

Combined Science

Guide to the exams (first sitting June 2018)



General Information

- Students will sit 2 exams in each science (Biology, Chemistry & Physics).
- Each exam will be 1hr 15 minutes long and worth 70 marks.
- Each exam is worth 16.6% of the overall Combined Science GCSE.
- 2 numerical grades are given, using an aggregate of the student's results from all 6 papers. These grades will always be next to each other (e.g. 5,6)
- Question types include: Multiple choice, structured, closed short answer and open response.
- Each exam is available in both foundation and higher tier. Foundation level offers simpler exam questions that can lead to a maximum grade of a 6. Higher level with more demanding exams that allow access to the highest levels.

Exams

	Paper 1	Paper 2	
Biology	Topics 1–4: Cell biology; Organisation; Infection and response; and Bioenergetics.	Topics 5–7: Homeostasis and response; Inheritance, variation and evolution; and Ecology.	
<u>Chemistry</u>	Topics 8–12: Atomic structure and the periodic table; Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter; Quantitative chemistry, Chemical changes; and Energy changes.	Topics 13–17: The rate and extent of chemical change; Organic chemistry; Chemical analysis, Chemistry of the atmosphere; and Using resources.	2 GCSE's (e.g. 5,6)
<u>Physics</u>	Topics 18-21: Energy; Electricity; Particle model of matter; and Atomic structure.	Topics 22-24: Forces; Waves; Magnetism and electromagnetism; and Space physics.	

Required Practical

Please note there is no coursework. 100% of marks are gained from the exam.

Students are required to complete required practicals (RPs) throughout the year, and can be tested on any of these in their exam. Additionally the exam board may ask to see evidence of students completing these. It is therefore imperative that students complete these and make every effort to catch up should they be absent for any reason.

Biology Practicals	Chemistry Practicals	Physics Practicals
RP 1 - Microscopy	RP 1 - Making salts	RP 1 - Specific heat capacity
RP 3 - Osmosis	RP 3- Electrolysis	RP 3 - Resistance
RP 4 - Enzymes	RP 4- Temperature changes	RP 4 - I-V characteristics
RP 5 - Food tests	RP 5 - Rates of reaction	RP 5 - Density
RP 6 - Photosynthesis	RP 6 - Chromatography	RP 7 - Force and extension
RP 7 - Reaction time	RP 8 - Water purification	RP 8 - Acceleration
RP 9 - Field investigations		RP 9 - Waves
		RP 10 - Radiation and absorption