

What is Taught for GCSE Science?

Courses

Course Name (both AQA)	Number of GCSE's	Teaching hours per fortnight	Usual number of teachers	Papers sat at end of Year 11	Length of each paper	Number of required practicals
Combined Science (Trilogy : 8464)	2	10	2	B1, C1, P1, B2, C2, P2	1h 15 min	21
Separate Sciences (8461, 8462, 8463)	3	15	3	B1, C1, P1, B2, C2, P2	1h 45 min	28

Content of each paper by AQA Units :

Paper	AQA Units in the Paper
B1	B1, B2, B3, B4
B2	B5, B6, B7
C1	C1, C2, C3, C4
C2	C5, C6, C7, C8
P1	P1, P2, P3, P4
P2	P5, P6, P7, (P8 Separate only)

Grades

Separate Science grades come from the aggregate of the paper 1 and 2 marks for each subject.

Grades for Biology, Chemistry and Physics are independent of each other and are a single number from 1 to 9.

Combined Science grades come from the aggregate of all 6 papers. They are 2 grades from 1 to 9 which cannot be more than 1 grade apart, e.g. 5-5, 6-7. The numbers do not relate to any particular subject's grade.

Required Practicals

These are a variety of practical activities that students may have to plan, will always either carry out themselves or occasionally see demonstrated by a teacher and the analyses and evaluate their findings.

There are a total of 21 for Combined Science and 28 for Separate Sciences.

Students will either be given a booklet or individual worksheets to fill in when completing these.

There is no assessment of how they perform these in class, however, students can be asked about all aspects of these in their exams.

Key Dates for GCSE Science Internal Assessment

Tracking Tests and Mock Exams

Year 10 & 11 are tracked at 3 points in each academic year. To help provide accurate data we have developed “tracking exams”. It is compulsory that all students do these under exam conditions in class. These are papers made by Heads of Subjects which reflect the style and level of questions they will face in the real exams. There are 2 tiers available.

w/c 12 th Nov	10	Tracking exams 1
w/c 4 th Feb	10	Tracking exams 2
w/c 3 rd June	10	Tracking exams 3
Mon 3 rd Dec	11	Mock Exams (B1, C1 & P1 units only)
On completion of B2, C2 or P2 units : various times	11	Mock exams (B2, C2, P2)

End of Unit Reviews

When a particular unit has been completed students will be asked to complete an end of unit review. This may be done in class or at home, depending on the teacher wishes.