



GCSE Science

Wales High School - Year 9 Subject Options

Subject Content - What will you be doing?

Science is the study of life and its interaction with the universe. Over the 2 year course you will develop your knowledge of how, and why, things work.

- Science is a theoretical and practical subject. By the end of the course you will have developed observation, analytical and evaluative skills.
- You will study a combination of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. You will be taught for 2 hours per subject each week - making a total of 6 hours of teaching time per week.
- Biology is the study of living things and the interactions that take place between these organisms and the environment. You will study topics including bioenergetics, infection and response, inheritance, variation and evolution.
- Physics is the fundamental study of everything in the universe, from the smallest atom to the biggest galaxy. You will study exciting and relevant topics including magnetism and electromagnetism, car design and space physics.
- Chemistry is the branch of Science that explains why substances behave as they do. By studying topics including rate and extent of chemical change, chemical analysis and the chemistry of the atmosphere, you will gain an insight into the chemical processes and reactions that impact on our everyday lives.

Practical Requirement

- There are 21 required practicals activities that are integrated into the day-to-day teaching of Biology, Chemistry and Physics.
- You will be assessed on your practical skills in your exams.

Key Points about the Subject

- There will be 2 exams per subject - each covering different subject content.
- 15% of GCSE marks will be for practical skills.
- 10-30% of GCSE marks will require Mathematical skills (depending on the subject).
- Grading scale from 9 to 1.

Whilst all students study science to GCSE level, students who would like to take Triple Science (Separate Sciences) will need to select this as an option during the Y9 options process. Triple students will have an additional 2 hours of science per week and will qualify with three Science GCSEs at the end of Year 11. Please note that both Combined Science and Triple Science qualifications at the correct grade will ensure entry to study Science A Levels.

Who can I speak to for more information?

Miss H Feerick - Head of Science

Mrs H Constable – Second in Science and KS4 Progress Leader