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Dear Parent/Carer

As you will now know, the mock examinations have been moved back to January/February 2025. We know that many pupils have asked about revision materials and how best to prepare both for the mock examinations and the final GCSE assessments next year.

In science we study the AQA [GCSE Combined Science: Trilogy \(8464\)](#) and AQA [GCSE Biology \(8461\)](#), [GCSE Chemistry \(8462\)](#) and [GCSE Physics \(8463\)](#).

Research shows that some of the best revision involves trying past paper questions and then self-marking these activities. We would always recommend a 'three to one' model. For example, imagine that your daughter or son had 60 minutes planned for some revision. Spend 15 minutes watching films and reading about the topic and then 45 minutes answering questions or completing activities on a topic and then marking these themselves.

This process can seem really overwhelming as to where and how to get started. The CGP 'Complete Revision and Practice' guides provide a great source of questions, (alongside accompanying revision notes), on a topic by topic basis. They can be purchased through our school **ParentPay** service.

For the mock examinations in January/February 2025 we will provide revision topic lists in due course.

The following links take you to the various packs of resources:

[AQA GCSE Combined Science \(Foundation\)](#) ISBN: 9781782945604

[AQA GCSE Combined Science \(Higher\)](#) ISBN: 9781782945598

[AQA GCSE Biology \(both tiers\)](#) ISBN: 9781782945833

[AQA GCSE Chemistry \(both tiers\)](#) ISBN: 9781782945840

[AQA GCSE Physics \(both tiers\)](#) ISBN: 9781782945857

This table indicates the course and tier of entry for each set in year 11:

Set	GCSE Course Studied	Revision Guide to Buy
1	Separate Sciences: GCSE Biology, GCSE Chemistry and GCSE Physics	<a href="#">AQA GCSE Biology (both tiers)</a> ISBN: 9781782945833 <a href="#">AQA GCSE Chemistry (both tiers)</a> ISBN:9781782945840 <a href="#">AQA GCSE Physics (both tiers)</a> ISBN: 9781782945857
2	GCSE Combined Science (Trilogy)-Higher Tier	<a href="#">AQA GCSE Combined Science (Higher)</a> ISBN: 9781782945598
3	GCSE Combined Science (Trilogy)-Foundation Tier	<a href="#">AQA GCSE Combined Science (Foundation)</a> ISBN: 9781782945604
4		
5		
6		

We would like to share with you some of the best quality and most accessible science revision resources that are available at the moment: your daughter or son will be aware of these opportunities, some of which are often used in lessons.

[Maths & Physics Tutor](#) is an excellent website with many resources for the various topics and past paper questions, with mark schemes for both Combined and Separate Sciences, again select our examination board, AQA.

[Carousel Learning](#) encourages pupils to learn flashcards on one evening and then complete questions the following day wherever possible. This spaced retrieval is proven to be the most effective way to build long term memory.

[SENECA learning](#) is another great source of questions and answers (the free version is more than adequate) - again arranged by topic. You just need to select our examination board which is AQA.

[Malmesbury Science](#) provides a series of short films which are an excellent review of the various 'Required Practical' activities pupils have undertaken. Knowledge of these practical activities will be tested during the GCSE examinations. Online videos are a great way to revise these practical activities.

[Freesciencelessons](#) Videos provides a series of films that review all aspects of the GCSE Separate and Combined Science courses.

## AQA Past Papers

As said, attempting past papers and marking is a very effective way to revise. The process of using the mark schemes to review their work, helps give an insight into what the examiners will be looking for. Below are the links to where the AQA past papers can be found online:

### **GCSE Separate Sciences: set 1**

[AQA | Biology | GCSE](#)

[GCSE Chemistry 8462](#)

[GCSE Physics 8463](#)

### **Combined Science (Trilogy): sets 2 to 6**

[AQA | Science | GCSE](#)

### Changes to AQA Science Examinations in Summer 2025

As you may be aware from the Media, the Department for Education (DfE) recently announced that as in 2024, pupils will be provided with all physics equations on a formula sheet alongside their examination papers. They will not be required to memorise these equations, however becoming familiar with their usage will help to further build confidence.

This is the list of topics for the actual GCSE examinations in 2025 and shows what is included on each paper for the Separate and Combined Science courses:

#### Combined Science (each paper is 1 hour 15 minutes)

##### **Biology Paper 1**

Biology topics 1–4: Cell Biology; Organisation; Infection and response; and Bioenergetics.

##### **Biology Paper 2**

Biology topics 5–7: Homeostasis and response; Inheritance, variation and evolution; and Ecology.

##### **Chemistry Paper 1**

Chemistry topics 8–12: Atomic structure and the periodic table; Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter; Quantitative chemistry; Chemical changes; and Energy changes.

##### **Chemistry Paper 2**

Chemistry topics 13–17: The rate and extent of chemical change; Organic chemistry; Chemical analysis; Chemistry of the atmosphere; and Using resources.

### **Physics Paper 1**

Physics topics 18–21: Energy; Electricity; Particle model of matter; and Atomic structure.

### **Physics Paper 2**

Physics topics 22–24: Forces; Waves; and Magnetism and electromagnetism.

### **Separate Sciences (each paper is 1 hour 45 minutes)**

### **Biology Paper 1**

Biology topics 1–4: Cell Biology; Organisation; Infection and response; and Bioenergetics.

### **Biology Paper 2**

Biology topics 5–7: Homeostasis and response; Inheritance, variation and evolution; and Ecology.

### **Chemistry Paper 1**

Chemistry topics 1–5: Atomic structure and the periodic table; Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter; Quantitative chemistry; Chemical changes; and Energy changes.

### **Chemistry Paper 2**

Chemistry topics 6–12: The rate and extent of chemical change; Organic chemistry; Chemical analysis; Chemistry of the atmosphere; and Using resources.

### **Physics Paper 1**

Physics topics 1–4: Energy; Electricity; Particle model of matter; and Atomic structure.

### **Physics Paper 2**

Topics 5-8: Forces; Waves; Magnetism and electromagnetism; and Space physics.

We hope that you find this information useful and should you have any other questions please do not hesitate to get into contact with us.

Yours faithfully

Simon Varley

Deputy Headteacher