review; Reflect; React.**
- Do timed exam practice- apply approximately 1 minute per mark.
- Support Math's skills and understanding of **exam command words**. What does the question want them to do?
- Encourage them to use and apply our mnemonic 'Custard' to support them with extended answers.
- Promote the Science intervention sessions in school.

Command Words

Calculate	Use numbers given in the question to work out the answer.	Identify	Name or otherwise characterise
Compare	Describe the similarities and differences	Justify	Use evidence to support an answer
Define	Specify the meaning of something	Measure	Find an item of data for a given quantity.
Describe	Recall some facts, events or process in an accurate way	Name	Short answer is only required
Estimate	Assign an approximate value	Plan	Write a method
Evaluate	Use information, as well as own knowledge to consider evidence for and against.	Plot	Mark on a graph using data given
Explain	Make something clear or state the reasons for something happening	Predict	Give a plausible outcome
Give	Only a short answer is expected	Suggest	Apply knowledge and understanding to a new situation

6 MARK QUESTION? COVER IT WITH

C.U.S.T.A.R.D.

C = **Circle** command words

U = **Underline** key words

S = **Scribble** extra words that may be useful

T = **Try** to make sentences with the keywords

A = **Account** for every part of the question

R = **Read** through every word you've written

D = **Do** not rush

How GCSE Science Exams Are Marked

Science exams assess three objectives:

A01 - Knowledge and understanding of scientific ideas

A02 - Application of knowledge to unfamiliar contexts

A03 - Analysis, evaluation and interpretation of data and practical work

Students succeed by understanding concepts, practising exam questions and learning how to explain their thinking clearly.

Useful Revision Resources and support

- Intervention sessions in school on a Monday and Wednesday 3.10-4pm (see science class doors for details)
- Revision guides
- On line- Exam practice and support: **Math's and Physics tutor (Covers all sciences)**
- BBC Bitesize
- Seneca Learning
- Cognito
- YouTube: Free Science Lessons, Primrose Kitten, Malmesbury Education.

Science Department - Contact

If you have any concerns about progress, revision or exam preparation, please contact the Science Department via the school office or your child's science teacher.



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ACADEMY