

Introduction to subject

All students study Science at Key Stage 4. There are three possible routes to follow:

1. One GCSE: GCSE Science (Single Award);
2. Two GCSEs: GCSE Science and GCSE Additional Science (Double Award);
3. Three GCSEs: GCSE Science, GCSE Additional Science and GCSE Further Additional Science (Triple Award).

What will my child learn?

All three routes involve an equal amount of Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

GCSE Science is structured into:

B1 – Classification, variation and environment;

C1 – The Earth, acids, metals and fuels;

P1 – Light, space, waves, electricity and energy.

GCSE Additional Science is structured into:

B2 – Cells, organisms and systems;

C2 – Atoms, ions, covalent compounds and quantitative chemistry;

P2 – Electric current, motion, forces, momentum, nuclear power and radiation.

GCSE Further Additional Science is structured into:

B3 – Control systems, behaviour and biotechnology;

C3 – Qualitative and quantitative analysis, electrolysis and organic chemistry;

P3 – Radiation, X-rays and ECGs and kinetic theory.

Examination information

Single Award

External 3 x 60 minute examinations (75%)

Controlled assessment (25%)

Double Award

External 6 x 60 minute examinations (75%)

Controlled assessment x 2 (25%)

Triple Award

External 9 x 60 minute examinations (75%)

Controlled assessment x 3 (25%)

In addition to the external assessment detailed below, students will have regular topic and unit tests in class. They will also practise the skills required for Science controlled assessment such as planning and data analysis.

How many lessons will my child have each week?

Students have one teacher for 5 periods over the two-week timetable if they are studying towards Single Award. Double and Triple Award students have two teachers for 5 periods each per two weeks.

Extra-Curricular opportunities

- GCSE Astronomy: this a stand-alone qualification with lessons at lunchtimes during year 10
- GCSE students will get the opportunity to experience external lectures
- Triple science students will get the chance to visit Whipsnade Zoo during year 11 in order to study the methods of communication used by different animals
- Science week runs every year in March, which will involve a multitude of activities such as visiting lecturers, competitions and demonstrations

- GCSE homework and revision club is staffed by sixth form students to support any year 10/11 students with their studies

What Sixth Form options does this course lend itself to?

Double or Triple Science will be a requirement for the study of the A-level Sciences, as well as Psychology, in the Sixth Form.

The exam board used is Edexcel.