

Intervention – GCSE Science

Science offers the following GCSEs:

- Core
- Additional
- Applied
- Triple

All students follow the Core Science course, with the Additional Science course also being taken by the majority of students. Some students follow the Applied Science course in addition to their Core Science. This means that all students should expect to receive two GCSE grades – one for each Science course being followed – they are separate courses and it is possible to get different grades.

So far, students have studied for, and been assessed in, two module examinations for GCSE Core Science. These took place in January and June 2009. Each examination was worth 16.7% of the final GCSE Core Science grade.

Students studying Additional or Applied Science have been assessed externally in one module examination, worth 16.7% of the final grade.

The assessment of the Science courses is as follows:

Core Science:

Examination - Unit 3 – 20th January 2010 (16.7%) Topics B3, C3, P3

Coursework Internal assessment – Case Study and Data Analysis – January-April 2010 (33.3%)

Examination - Ideas in Context – 9th June 2010 (16.7%)

Additional Science:

Examinations - Unit 5 – 27th January 2010 (16.7%); Unit 6 – 22nd June 2010 (16.7%)

Internal assessment – Investigation (33.3%)

Examination - Ideas in Context – 9th June 2010 (16.7%)

Applied Science:

Examinations – January and June 2010 (16.7% each)

Submission of Work-related Portfolio (50%) in May 2010

Triple Science:

Examinations - Biology topics B1 to B7 June 2010 (33.3% final mark)

Chemistry topics C1 to C7 May 2010 (33.3% final mark)

Physics topics P1 to P7 June 2010 (33.3% final mark)

Coursework – Biology, Chemistry and Physics (33.3% final mark for each strand)

Each student in Year 11 has been given an individual profile detailing their performance in the Core Science and Additional or Applied Science module examinations so far. It will also give the student a raw total and grade for the Core GCSE. This profile also indicates to the student what they will need to do in Year 11 to improve their Core Science GCSE.

Revision sessions – look out for posters advertising sessions for revising in preparation for the January module examinations. Two sessions will be offered for each module.

Trial examinations – These are taken during the first two weeks of December. The examinations are formally marked by the subject teacher, providing feedback on areas of concern and indicating strategies for improvement.

Summary

- All students should be aware of the examinations taken and how this affects their overall attainment.
- All students should know the total they have for the GCSE courses followed.
- All students must know their target grade.
- All students must know what grade they are currently working at.
- All students must know what examinations to potentially retake to enhance their overall attainment in that GCSE.

Revision guides are on offer – please ask your subject teacher for details.

Past paper materials produced by the exam board are available on the website www.twentyfirstcenturyscience.org

Intervention:

Students at risk of not achieving a C grade in either Core or Additional/Applied Science (when they are capable of doing so) will take part in 'Intervention group work' led by a Science teacher. This intervention may take the form of in class support or working one-to-one with a Science teacher during their normal lesson time.

Questions about specific areas of the course can be addressed to:

Mr Browne, Faculty Team Leader for Science
Mr Cossutta, Key Stage 4 Co-ordinator
Mr Dale, SLT line manager for Science Faculty

ibrowne@chaileyschool.org
scossutta@chaileyschool.org
jdale@chaileyschool.org