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**The majority of students entering Key Stage 4 in September 2021 will study GCSE (9-1) Combined Science. From this, students will achieve two GCSE grades.**

### **What skills and qualities do I need?**

Students must be prepared to work hard and focus well in lessons if they are to achieve their best. Students must also be motivated to complete work in their own time, and to organise and prepare themselves for external examinations.

### **What will I do on the course?**

The course covers all disciplines of Science: Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Within each discipline both the application of science in the world around us, and the theoretical side of science are studied.

### **How is the course organised and assessed?**

The Combined Science course consists of topics in Biology, Chemistry and Physics, and students will sit six written examinations at the end of Year 11

- Paper 1 – Biology 1
- Paper 2 – Biology 2
- Paper 3 – Chemistry 1
- Paper 4 – Chemistry 2
- Paper 5 – Physics 1
- Paper 6 – Physics 2



Each examination represents 16.67 % of the qualification and will last for 1 hour 10 minutes. In each examination there will be a mixture of different question styles, including multiple-choice questions, short answer questions, calculations and extended response questions.

Practical work will form a significant part of the course and there are 17 'core practicals' that every student must experience. This practical work will be assessed via the written examinations detailed above.

Alternatively students can select to do **Triple Science** as an option which will lead to three separate GCSE qualifications in Biology, Chemistry and Physics. This option is of particular use to those wishing to study science at Post 16 level. Students taking Triple Science will study additional units in Biology, Chemistry and Physics leading to 3 GCSEs in the separate sciences at grades 9-1.

### **Homework:**

Homework will be set regularly to consolidate the knowledge and skills delivered in class, and to give students practice in the application of the Science taught. Even when homework is not formally set in class, it is expected that students will review the work that has been carried out that week and spend time preparing for assessments and examinations.

