

# **KS4 Core Course Booklet 2010**



**BEBINGTON HIGH  
SPORTS COLLEGE**

**Information for Year 9 Students**

# Your Core Courses

Dear student/ parent(s)

Over the next two years you will have a curriculum where you have some choices about your courses. You will still have to do many of the subjects you study now:

English

Maths

Science

PE

ICT

CPR/ PSCHE

This booklet gives you some information about the courses you will follow as the compulsory part of your curriculum. Several courses are shown for Science and arrangements for the exact course students will follow is organised within the department.

In PE, most students have already completed a GCSE. In ICT students are following part of the DIDA course as shown in the option booklet. Students interested in ICT should consider using an option for ICT in addition to the short time they now get as this will enable them to complete more of the units and significantly improve their chances of gaining high grades.

Andrew Askew

Deputy Headteacher

# Qualification Types

Each of the courses is described with a qualification type, these types are explained below:

## **GCSE**

These courses have 8 pass grades from A\* through to G. All of these courses have some element of examination at the end of them.

## **BTEC Introductory Certificate**

These courses have no examinations and are completed through project work only. These courses count for 2 GCSEs with a range of grades equivalent to D to G.

## **BTEC First Certificate**

These courses have no examinations and are completed through project work only. These courses count for 2 GCSEs with a range of grades equivalent to A\* to C.

Where possible we will help students achieve results at grade C and above, and for some students this means that they will be guided towards BTEC First courses as we are able to more readily monitor their progress and ensure they pass than with GCSE courses.

Some students will not currently be at the stage where they are likely to attain grades C and above, and for these students we run the BTEC Introductory courses to provide courses well matched to their ability.

# CPR

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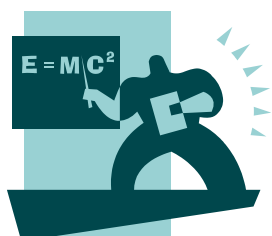
**Qualification:** GCSE B (ShortCourse)  
**Exam Board:** WJEC  
**QAN:** 500/4586/6

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## Why do this course?

- The external exam enables students to develop skills required for other literacy based examinations.
- Pupils gain a knowledge and understanding of the world today.
- The subject gives pupils the opportunity to think about philosophical, moral and ethical issues and helps develop the individual.
- **Studying GCSE RE may help to lead to some of the following progression routes:**
- AS/A2 Examinations; Higher Education/College/University; Possible careers: Teaching, Journalism, Human Resources and working with people



## What will I learn?

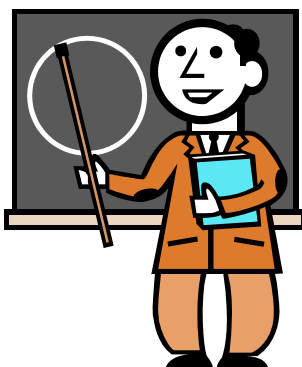
- Religion and Conflict : issues of war and peace
- Religion and Medicine: issues of medical ethics : organ donation and genetic engineering
- Religious Expression : studying buildings and holy books of worship

- Religion and the State : issues of crime and punishment : how do we deal with criminals?
- Religion and suffering : studying why people suffer and good / evil forces



## How and when will I be assessed?

- *GCSE External Examination in summer of year 10 – a further course is then studied in year 11.*
- *The exam is 1 hour 50 minutes.*
- *Pupils will complete five questions, one on each of the themes.*
- Pupils will complete five practice assessments in class, at the end of each unit of work.
- July :Test on Religion and conflict
- October :Test on Religion and Medicine
- January :Test on Religious Expression
- March :Mock exam
- April :Test on Religion and the State
- May :Test on Religion and Suffering
- June :Final External GCSE RE Exam
- Both types of assessment aim to prepare pupils for their final external examination.



**Who should I speak to about this course?**

**Mrs Barnes Head of CPR  
Mrs Rickers CPR Teacher**

# English Language

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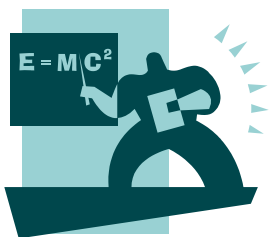
**Qualification:** GCSE  
**Exam Board:** AQA  
**QAN:** 3702

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## Why do this course?

English at GCSE is specifically designed to build upon the skills already acquired during Key Stage 3. This one year course will allow you to look at language in the 'real world' – looking at how language is working in a variety of contexts, for differing audiences and purposes. Gaining a qualification in English is also an important factor, whether you are going on to further education or are making a career choice, as it indicates a good level of communication skills in reading, writing and speaking and listening.



