

KS4 Long Term Curriculum Plan: Year 11 Combined Science 2024-2025

Curriculum Aim: In Science we aim to prepare students for their GCSE exams whilst also allowing students to be able to understand and interpret the world that they live in. GCSE combined science prepares students to leave school with a strong understanding of how science works as well as preparing them for future careers, courses and employment in science.

Link to prior learning: This course will build on the knowledge and skills developed during study in Year 10. They will also develop their practical, problem solving and investigative skills.

Rationale of sequencing: The topics have been ordered in a way that allows them to build on prior skills and knowledge.

| | Focus / Topic | Knowledge & Skills (from NC/Programmes of Study) | Assessment |
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| Autumn 1 | C8 Rates and equilibrium | <p>C8 Define rate of reaction and be able to calculate mean rate of reaction. Describe how changing surface area, temperature and concentration affect rate of reaction. Describe the effect of a catalyst in affecting the rate of reaction. Write a word equation for familiar reversible reactions. Use Le Chatelier's principle to predict the effect of rate of reaction when conditions of a dynamic equilibrium are changed. (H).</p> | Question-led lessons to develop skills to answer 6 mark questions in science. |
| | P8 Forces in balance | <p>P8 Draw a scale diagram to represent a single vector. Give examples of contact and non-contact forces using diagrams to show the forces. Calculate the resultant force acting on an object. Describe an experimental technique to determine the centre of mass of an object. Investigate non-parallel forces acting on a system in equilibrium to verify the parallelogram of forces. (H)</p> | |
| | B10 The human nervous system | <p>B10 Define homeostasis. Describe how information is passed along neurones. Identify reflex reactions and describe the events involved in a reflex action.</p> | |
| | B11 Hormonal coordination | <p>B11 State the role of hormones released by endocrine glands. Describe the differences between Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes and identify treatments for both. Interpret diagrams of negative feedback. Describe what happens during the menstrual cycle. Categorise contraceptives as hormonal and non-hormonal listing advantages and disadvantages of each. Describe how FSH and IVF can be used to treat fertility. (H)</p> | |
| Autumn 2 | B12 Reproduction | <p>B12 Describe the differences between sexual and asexual reproduction. Describe the processes of mitosis and meiosis. Describe the relationship between DNA, genes, and chromosomes. Recognise examples of inherited traits. Use Punnett squares to show sex inheritance and inherited disorders such as cystic fibrosis, Outlines methods used to screen embryos.</p> | PPEs. |

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| | <p>C9 Crude oil and fuels</p> <p>C10 Chemical analysis</p> <p>P9 Motion</p> <p>P10 Forces and motion</p> | <p>C9 Describe how to separate crude oil into its fractions. Define hydrocarbons and alkanes. Recognise trends in colour, viscosity, flammability, and boiling point as hydrocarbon chain length changes. Write equations for the combustion of hydrocarbons.</p> <p>C10 Describe the difference between pure substances, impure substances, and formulations. Calculate R_f values from given data. Safely carry out the laboratory tests for hydrogen, oxygen, carbon dioxide, and chlorine.</p> <p>P9 Use gradients of distance-time graphs to compare the speeds of objects. Describe the difference between speed and velocity. Recall and rearrange equations relating velocity, acceleration, and time. Describe sections of velocity-time graphs</p> <p>P10 Describe the effect of changing the mass or the force acting on an object on its acceleration, Calculate the weight of objects from their mass and gravitational field strength, Categorise the factors affecting thinking distance and braking distance. Use $p=mv$ to calculate the momentum, mass or velocity of an object, (H) State Hooke's law.</p> | |
| Spring 1 | <p>B13 Variation and evolution</p> <p>C11 The Earth's atmosphere</p> <p>P11 Wave properties</p> <p>P12 Electromagnetic waves</p> | <p>B13 List examples of human variation. Describe the steps that take place during evolution by natural selection. Explain the process of selective breeding. Give examples of GM organisms and describe why they are useful to humans, Outline the potential risks and benefits of genetic engineering.</p> <p>C11 State the composition of the Earth's early atmosphere. Describe how the proportion of carbon dioxide in the early atmosphere was reduced, Explain the greenhouse effect and link it to human activity. Describe the impacts of atmospheric pollutants.</p> <p>P11 Compare transverse and longitudinal waves. Calculate the period of a wave from its frequency. Describe refraction and reflection.</p> <p>P12 Identify the position of EM waves in the spectrum in order of wavelength and frequency. State the uses of different types of EM wave. Compare X-rays and gamma rays. Describe ionisation in terms of atoms. State some safety procedures associated with X-rays.</p> | Question-led lessons to develop skills to answer 6 mark questions in science. |

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| Spring 2 | <p>B14 Genetics and evolution</p> <p>C12 The Earth's resources</p> <p>P13 Electromagnetism</p> | <p>B14 Describe how fossils are formed. State what is meant by extinction. Describe how antibiotic resistant bacteria evolve. Describe the classification system developed by Carl Linnaeus to include the order of the taxonomic groups. Describe how organisms are divided in the three domain system.</p> <p>C12 Describe resources as finite or renewable. Describe the importances of potable water. Describe the main processes in sewage treatment. Explain the processes of phytomining and bioleaching. (H) State the different stages of a Life Cycle Assessment. Explain the importance of reusing and recycling products.</p> <p>P13 Sketch the shape of a magnetic field around a bar magnet. Describe the effect of increasing the current on the magnetic field around a wire. Apply Fleming's left hand rule to determine the direction of the force acting on a conductor. (H)</p> | March PPEs |
| Summer 1 | <p>B15 Adaptation, interdependence, and competition</p> <p>B16 Organising an ecosystem</p> <p>B17 Biodiversity and ecosystems</p> | <p>B15 Define community, population, habitat, ecosystem, biotic factors, and abiotic factors. Explain how to use a quadrat and transect to estimate population size. List resources that animals and plants compete for. Explain how adaptations allow an organism to survive in its habitat.</p> <p>B16 Identify producers, consumers, predators, and prey in a food web. Explain why decomposers are important to a stable ecosystem. Describe the events in the carbon cycle.</p> <p>B17 Describe why a good level of biodiversity is important to the future of humankind. State some substances that pollute water and land. Describe the formation of acid rain. Explain the effects of deforestation and peat bog removal. Describe the consequences of global warming.</p> | |

Further Information

AQA Specification: <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/combined-science-trilogy-8464>

Chace GCSE Science website: <https://sites.google.com/chace.enfield.sch.uk/year11revision>

Seneca: <https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/>

Kerboodle: <https://www.kerboodle.com/users/login>

BBC bitesize: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/z8r997h>