



Parents' Guide to Preparing for Examinations in GCSE Science



For GCSE Science students are either studying:

AQA GCSE Combined Science Trilogy (at either higher or foundation tier)

[GCSE Science 8464 | Specification | AQA](#)

Students on this course sit 6 exams (two in each science subject)

Or

AQA GCSE Biology, Chemistry and Physics (all at higher tier)

[Biology | Subjects | AQA](#)

[Chemistry | Subjects | AQA](#)

[Physics | Subjects | AQA](#)

Students on this course also sit 6 (longer) exams (two in each science subject). The links above will take you to the **exam board specifications**, which outlines what students need to know.

Science Revision help:

At the end of Year 10 students were provided with **knowledge organisers** that summarise the content for the first paper in each science subject. Before the Y11 mock they will be given the knowledge organisers for the second papers. The knowledge organisers are on the **Microsoft Teams revision site**. Many students find these a useful starting point as to what they need to learn.

We also recommend that the students review the **curriculum organisers** (also on the Teams site) that lists exactly what they need to know for each topic. Some students also find **revision guides**, such as the CGP ones useful (these needs to be purchased independently).

The Teams revision site also contains **revision PowerPoints**, **past exam papers** and other helpful resources such as **modelled exam questions** and resources made to **help students address gaps** in their knowledge. We strongly recommend you check your child can access and is using this site.

As well as the independent revision your child must complete outside of schools, science teacher also build revision into lessons via the **knowledge recall sessions** at the start of all lessons. **Science intervention** is also provided (mainly after school on a Thursday, see intervention timetable), some students have been strongly recommended to attend but the sessions are open to all students.

Educake is used to set weekly homework and in Y11 we set much of this homework based on revision topics that are coming up on assessments or areas of common difficulty that we have identified. Many students also use Educake to set their own quizzes and test their knowledge recall after revising a particular topic.

Advice for students: how to revise for science:

- Use your revision guide/ exercise book/ revision PowerPoints/ knowledge organiser/website to **produce revision notes**. These notes could be in the format of knowledge organisers, flash cards, spider diagrams etc.
- Write short **recall questions** when you read through your notes, have a break and see if you can answer them. Or set yourself a quiz on Educake.
- Complete the **past exam paper questions** (on teams, some will be given to you in lessons and for homework)

Useful websites

- Educake (revision quizzes)
- Physics & Maths Tutor. Great for exam questions and papers (has all the science subjects)
- freesciencelessons Great for revision videos and has sections on all the required practical's
- Malmesbury education: Has a collection of you tube videos that show the required practicals being carried out

If students feel they need any further support or guidance in *GCSE Science*, they should direct questions to their class teacher in the first instance or Dr Emery (head of department). The whole department wishes students the very best of luck in their mock and summer exams. We are incredibly grateful for support from parents/carers.