

COMBINED SCIENCE GCSE COURSE



This course combines the most interesting aspects of GCSE Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

This is an ideal introduction for students who require a grounding in elementary science and is a required pre-requisite for many job roles including Primary School teaching and Nursing.

Please Note: This is the single award GCSE. If you want to do a Double Award Science then you would also need to purchase the Additional Science Course.

Each lesson of the Combined GCSE course begins with a set of clearly stated objectives and an explanation of its place in the overall programme of study. Effective learning is encouraged through frequent activities and self-assessment questions. There are eight tutor-marked assignments, two major progress tests and three practice exam papers.

The Syllabus:

Our Science course prepares students for **AQA GCSE Combined Science syllabus 4462**, for exams in 2008 and later years. Assessment is by three written papers (75%) and a written test based upon an investigative skills assignment (25%). We have chosen this syllabus as it is the most suited for home schooling.

The course is divided into three modules. Each module corresponds to a 45 minute examination.

Examinations:

Biology Paper 1 (45 Minutes) is 25% of the total marks:

- How do human bodies respond to changes inside them and to their environment?
- What can we do to keep our bodies healthy?
- How do we use/abuse medical and recreational drugs?
- What causes infectious disease and how can our bodies defend themselves against them?
- What determines where particular species live and how many of them there are?
- Why are individuals of the same species different from each other?
- What new methods do we have for producing plants and animals with the characteristics we prefer?

Chemistry Paper 1 (45 Minutes) is 25% of the total marks:

- How do rocks provide building materials?
- How do rocks provide metals and how are metals used?
- How do we get fuels from crude oil?
- How are polymers and ethanol made from oil?
- How can plant oils be used?
- What are the changes in the Earth and its atmosphere?
- Why have some species of plants and animals died out?
- How do new species of plants and animals develop?
- How do humans affect the environment?

Price:
£295.00

Instalment Options:
You can spread the payments for this course over 4 monthly payments. 1 initial payment of £145.00, followed by 3 monthly payments of £50.00.

Course Format:
Paper Based Course Materials

Assessment:
3 Examinations & 1 ISA Test

Approximate Study Time:
200 Hours of Self Study

Physics Paper 1 (45 Minutes) is 25% of the total marks:

- How is heat (thermal energy) transferred and what factors affect the rate at which heat is transferred?
- What is meant by the efficient use of energy?
- Why are electrical devices so useful?
- How should we generate the electricity we need?
- What are the uses and hazards of the waves that form the electromagnetic spectrum?
- What are the uses and dangers of emissions from radioactive substances?
- What do we know about the universe and how it continues to change?

Investigative Skills Assessment (ISA) is 25% of the total marks:

The investigative skills assignment (ISA) assesses the student's ability to undertake a task and collect, process and evaluate data.

The ISA can be carried out at any time during the course. Students carry out the PSA set by AQA, they then take a written test under controlled conditions. The test asks questions concerning the data collected during the practical task. Full instructions on completing this are given in the course materials.

Pre-Requirements:

There are no pre-requisites qualifications required for GCSE Courses.

Additional Reading:

You will need to read - AQA GCSE Science Student Book (Anne Fullick, Patrick Fullick & J Breithaupt) – ISBN: 0748796347.

Technical Support:

Every student receives a personal tutor with whom they need to keep in regular contact. The essential relationship between student and tutor begins with an introductory letter and a telephone call to help decide on a study plan. All tutors are fully qualified teachers holding either a Postgraduate Certificate in Education or a degree in education. So when you enrol on a course you can be assured of the assistance of a professionally qualified subject specific tutor.

There is no limit on how often you can contact your tutor. The advice and encouragement our tutors provide are an important part of your learning experience. You can contact your tutor by Phone, Post or Email. There are tutor-marked assignments (TMA's) in every course. These help the student to consolidate their learning and prepare for examinations. All tutors have a local rate telephone number such as a 0845 number. This means that when you phone your tutor it will only cost you the price of a local call. Whilst you are still actively submitting assignments, you should expect to be in contact with your tutor regularly. Remember, to get the most out of your tutor, you will need to tell them when you need assistance.

Examination Centres:

There are approximately 300 testing centres in the UK, so finding one close by should not be very difficult. In December/January we contact you to start arranging your examination dates. We always try to give whatever help we can with examination information, but the entering of Candidates for examinations and any dealings with the examination centre's are entirely the responsibility of the student.

GCSE Examination Fees

On average the GCSE examination fee is approximately £30 per subject regardless of the amount of examinations, plus an administration fee which is at the discretion of the exam centre.