

How are the Separate Sciences taught?

In either the Combined Science or the Separate Science course, practical work is at the heart of everything we do. This may be through whole class practicals, teacher demonstrations or video clips, but every topic will have an element of practical work wherever possible.

Theory lessons involve the students being involved and actively engaged through group work, case studies and debates in order to bring Science to life.

How is the GCSEs assessed?

Each subject will consist of 2 GCSE papers, each with a duration of 1 hour 45 minutes. The total of these 2 papers will give the final GCSE grade for each subject.

Structure of Assessment

There are 3 strands to the final assessment in Science:

1. **AO1** requires students to **demonstrate knowledge** of scientific ideas and methods. 40% of available marks are for 'knowing things' about science.
2. **AO2** requires students to **apply** their knowledge of scientific ideas and methods. 40% of available marks are for taking the known and applying it to an unknown situation.
3. **AO3** requires students to **analyse** information and ideas to make judgements and evaluations of given information. 20% of available marks are for being able to apply a logical thought process to reach a conclusion, and communicate this effectively to the examiner.

There is a high proportional of maths-based questions in the Science GCSEs. 10% of Biology marks, 20% of Chemistry marks and 40% of Physics marks are for Foundation level mathematical skills.

What resources will support my child's learning?

Online Resources:

www.pearsonactivelearn.com

This website run by the exam board contains the entire course textbook for students to access, alongside a number of linked tasks that students can access. The tasks are digitally marked and provide instant feedback so are a great resource for independent learning.

www.senecalearning.com

This free resource offers interactive revision notes and quizzes for the entire GCSE Science course (both Combined and Separate). Students can work through at their own pace, and teachers may set Seneca work for independent learning.

www.bcbitesize.co.uk

The Bitesize website has been much improved over the last couple of years, and is now a fantastic resource for revision notes, videos and quizzes

www.gcsepod.com

A school-wide endorsed website with videos covering all Science topics with corresponding quizzes for testing understanding.

Fuse School (available on Youtube)

A series of 5 minute videos covering every topic in Biology, Chemistry and Physics for those learners who prefer to watch instead of read.

Malmsbury Science (available on Youtube)

Video recordings of all the Core Practicals needed for Combined and Separate Science

Hard Copy resources

For boys who prefer working 'from the book', instead of off a screen, the textbooks are available as paper versions to purchase:

Edexcel GCSE (9-1) Biology Student Textbook

ISBN 9781292120201

Edexcel GCSE (9-1) Chemistry Student Textbook

ISBN: 9781292120218

Edexcel GCSE (9-1) Physics Student Textbook

ISBN: 9781292120225

CGP revision guides and exam practice

These books provide a combined solution to revision – the revision guide for note taking and exam question practice (with answers) all in one resource

Biology

Complete Revision Guide & Practice: 978-1782948803

Chemistry

Complete Revision Guide & Practice: 9781782948810

Physics

Complete Revision Guide & Practice: 9781782948827