## What will I learn?

During the one year course, you will study a range of texts including a selection of poetry from other cultures and traditions; a selection of media texts; a Shakespeare play and a selection of short stories. In addition, you will learn the writing and speaking & listening skills appropriate for a variety of contexts, audiences and purposes.



## How and when will I be assessed?

Coursework – 40%

### Areas of Study Include:

- Media
- Shakespeare
- Pre-1914 Prose
- Original Writing

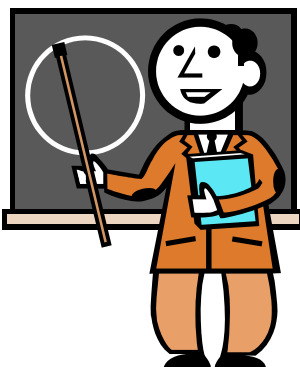
Two Examinations (November 2010 or June 2011) - 60%

### Areas of Study Include:

- Writing to Argue, Persuade and Advise
- Writing to Inform, Explain and Describe
- Analyse Media Texts
- Analyse Poetry from Other Cultures and Traditions

There are two tiers of entry – Foundation and Higher

- Foundation Tier – Grades U-C
- Higher Tier – Grades D-A\*



**Who should I speak to about this course?**

**Miss Maloszyc, Mr Rickers**

# English Literature

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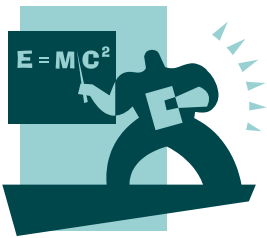
**Qualification:** GCSE  
**Exam Board:** AQA  
**QAN:** 3712

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## Why do this course?

This course will enable you to read and engage with a variety of interesting and entertaining texts including poetry, drama (plays) and prose (short stories and novels). By studying a variety of texts, you will gain a knowledge and understanding of social, cultural and historical contexts of the world around you. Studying Literature at GCSE may also lead to further qualifications such as AS/A Levels; university courses; career choices such as teaching.



## What will I learn?

Over the one year course, you will be required to study how language, form and structure contribute to a text's meaning. In addition, you will also explore how social, cultural and historical contexts relate to a text. In your responses, you will investigate how the use of language creates particular effects and how readers respond to a variety of texts.



## How and when will I be assessed?

### Coursework – 30%

#### Areas of Study Include:

- Shakespeare
- Pre 1914 Prose
- Post 1914 Drama

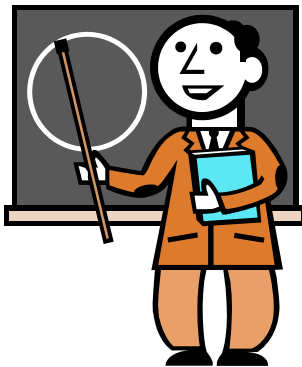
### Examination (Summer 2011) – 70%

#### Areas of Study Include:

- Post 1914 Novel
- Poetry from the AQA Anthology

There are two tiers of entry: Foundation and Higher

- Foundation Tier – Grades U-C
- Higher Tier – Grades D-A\*



**Who should I speak to about this course?**

**Miss Maloszyc, Mr Rickers**

# Mathematics

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**Qualification:** GCSE  
**Exam Board:** OCR  
**QAN:** J512

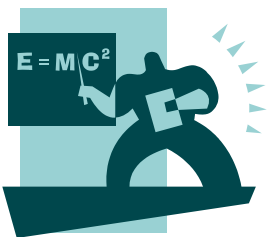
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## Why do this course?

Mathematics is a core subject, which means that it is compulsory for every student. It must, however, be emphasised that it is also regarded as being extremely important by Further Education establishments and employers.

This course will not only further improve your basic mathematics skills and knowledge, but it will also give you the confidence to use them to tackle problems in the work place and everyday life.



## What will I learn?

At present, you are following a course that has been designed with your ability in mind; this continues in the GCSE. The course is divided into two levels, Foundation and Higher, both of which have varying degrees of difficulty. These levels will involve work in the following areas:

- Using and Applying Mathematics
- Number and Algebra
- Shape, Space and Measure
- Handling Data

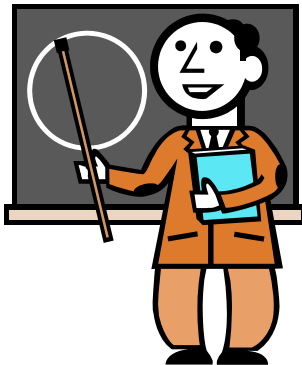


## How and when will I be assessed?

The GCSE course is assessed through two final examination papers for each of the tiers, Higher and Foundation. All papers are two hours in duration and only the second paper, in each level, allows the use of a calculator.

