Combined Science (equivalent to two GCSEs)

Information from the exam board can be found here.

Grades awarded: 9 – 1 (two grades are awarded – more information here)

Why study this subject?

GCSE study of science provides the foundations for understanding the material world. Scientific understanding is changing our lives and is vital to the world's future prosperity. All students are taught essential aspects of the knowledge, methods, processes, and uses of science. This should help to build an appreciation of how the complex and diverse phenomena of the natural world can be described and explained.

What will I study in this course?

- A wide range of biology, chemistry, and physics topics;
- The nature, processes, and methods of science;
- Application of practical, modelling, and problem-solving skills;
- Critical analysis of methodology & evidence and building conclusions.

How will I be assessed?

The assessment for this subject is formed of six exams at the end of Year 11; two biology, two chemistry, and two physics. Each of the papers lasts for one hour fifteen minutes and are each worth 70 marks.

Each of the six papers assess knowledge and understanding from distinct units. A range of question types will be used, including multiple choice, short answers, and extended responses. Papers are either higher or foundation tier.

What will this qualification lead to?

Students can go on to study many further courses in sixth form and/or college with good GCSE grades in combined science, including A level Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Psychology along with more vocational courses such as Applied Science and Health and Social Care.

The range of careers involving science is almost endless, and many employers value candidates who have a good scientific background.

How is the course structured?

	Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Year 9	**KS3 Science**		**Biology** – Unit 1, Cells **Chemistry** – Unit 1, Atomic Structure & Periodic Table **Physics** – Unit 3, Particle Model
Year 10	**Biology** – Unit 2, Organisation **Chemistry** – Unit 2, Bonding & Structure; Unit 3, Quantitative **Physics** – Unit 1, Energy; Unit 2, Electricity	**Biology** – Unit 3, Infection & Response; Unit 4, Bioenergetics **Chemistry** – Unit 4 Chemical Changes; Unit 5, Energy Changes **Physics** – Unit 2, Electricity (cont'); Unit 4, Atomic Structure	**Biology** – Unit 7, Ecology **Chemistry** – Unit 6, Rates of Reaction **Physics** – Unit 5, Forces
Year 11	**Biology** – Unit 5, Homeostasis & Response **Chemistry** – Unit 7, Organic; Unit 8, Analysis; Unit 9, Atmosphere **Physics** – Unit 5, Forces (cont'); Unit 6 Waves	**Biology** – Unit 6, Inheritance, Variation & Evolution **Chemistry** – Unit 10, Resources **Physics** – Unit 7, Magnetism	**Revision & Examinations**

For more information, contact: Mr R King (Head of Science)

Revised: February 2026