



WESTONBIRT

— SCHOOL —

Exam Board - OCR Gateway A

What can I expect from this subject?

The separate science courses augment the combined science course. Each separate GCSE in Biology, Chemistry and Physics consists of the same units as in the combined science GCSE, but with additional content embedded within the combined science units. The separate science courses are ideally suited to those students who have a passion for science and who have demonstrated an aptitude for coping with the rigours of these disciplines. Indeed, it is particularly appropriate for those who are thinking that a science might be something which they would like to continue to study at A-Level.

The additional content covers, amongst other things:

- Biology: homeostasis.
- Chemistry: industrial chemical processes.
- Physics: life-cycle of stars.

The separate science GCSEs also consist of, in total, 6 examination papers, which are sat at the end of Year 11; two papers in biology, two in chemistry and two in physics.

What can I do to prepare for this course?

- Watch programmes such as 'The Royal Institution Christmas Lectures', 'The Sky at Night', various programs by Sir David Attenborough or Brian Cox and 'Horizon'.
- Listen to 'The Infinite Monkey Cage', 'The Curious Cases of Rutherford & Fry' and 'Brainwaves'.
- Visit the popular science section of a bookshop and choose a publication to read.
- Visit museums e.g. We The Curious, The Science Museum, The Natural History Museum, aquariums Keep asking "How does this work?", "Why?" and "What if...?"

What will the next steps be?

GCSE Separate Science provides a firm foundation for continuing to study the various combinations of A-Level Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Maths. Studying sciences at KS5 also blends well with A-Level Economics, Geography and Product Design. The sciences facilitate careers in medicine, engineering, the armed forces, conservation and forensics, and many more.