Each pupil's progress will be monitored and they will, if necessary, be given multiple opportunities to take the examination. Students are entered for their examination as and when appropriate and as such may be at any of these times:

January	-	Year 10
June	-	Year 10
January	-	Year 11
June	-	Year 11



## Who should I speak to about this course?

**Mr Garland (Mathematics Coordinator)**

# Science A (Core)

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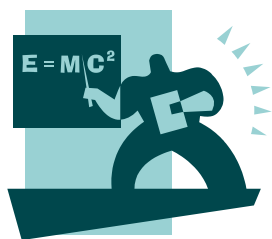
**Qualification:** GCSE  
**Exam Board:** AQA  
**QAN:** 100/5554/X

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## Why do this course?

People ask "What's the point in studying Science?" Being a compulsory subject, someone must think it's important! Well, it can help you to question and explain the world around you and develop skills, both practical and academic. It can also broaden your range of options for the future. Employers look to see how well you did in Science because it shows that you have lots of different skills, all of which will be developed during this course. These skills are ones that will be needed after you leave school to interpret the world around you and make life decisions. If you plan on following a science based career then a grade C would be a minimum, for A levels this minimum rises to a grade B.



## What will I learn?

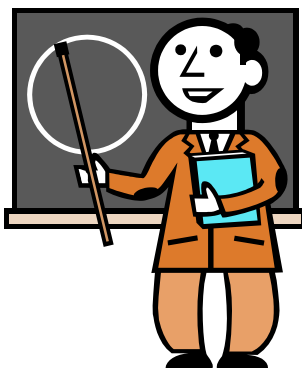
The course is split up into 6 modules, 2 Biology; Human Biology, Evolution & Environment, 2 Chemistry; Products from rocks, Oils, Earth & atmosphere and 2 Physics; Energy & Electricity, Waves & Radiation. These topics take ideas, knowledge

and skills from previous years and builds on them. During the course there will be opportunities to do group work, work on your own, undertake practical work and produce posters, leaflets or PowerPoint presentations. There will be plenty of opportunities to revise with past papers, online tests and revision programmes as well as tutorials after school.



### **How and when will I be assessed?**

Each module is assessed via a written examination. These tests are set by AQA and sent away to be marked. Grades of A\* to D will be available if the Higher Tier is answered and Grade C to G if the Foundation Tier is answered. Each test is worth 25% of the final grade. There is a possibility to retake tests if absent or if the grade is well below the target only once. There is also a coursework assessed unit (ISA) worth 25% of the final grade. This involves showing practical skills and applying 'How Science Works' ideas in a 45min written examination. This is set by the examination board but marked by the class teacher. All this is assessed in normal teaching time by the class teacher (unless absent in which case it may be done after school with a teacher). You may do more than one ISA and the best score counts towards the final grade.



### **Who should I speak to about this course?**

**Mr E Foster (Science coordinator)**

# Science Additional

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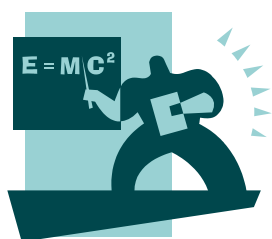
**Qualification:** GCSE  
**Exam Board:** AQA  
**QAN:** 100/5552/6

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## Why do this course?

People ask "What's the point in studying Science?" Being a compulsory subject, someone must think it's important! Well, it can help you to question and explain the world around you and develop skills, both practical and academic. It can also broaden your range of options for the future. Employers look to see how well you did in Science because it shows that you have lots of different skills, all of which will be developed during this course. These skills are ones that will be needed after you leave school to interpret the world around you and make life decisions. If you plan on following a science based career then a grade C would be a minimum, for A levels this minimum rises to a grade B. The path from 'Core Science' onwards is decided internally within the department and would include pupil input. It could include the separate Sciences or BTEC Applied Science.



