

# GCSE COMBINED SCIENCE

(2 GCSEs across all 3 sciences)



**Examination Board:** AQA  
**Subject Leader(s):** Mrs McGrath, Mrs Bentley, Mr C Proudlove



## Course Structure

Topics/Unit Title	Assessment	Weighting(%)
Biology paper 1	Exam 75 minutes	16.7%
Biology paper 2	Exam 75 minutes	16.7%
Chemistry paper 1	Exam 75 minutes	16.7%
Chemistry paper 2	Exam 75 minutes	16.7%
Physics paper 1	Exam 75 minutes	16.7%
Physics paper 2	Exam 75 minutes	16.7%

## What does the course involve?

Students studying Combined Science will study modules of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. The course takes a logical and coherent journey through familiar and new content. Required practical investigations are an integral part of the science pathway testing students application of science techniques & principles in the exam. This science pathway is worth 2 GCSEs.

A significant amount of the Combined Science course is taught in year 9, so it is very important for students to save their year 9 work for reference in years 10 and 11

Summary of Content		
Biology	Chemistry	Physics
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cell biology</li> <li>• Organisation</li> <li>• Infection &amp; Response</li> <li>• Bioenergetics</li> <li>• Homeostatis and response</li> <li>• Inheritance, Variation and evolution</li> <li>• Ecology</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Atomic Structure and the periodic table</li> <li>• Quantitative chemistry</li> <li>• Chemical changes</li> <li>• Energy changes</li> <li>• The rate and extent of chemical change</li> <li>• Organic chemistry</li> <li>• Chemical analysis</li> <li>• Chemistry of the Atmosphere</li> <li>• Using Resources</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Forces</li> <li>• Energy</li> <li>• Waves</li> <li>• Electricity</li> <li>• Magnetism &amp; Electromagnetism</li> <li>• Particle Model of Matter</li> <li>• Atomic Structure</li> </ul>

Combined science will have a 17 point grading scale, from 9-9, 9-8 through to 2-1, 1-1. All Science GCSEs will have Higher and Foundation tier papers.

## Further Study/Employment Prospects

This course allows progression to traditional Science A-Levels and to a wider range of science-based vocational courses such as Health Care.

## Skills you will develop

We know that practicals are not only one of the most engaging parts of a Science Education but are also essential for students' understanding of scientific theory. There are 21 required practicals spread throughout the course, as well as many other opportunities to develop practical skills and manual dexterity, independent learning and the ability to participate in group work. There is a need for a certain level of mathematical competence and the necessary skills will be reinforced during science lessons.