

Triple Science

Qualification	GCSE (Edexcel)
Course description	<p>The course builds on the core Combined Science content with considerable content adapted from the equivalent AS and A2 Sciences. GCSE Biology content covers the same topic areas covered in Combined Science, but with extra material on: the eye, structure of the brain, thermoregulation, protein synthesis, trophic levels and plant hormones.</p> <p>GCSE Chemistry content covers the same topic areas covered in Combined Science, but with extra material on: transition metals, alloys and corrosion, quantitative analysis, dynamic equilibria and calculations involving volumes of gases, chemical cells and fuel cells, qualitative analysis - tests for ions, hydrocarbons, polymers, alcohols and carboxylic acids, and bulk and surface properties of matter including nanoparticles.</p> <p>GCSE Physics content covers the same topic areas covered in Combined Science, but with extra material on: pressure and pressure differences in fluids, more on space physics, specular and diffuse reflection and scattering, magnetism and the motor effect, and levers, gears and rotational forces.</p>
Method of Assessment	<p>Six exams - two each for Biology, Chemistry and Physics, all taken in 2018. Each paper lasts 105 minutes and is marked out of 100. Content learning is assessed through a mixture of different question styles, including multiple-choice questions, short-answer questions, calculations and extended open-response questions.</p> <p>The papers are the same as the Combined Science papers, but with extension questions for separate sciences candidates.</p> <p>The grading and tiers are the same as those for Combined Science. There is no controlled assessment in the new specification, although students will complete 24 core practicals throughout the course (eight for each subject). 15% of marks in the exam papers will be for knowledge, understanding and application of practical skills. In addition, questions assessing students' use of mathematical skills will make up 15% of the assessments. There will also be some recall of equations required in physics.</p>
Further Study after Year 11	A Levels in Biology, Chemistry or Physics, A Level Psychology or BTEC Level 3 Applied Science.
Career Routes	The course is particularly suited to students who intend to continue the study of science beyond A level. It provides a rigorous review of science beyond the conventional GCSE content and promotes interest in science. Students who take it will thus be interested in pursuing more academic scientific career paths.