

Supporting your child through their Science GCSE

The Science exams: Combined Science Trilogy

Paper	Length	% of GCSE	Date (Provisional)
Biology 1	75 min	16.7	10 th May 2024
Biology 2	75 min	16.7	7 th June 2024
Chemistry 1	75 min	16.7	17 th May 2024
Chemistry 2	75 min	16.7	11 th June 2024
Physics 1	75 min	16.7	22 nd May 2024
Physics 2	75 min	16.7	14 th June 2024

Key dates for Science

November	Full CHEMISTRY 1 MOCK Full PHYSICS 1 MOCK
December	Revision timetable should be made and revision should start
January	18 th Y11 parents' evening
	After school revision sessions start
	Y11 reports
February	Revising should be picking up
After spring half term	Full BIOLOGY 1 MOCK Full PHYSICS 2 MOCK
March	Revision should be full steam now
March	Full CHEMISTRY 2 MOCK
	Full BIOLOGY 2 MOCK
May	B1, C1 and P1 papers (dates above)
June	B2, C2 and P2 papers (dates above)
August	GCSE results day

Contacting the department

If you have any queries or concerns please do not hesitate to call the school (01258 472642) and ask to speak to the Head of Department, Dr King, or email her via 4179kk@mynhs.net. Alternatively, you can email other Science staff via office@mynhs.net, stating which member of staff the email should be passed on to.

Mock exams

November: Students will have a full **Chemistry 1** and **Physics 1** mock exam.

February: Students will have a full **Biology 1** and **Physics 2** mock exam

March: Students will have a full **Chemistry 2** and **Biology 2** mock exam.

Exam content

Exam paper	Topics	Revision guide section
Biology 1	-Cell biology -Organisation -Infection and response -Bioenergetics	Topic B1, B2, B3 and B4
Biology 2	-Homeostasis and response -Inheritance, variation and evolution -Ecology	Topic B5, B6 and B7
Chemistry 1	-Atomic structure and the periodic table -Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter -Quantitative chemistry -Chemical changes -Energy changes	Topic C1, C2, C3, C4 and C5
Chemistry 2	-The rate and extent of chemical change -Organic chemistry -Chemical analysis -Chemistry of the atmosphere -Using resources	Topic C6, C7, C8, C9 and C10
Physics 1	-Energy -Electricity -Particle model of matter -Atomic structure	Topic P1, P2, P3 and P4
Physics 2	-Forces -Waves -Magnetism and electromagnetism	Topic P5, P6 and P7

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Exam board and past papers

AQA is our exam board. On here you can see key dates as well as access practice questions and access the specification for the exam. The link for the science qualification is here:

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/combinedscience-trilogy-8464>

Active revision

Students often think that reading a revision guide is good revision. However, this is unlikely to get them the grade they are capable of in the summer exams. Encourage your child to engage in active revision. For example, they could complete exam questions, make flashcards and test themselves on key words and definitions or make a mind map that summarises the topic. Regular retrieval of information is important so that the knowledge becomes embedded, therefore the struggle of trying to remember something is very effective.

Supporting your child with Revision

Revision is vital for all students but it can lead to a great deal of stress and anxiety. We've included some tips below for parents/carers:

- Encourage your child to start revision **early**.
- Help your child to be organised by creating and using a **revision timetable**.
- Make sure your child is **spacing** out the different topics over the whole of the revision timetable.
- Encourage your child to use a **revision guide**. These are available to purchase from the Science department.
- **Ask** your child if you can help them to revise: test them on their knowledge, chat to them about their revision over dinner, use flashcards to quiz them.
- Encourage your child to attend **revision sessions**.
- Remind your child that it is not enough just to attend a revision session – they must do their **own revision** too.
- Encourage your child to do **active revision**, rather than just reading the revision guide or textbook.
- Ensure your child **stays healthy**: eating well, staying hydrated, has breaks and maintains a work/life balance.

Useful revision websites

Your child has access to the resource centre and so can use school computers to do online revision.

- BBC Bitesize. This site helps to revisit topics and test knowledge at the end.
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zrkw2hv>
- Get revising. This website allows students to create a revision timetable. They do need to sign up for a free account.
<http://getrevising.co.uk>
- Study Mind. This is a really useful website where past exam papers have been split into topic based questions along with answers.
<https://studymind.co.uk/resources/>

Revision sessions

The science department will also be supporting your child by offering revision sessions. They will focus on exam technique and application of knowledge. A revision timetable will be issued to your child.