



## Key Stage 4 Core Curriculum and Option Subjects

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### **Science A – Core / AQA**

Science is a core subject which is studied by all students. The main areas of science can be broadly broken into biology, chemistry and physics and students will study all three disciplines whichever route is followed in the subject. In addition to examinations in these three areas students will all be assessed in their knowledge and understanding of science through practical coursework.

Students will follow one of four routes in science depending on their abilities, skills and prior attainment. All students will be given the opportunity to study core science during Year 9 and will subsequently continue to separate sciences (chosen as option subject), additional science or BTEC applied science through years 10 and 11.

Science underpins the most fundamental aspects of everyday life, and a sound understanding of scientific principles is essential in our rapidly advancing 21<sup>st</sup> century society. Many of the skills taught are transferable to other subjects and will support learning throughout the curriculum.

### **Progression**

A pass in core science allows student to progress to separate science, additional science or Level 3 Applied Science when they reach Key Stage 5.

### **Core Science**

Science A-Core has a value of one GCSE and consists of three examined modules and one practical controlled assessment.

Biology module1 covers aspects of human biology, genetics and food webs.

Chemistry module1 covers extraction and uses of raw materials and the Earth and its atmosphere.

Physics module1 covers topics including: energy, electricity production and efficiency of systems.

Students complete one practical controlled assessment in each of the three sciences with the best result being used for accreditation.

### **Assessment**

Accreditation for one GCSE qualification will be based on three examinations and one practical controlled assessment unit, each contributing to 25% of the qualification

