



Science

GCSE 9-1 Combined Science and Triple Award

GCSE SEPARATE (TRIPLE) SCIENCE AND DOUBLE AWARD GCSE)

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Science is a compulsory core subject in KS4. All students will study a balance of topics from Biology, Chemistry and Physics, which combine into the Science qualification. The amount of topics covered leads GCSE science to be a double award, which is worth two GCSEs.

If students wish to take their science further, they can opt for triple-award science which offers 3 separate GCSEs in biology, chemistry and physics.

What will I study in Science?

GCSE study in the sciences provides the foundation for understanding the material world. Scientific understanding is changing our lives and is vital to the world's future prosperity. All students should learn essential aspects of the knowledge, methods, processes and uses of science. They should gain appreciation of how the complex and diverse phenomena of the natural world can be described in terms of a small number of key ideas that relate to the sciences and that are both inter-linked and of universal application.

The GCSE in Combined Science requires students to develop the skills, knowledge and understanding of working scientifically. Working scientifically will be assessed through

examination and the completion of the eight core practicals.

What skills can I gain from studying science?

Skills gained in science include learning about how and why the world around works, how to test ideas with experiments, communication, ICT, problem solving and working with others. These are skills, which all employers value - an ability to grasp concepts quickly, how to find coherent (meaningful) answers - not to mention problem-solving, analytical, mathematical and IT skills.

These key ideas include:

- the use of conceptual models and theories to make sense of the observed diversity of natural phenomena
- the assumption that every effect has one or more cause
- that change is driven by differences between different objects and systems when they interact
- that many such interactions occur over a distance and over time without direct contact
- that science progresses through a cycle of hypothesis, practical experimentation, observation, theory development and review that quantitative analysis is a central element both of many theories and of scientific methods of inquiry.

What career paths would science be suitable for?

A science qualification can lead to a range of careers including:

- Environmental Science,
- Agriculture,
- Food and Nutrition,
- Medicine, Forestry,
- Pharmaceutical,
- Veterinary and Animal Husbandry,
- Chemical Engineering,
- Geology,
- Space,
- Law and Finance,
- Environment,
- Civil and Electronic
- Engineering,
- Computing,
- Transport,
- Energy,
- Music and Television
- Education.

Website

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcse/sciences-2016.html#%2Ftab-CombinedScience>

All specifications are available at this website by selecting them from the drop-down menu.

