



8 March 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian

Year 9 Science Assessments – May 2024

We are writing to inform you that we will be assessing all Year 9 students on all the work that they have studied this academic year during the week commencing **6 May 2024** (the year 9 assessment window).

Subject	Date of assessment	Time of assessment for M students	Time of assessment for E students
Biology	Tuesday 7 May	Lesson 3	Lesson 2
Chemistry	Wednesday 8 May	Lesson 3	Lesson 4
Physics	Friday 10 May	Lesson 1	Lesson 5

Assessments will be 45 minutes + 12 minutes extra time. Students will need a pen, pencil, ruler and calculator for all assessments. If students have a word processor and computer reader concession, they will need their laptop and headphones.

We will use the results of these examinations to help us update our groupings of the students and ensure the groups are balanced as they continue with their GCSEs.

We would like as many students as possible to attain high grades in science (7 or better). Since the Combined Science GCSE course is both rigorous and challenging in terms of its breadth and depth, we feel that the vast majority of students would have a better chance of attaining these high grades by following the Combined Science course, than by following the Single (triple) Science GCSE courses.

As the vast majority of students will be following the Combined Science course this course will be the expected route for our A level scientists.

Having reviewed the latest GCSE guidance and papers to date, we will offer **two** Single Science groups. This will equate to a maximum of 27 in each class, on each side of the year.

The final decision on offering these places will be based on the results of the 3 papers sat by students during this week. Results will be rank ordered, and places will be



offered to the highest achieving 27 students on each year half where they have achieved a minimum of a 5L. Where a student chooses not to take up this offer, the place will be offered to the next student on the list.

Revision information

Please encourage your child to prepare fully for these Science assessments in good time. We recommend that students revise in an active manner. They should avoid copying information from notes and textbooks and instead revise in a way where they are having to think, recall and apply their knowledge. Making revision resources, mind maps, flash cards or explaining concepts to others are examples of active revision.

The students will sit 3 exams (approximately 42 marks each), one in Biology, one in Chemistry and one in Physics, they will be assessed on the following topics:

Biology: Cell structure, Cell Transport, Cell Division, Animal Organisation, Plant Organisation.

Chemistry: Organic Chemistry, Chemistry of the Atmosphere, Using resources

Physics: Simple Electrical Circuits, Atoms and Materials, Forces

Your child's Science teacher will have made the Personalised Learning Checklists (PLCs) for these examinations available through Google Classroom but you can also access them and the PLCs for each topic in the GCSE Sciences Google drive using this link:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/10z5lpDIEmZtaJu3WsxLDx65hDO7ZB2AG?usp=sharing>

You can also access this link through the Year 9 Pastoral Google classroom where a PowerPoint with more revision links and information is available for students.

Revision Resources	Web links
Kerboodle- for an electronic copy of the textbooks which include knowledge-based questions and practice examination style questions at the end of each chapter (look out for the summary and practice questions at the end of each chapter, mark schemes for the practice questions can be accessed via the drive)	www.kerboodle.com .
GCSE Science Google Drive for PLCs, Kerboodle textbook summary and practice answers, practice papers and mark schemes	https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/10z5lpDIEmZtaJu3WsxLDx65hDO7ZB2AG?usp=sharing



Revision guide recommendation for CGP AQA Combined Science Trilogy HIGHER	https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/secondary-books/gcse/science/combined-science/sahr46-new-gcse-combined-science-aqa-revision-guid
Revision guide recommendation for CGP AQA Combined Science Trilogy FOUNDATION	https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/secondary-books/gcse/science/combined-science/safr46-new-gcse-combined-science-aqa-revision-guid
AQA Website- for the specification, practice papers and mark schemes for AQA combined science trilogy	https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/combined-science-trilogy-8464/assessment-resources?f.Sub-category%7CF=Sample+papers+and+mark+schemes
Focus e-learning- for interactive revision of the required practicals	https://www.focuselearning.co.uk/u/2174/ulggiagCrvurdFchAaewvhkDigFfyiCmu
GCSE Bitesize- for revision information, animations, videos and quizzes	https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/z8r997h
Seneca Learning- for revision resources including quizzes	https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/
Cognito videos- concise revision videos	https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCaGEe4KXZrjou9kQx6ezG2w
GCSE free science lessons videos- concise revision videos	https://www.youtube.com/@Freesciencelessons
The Maiden Erlegh Science Website for information, advice and PLCs	https://sites.google.com/maidenerleghschools.co.uk/maidenerleghtrust/home

Thank you for your support in the preparation of your child for their science assessments. Should you have any queries relating to this letter, please contact us via mesoffice@maidenerleghtrust.org.

Yours sincerely



Miss J Speight
KS4 Science Curriculum Leader

