



Year 11 Achieve Excellence - Parent Support Guide *COMBINED SCIENCE (TRILOGY)*

Exam Board: AQA (course code 8464)

Assessment:

- Six terminal examination papers of 1 hour and 15 minutes each
- Comprising of two examination papers in each of Biology, Chemistry and Physics
- Each examination paper is out of 70 marks and is equally weighted at 16.67% of the final grade
- Examinations are available at two tiers of entry - Foundation and Higher tier
- Examination questions take the following forms: Multiple choice, closed, structured short answer, and open response (longer answer)
- Questions covering the 21 'Required Practicals' - at least 15% of the overall marks available:
 - To examine the key scientific concepts (knowledge and understanding)
 - To examine investigative skills - hypotheses, variables, handling data etc
 - To examine mastery of practical skills - use of specialist equipment, hazards/risk etc
- Questions testing mathematical skills in Science - this is 20% of the assessment in total (10% in Biology papers, 20% in Chemistry papers and 30% in Physics papers) and covers arithmetic and numerical computation, handling data and graphical skills
- The exams will measure how students have achieved the following Assessment Objectives:

Assessment Objective		Weighting
AO1	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of: scientific ideas; scientific techniques and procedures.	40%
AO2	Apply knowledge and understanding of: scientific ideas; scientific enquiry, techniques and procedures.	40%
AO3	Analyse information and ideas to: interpret and evaluate; make judgments and draw conclusions; develop and improve experimental procedures.	20%

There is no coursework in Combined Science.

Course Overview:

In Year 11 the priorities for the course are as follows:

- Completion of course content (teaching of Paper 2 material)
- Completion of Paper 1 (November) and Paper 2 (February) mock exams
- Reteaching of the 'Required Practicals'
- Practising 'Working Scientifically' skills for Science
- Practising mathematical skills for Science
- Revision of Paper 1 and Paper 2 material and exam practice until the final examinations.

Key content/ skills covered:

Biology Topics <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Cell biology2. Organisation3. Infection and response4. Bioenergetics5. Homeostasis and response6. Inheritance, variation and evolution7. Ecology	Chemistry Topics <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Atomic structure and the periodic table2. Bonding, structure and the properties of matter3. Quantitative chemistry4. Chemical changes5. Energy changes6. The rate and extent of chemical change7. Organic chemistry8. Chemical analysis9. Chemistry of the atmosphere10. Using resources	Physics Topics <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Energy2. Electricity3. Particle model of matter4. Atomic structure5. Forces6. Waves7. Magnetism and electromagnetism
Working Scientifically Skills <p>Working scientifically is the sum of all the activities that Scientists do. It is so important that it is woven throughout the specification and the written papers. This includes: investigating, observing, experimenting or testing out ideas/hypotheses, thinking about them and evaluating them.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Development of scientific thinking• Experimental skills, strategies, analysis and evaluation• Use/application of scientific vocabulary, quantities, units, symbols and nomenclature• Mathematical skills: Arithmetic and numerical computation, handling data and graphical skills.		

Dates of key assessments and deadlines:

03/11/25 - 13/11/25 - Year 11 Mock Examinations 1 (Paper 1 content)

23/02/26 - 27/02/26 - Year 11 Mock Examinations 2 (Paper 2 content)

FINAL EXAM TIMETABLE FOR COMBINED SCIENCE

SUMMER 2026			
Biology Paper 1	Tuesday 12th May 2026	Afternoon	Topics 1-4
Chemistry Paper 1	Monday 18th May 2026	Morning	Topics 1-5
HALF TERM			
Physics Paper 1	Tuesday 2nd June 2026	Morning	Topics 1-4
Biology Paper 2	Monday 8th June 2026	Morning	Topics 5-7
Chemistry Paper 2	Friday 12th June 2026	Morning	Topics 6-10
Physics Paper 2	Monday 15th June 2026	Morning	Topics 5-7

Links to past papers and revision guides:

- Suggested Revision Guides can be found [here](#)
- Past papers can be found [here](#)

Links to revision sites/resources:

- [Padlet 1](#) (Paper 1 Resources) [Padlet 2](#) (Paper 2 Resources) [BBC Bitesize](#)

Point(s) of contact:

- If there are any questions, please contact your child's Science teacher in the first instance.
- Mrs Castle, Faculty Director (dcastle@kingswinford.windsoracademytrust.org.uk)