

Key information: GCSE Science

Dear Parents/Carers,

As our Year 10's are about to sit their first common assessment for GCSE Science in KS4, we wanted to use this opportunity to outline some recommendations we have for our year 10 students as well as answering any questions you may have about the tier of entry we enter your child for.

Higher or foundation tier?

The foundation paper can be graded from grade 1 to a grade 5. The higher paper can be graded from 4-9. If students achieve less than a grade 4 or 4-4 on their paper they would normally get a U grade, so we need to make sure we do the best for your child by entering them on the right tier.

All students will be completing higher papers in their common assessments in year 10, and in their summer PPE. In the Year 11 November PPE we will also do the same. This will give your child two opportunities to show us whether higher tier is best for them. Students need to achieve a grade 5 on both papers to be considered for higher.

We want to ensure all students are successful in Science, and by ensuring they are on the right tier we can be certain they have the best chance of this.

Combined Science or Triple Science?

In order to identify which students would be more suited to triple science we looked at students exam scores throughout year 9, and their grades for Maths and English. If students study Triple Science they will gain 3 GCSEs and in combined Science they will achieve two. We identified 90 students who will be entered for Triple Science.

Regardless of whether students study triple science or double science they will still be able to apply for 6th form Sciences provided they achieve grade 6's or above at GCSE and grade 5's in English and Maths.

CGP revision guides and flashcards

We are strongly recommending that all students purchase the correct revision guide and flashcards for their qualification. We will be using both in lessons. It is important to us that we show students how to use these to maximise their revision. Also, in the event of future isolations, lockdowns, or illness, students will be well equipped to maintain their studies and ensure they can get the best possible grade. We have purchased these at a reduced price so they would cost significantly less than the retail price. Please see the list below for details.

All students who are eligible for pupil premium will be given this free of charge.

Qualification	Item	Retail price	School price
Combined Science	Combined Science Revision Guide	£9.95	£5.66

	9-1 GCSE Combined Science: Physics Edexcel Revision Question Cards	£5.99	£2.83
	9-1 GCSE Combined Science: Chemistry Edexcel Revision Question Cards	£5.99	£2.83
	9-1 GCSE Combined Science: Biology Edexcel Revision Question Cards	£5.99	£2.83
Biology	Grade 9-1 GCSE Biology: Edexcel Revision Guide with Online Edition	£5.95	£3.54
	9-1 GCSE Biology Edexcel Revision Question Cards	£8.99	£3.64
Chemistry	Grade 9-1 GCSE Chemistry: Edexcel Revision Guide with Online Edition	£5.95	£3.54
	9-1 GCSE Chemistry Edexcel Revision Question Cards	£8.99	£3.64
Physics	Grade 9-1 GCSE Physics: Edexcel Revision Guide with Online Edition	£5.95	£3.54
	9-1 GCSE Physics Edexcel Revision Question Cards	£8.99	£3.64

These are available to purchase on SQUID. If students place their order they can come and collect them on Mondays and Thursdays after school at the Science office.

We hope that you have found this useful. If you have any more questions please do not hesitate to ask the Science Team.

Yours faithfully,



Ms Bing
Curriculum Leader for Science