

Core Subjects: SCIENCE

Dual Science

Exam Board and Title: OCR Twenty First Century Science Suite
Lessons per week: 6 50 minutes

What is your final qualification?

Two grades at GCSE.

You get one grade for your year 10 Science GCSE and a second grade for your year 11 Science GCSE. These two grades may be different.

For all exams, there are two tiers of entry, Foundation and Higher. Foundation leads to grades G - C and Higher leads to grades D – A*. It is possible to do different tiers in different exams.

What does the course contain?

Biology, Chemistry and Physics. These will include some Biotechnology, Astronomy, Earth Science and Micro-Electronics.

How is the course arranged?

During the six lessons per week you will be taught by up to three teachers. One of these teachers will be assigned the role of your science tutor and will have an overview of your work. They will keep a check on your coursework and write your reports.

Do we all do the same work?

You will be put into groups based on your performance at High School. These groups are not fixed and we move students between groups if we think it is appropriate. Several of the groups in each population have students with the same range of SAT scores and are of equal ability.

Students will be taught the content of the higher specification until we are certain that a student cannot cope with this higher level work. This decision is taken for individual students rather than for whole sets.

What skills do we learn?

You will be given the opportunity to solve problems in a scientific way. You will work with ideas about science in familiar and unfamiliar contexts. You will analyse data and will carry out a case study of a topical scientific issue. You will carry out a practical investigation and explain your results.

How is your work assessed?

67% of the final grade is awarded from examinations. The remaining 33% is assessed using data analysis, a case study and, in year 11, a practical investigation.

How do you know what progress you are making?

Teachers will regularly share with you the data we collect in our database. This will help you to judge how well you are doing. It will also help you and teachers to set targets and to monitor your progress towards meeting them.

How do I get the most out of the course?

Keep your notes up to date and well organised to make learning easier. Complete homework on time to get practice at doing questions. Learn thoroughly for tests to make sure you understand the work as you go along. Read articles and watch TV to broaden your knowledge of up to date applications of science.

Do we need our High School work?

Yes. You will be starting Key Stage 4 science after SATS and this course continues the work you have started in your last year at High School and builds on work done for Key Stage 3.

What about Science 'A' levels?

This course covers all the work necessary for any of the Science 'A' levels. To be accepted onto an AS science course you need to achieve at least a B in Additional Science (the year 11 grade).

We believe that this course will be of benefit and interest to you all and enable you to understand better and play a part in our scientific world.

Triple Science

Some students may want to do three separate sciences. These students will need to study extra units in each of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. These extra units will be taught on alternative Saturday mornings (from 8.50am to 12.30pm).

Triple Science is suitable for able students who are well motivated and who pick ideas up easily. We anticipate that those who wish to take Triple Science will have been predicted a Science SAT level 7. It is important to understand that university courses, such as Medicine which require As or A*s would be more likely to reject students with separate science grades of AAB than those with AA from dual science.

We must stress that students will be accepted onto AS-level courses with grade B in their additional science whether they have done higher tier papers or a mixture of higher and foundation papers.