## What will I learn?

The course is split up into 3 modules, Biology; Cells, How plants make food,

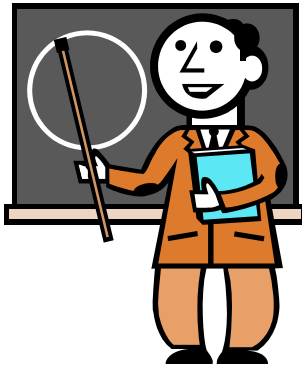
Energy flows, Enzymes, Homeostasis and Inheritance, Chemistry; Structures & bonding, Structures & properties, How much? (in chemical reactions), Rates of Reaction, Energy & reactions, Electrolysis and Acids, alkalis & salts and Physics; Motion, Speeding up & slowing down, Work, energy & momentum, Static electricity, Current electricity, Mains electricity and Nuclear physics. These topics take ideas, knowledge and skills from previous years and builds on them. During the course there will be opportunities to do group work, work on your own, undertake practical work and produce posters, leaflets or PowerPoint presentations. There will be plenty of opportunities to revise with past papers, online tests and revision programmes as well as tutorials after school.



### **How and when will I be assessed?**

Each module is assessed via a 45 written examination in January or June. The test will be taken to the nearest opportunity after the module is completed. These tests are set by AQA and sent away to be marked. Grades of A\* to D will be available if the Higher Tier is answered and Grade C to G if the Foundation Tier is answered. Each test is worth 25% of the final grade. There is a possibility to retake tests if absent or if the grade is well below the target, however, it is always better to achieve the best score first time around so you can then concentrate on fewer tests. There is also a coursework assessed unit (ISA) worth 25% of the final grade, the same ideas as with the Core Science but with different areas. This involves showing practical skills and applying 'How Science Works' ideas

in a 45min written examination. This is set by the examination board but marked by the class teacher. All this is assessed in normal teaching time by the class teacher (unless absent in which case it may be done after school with a teacher). You may do more than one ISA and the best score counts towards the final grade.



**Who should I speak to about this course?**

**Mr E Foster (Science coordinator)**

# Applied Science

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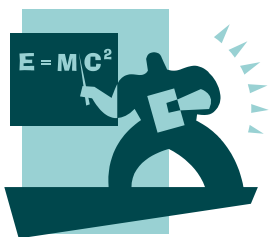
<b>Qualification:</b>	<b>BTEC Certificate/Extended Certificate</b>
<b>Exam Board:</b>	<b>Edexcel</b>
<b>QAN:</b>	<b>100/5558/7</b>

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## Why do this course?

People ask "What's the point in studying Science?" Being a compulsory subject, someone must think it's important! Well, it can help you to question and explain the world around you and develop skills, both practical and academic. It can also broaden your range of options for the future. Employers look to see how well you did in Science because it shows that you have lots of different skills, all of which will be developed during this course. These skills are ones that will be needed after you leave school to interpret the world around you and make life decisions.



## What will I learn?

On this course you will take on the role of being employed in the Science industry and will study 6 units; Chemistry Applications, Physical Science Applications and Biological Systems and 2 or 3 extended units.

Each unit focuses on Science in industry and the practical vocational skills required in the workplace.

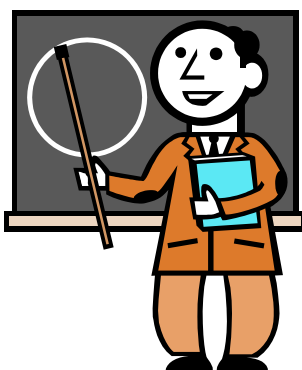
Chemistry applications; you will develop skills in handling laboratory apparatus, safe working procedures, risk

analysis, communication and recording and analysing data through carrying Physical Science Applications; you will develop skills in handling electrical equipment safely and knowledge of industrial processes such as the production and application of electricity, or the use of waves and radiation to identify defects in manufactured components. Biological systems; through practical work and assignments you will develop the biological skills and knowledge that are essential for technicians working in biology, health care, agriculture, beauty therapy and other biology-related industries.



### **How and when will I be assessed?**

Each unit consists of a number of assignments. Each assignment is internally assessed once it is completed. Successful completion of the level 2 extended certificate at Pass level is the equivalent to two Science GCSEs , while the basic certificate in Applied Science is worth one GCSE grade. As this course is completely internally assessed there are no written examinations, but each assignment must be completed and submitted on time.



