



Dear Parents/Guardians

27 March 2026

Year 9 Science Assessments – May 2026

I am writing to inform you that we will be assessing all Year 9 students on the work that they have studied this academic year. The assessments will take place on the dates listed below.

Subject	Date of Assessment	Time of assessment for M students	Time of assessment for E students
Biology	Tuesday 12 May	Period 3	Period 2
Chemistry	Wednesday 13 May	Period 3	Period 4
Physics	Tuesday 19 May	Period 3	Period 2

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 in year 10 and 11.

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, a vast majority of students will have a better chance of attaining these high grades by continuing to follow the Combined Science course.

As the vast majority of students will be following the Combined Science course this course is 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 28 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 28 students on each year half where they have achieved the minimum standard necessary. Where a student chooses not to take up this offer, the place will be offered to the next student on the waiting list.



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) in biology, chemistry and physics. The topics that will be assessed are below.

<p>Biology: Cell structure, Cell Transport, Cell Division, Animal Organisation, Plant Organisation.</p> <p>Chemistry: Organic Chemistry, Chemistry of the Atmosphere, Using resources, Rates of reaction</p> <p>Physics: Simple Electrical Circuits, Atoms and Materials, Forces</p>

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)	http://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/ulggjagCrvurdFchAewvhkDigFfyiCmu
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
Physics and maths tutor – Provides topic based exam questions and mark schemes	https://www.physicsandmathstutor.com/

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 me via mesoffice@maidenerleghtrust.org.

Yours Sincerely



Mr R Tait
Head of Science