### **Who should I speak to about this course?**

**Mr E Foster**

# Biology

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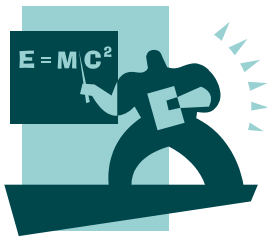
**Qualification:** GCSE  
**Exam Board:** AQA  
**QAN:** 100/5556/3

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## Why do this course?

People ask "What's the point in studying Science?" Being a compulsory subject, someone must think it's important! Well, it can help you to question and explain the world around you and develop skills, both practical and academic. It can also broaden your range of options for the future. Employers look to see how well you did in Science because it shows that you have lots of different skills, all of which will be developed during this course. These skills are ones that will be needed after you leave school to interpret the world around you and make life decisions. This course is for those planning on following a science based career and plan to do A level science related courses, a minimum grade B would be needed to do this. This course includes all the material in Core and Additional Science but would require some extra option time in year 11 to cover the further biology material that is exclusively biology. This option would be on an invitation basis only and you would also have to take chemistry and physics as well.



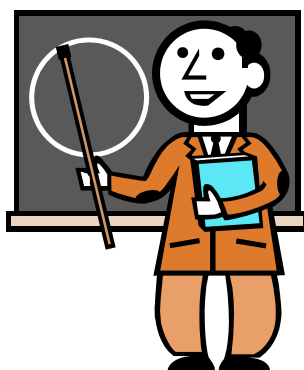
## What will I learn?

The course is split up into 3. The Core Biology modules (B1); Human Biology, Evolution & Environment, and additional modules (B2), Biology; Cells, How plants make food, Energy flows, Enzymes, Homeostasis and Inheritance. This would be covered possibly with others not following Biology as it is common material. In year 11 an option block would be needed to cover the B3 topics; Exchange of materials, Transporting substances around the body and Microbiology. These topics take ideas, knowledge and skills from previous years and builds on them. During the course there will be opportunities to do group work, work on your own, undertake practical work and produce posters, leaflets or PowerPoint presentations. There will be plenty of opportunities to revise with past papers, online tests and revision programmes as well as tutorials after school.



## **How and when will I be assessed?**

Each module is assessed via a 45 minute written examination in January or June. The test will be taken to the nearest opportunity after the module is completed. These tests are set by AQA and sent away to be marked. Grades of A\* to D will be available if the Higher Tier is answered and Grade C to G if the Foundation Tier is answered. Each test is worth 25% of the final grade. There is a possibility to retake tests if absent or if the grade is well below the target, however, it is always better to achieve the best score first time around so you can then concentrate on fewer tests. There is also a coursework assessed unit (ISA) worth 25% of the final grade. This involves showing practical skills and applying 'How Science Works' ideas in a 45min written examination. This is set by the examination board but marked by the class teacher. All this is assessed in normal teaching time by the class teacher (unless absent in which case it may be done after school with a teacher). You may do more than one ISA and the best score counts towards the final grade. Another ISA would be needed for Physics and another for Chemistry but all assessed on the same set of skills.



**Who should I speak to about this course?**

**Mr E Foster (Science coordinator)**

# Chemistry

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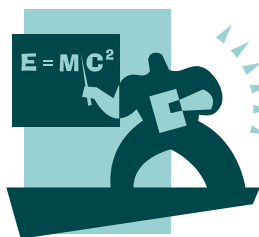
**Qualification:** GCSE  
**Exam Board:** AQA  
**QAN:** 100/5557/5

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## Why do this course?

People ask "What's the point in studying Science?" Being a compulsory subject, someone must think it's important! Well, it can help you to question and explain the world around you and develop skills, both practical and academic. It can also broaden your range of options for the future. Employers look to see how well you did in Science because it shows that you have lots of different skills, all of which will be developed during this course. These skills are ones that will be needed after you leave school to interpret the world around you and make life decisions. This course is for those planning on following a science based career and plan to do A level science related courses, a minimum grade B would be needed to do this. This course includes all the material in Core and Additional Science but would require some extra option time in year 11 to cover the further chemistry material that is exclusively chemistry. This option would be on an invitation basis only and you would also have to take biology and physics.



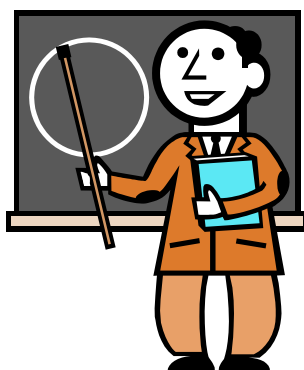
## What will I learn?

The course is split up into 3. The Core Chemistry (C1); Products from rocks, Oils, Earth & atmosphere, and additional modules Chemistry (C2); Structures & bonding, Structures & properties, How much? (in chemical reactions), Rates of Reaction, Energy & reactions, Electrolysis and Acids, alkalis & salts. This would be covered possibly with others not following chemistry as it is common material. In year 11 an option block would be needed to cover the C3 topics; Development of the periodic table, More about acids & bases, Water, Energy calculations and Chemical analysis. These topics take ideas, knowledge and skills from previous years and builds on them. During the course there will be opportunities to do group work, work on your own, undertake practical work and produce posters, leaflets or PowerPoint presentations. There will be plenty of opportunities to revise with past papers, online tests and revision programmes as well as tutorials after school.



## **How and when will I be assessed?**

Each module is assessed via a 45 minute written examination in January or June. The test will be taken to the nearest opportunity after the module is completed. These tests are set by AQA and sent away to be marked. Grades of A\* to D will be available if the Higher Tier is answered and Grade C to G if the Foundation Tier is answered. Each test is worth 25% of the final grade. There is a possibility to retake tests if absent or if the grade is well below the target, however, it is always better to achieve the best score first time around so you can then concentrate on fewer tests. There is also a coursework assessed unit (ISA) worth 25% of the final grade. This involves showing practical skills and applying 'How Science Works' ideas in a 45min written examination. This is set by the examination board but marked by the class teacher. All this is assessed in normal teaching time by the class teacher (unless absent in which case it may be done after school with a teacher). You may do more than one ISA and the best score counts towards the final grade. Another ISA would be needed for Physics and another for Biology but all assessed on the same set of skills.



**Who should I speak to about this course?**

**Mr E Foster (Science coordinator)**

# Physics

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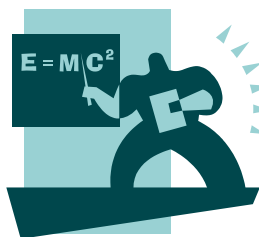
**Qualification:** GCSE  
**Exam Board:** AQA  
**QAN:** 100/5555/1

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## Why do this course?

People ask "What's the point in studying Science?" Being a compulsory subject, someone must think it's important! Well, it can help you to question and explain the world around you and develop skills, both practical and academic. It can also broaden your range of options for the future. Employers look to see how well you did in Science because it shows that you have lots of different skills, all of which will be developed during this course. These skills are ones that will be needed after you leave school to interpret the world around you and make life decisions. This course is for those planning on following a science based career and plan to do A level science related courses, a minimum grade B would be needed to do this. This course includes all the material in Core and Additional Science but would require some extra option time in year 11 to cover the further physics material that is exclusively physics. This option would be on an invitation basis only and you would also have to take biology and chemistry.



## What will I learn?

The course is split up into 3. The Core Physics (P1); Energy & Electricity, Waves & Radiation, and additional modules Physics (P2); Motion, Speeding up & slowing down, Work, energy & momentum, Static electricity, Current electricity, Mains electricity and Nuclear physics. This would be covered possibly with others not following physics as it is common material. In year 11 an option block would be needed to cover the P3 topics; Turning forces, Light & Sound, Electromagnetism, Stars & Space. These topics take ideas, knowledge and skills from previous years and builds on them. During the course there will be opportunities to do group work, work on your own, undertake practical work and produce posters, leaflets or PowerPoint presentations. There will be plenty of opportunities to revise with past papers, online tests and revision programmes as well as tutorials after school.

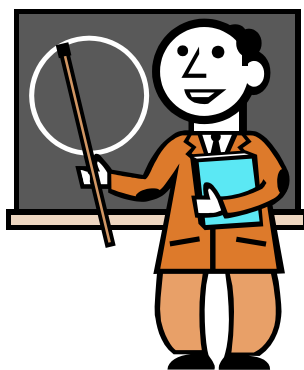


## How and when will I be assessed?

Each module is assessed via a 45 minute written examination in January or June. The test will be taken to the nearest opportunity after the module is completed. These tests are set by AQA and sent away to be marked. Grades of A\* to D will be available if the Higher Tier is answered and Grade C to G if the Foundation Tier is answered. Each test is worth

25% of the final grade. There is a possibility to retake tests if absent or if the grade is well below the target, however, it is always better to achieve the best score first time around so you can then concentrate on fewer tests.

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**Who should I speak to about this course?**

**Mr E Foster (Science coordinator)**

# Notes