

Overview of Year 11 Curriculum GCSE DOUBLE & SINGLE AWARD SCIENCE

Assuming a successful completion of Science Modules 1-6, (Single award), students in Year 11 will complete the course by taking those modules which lead to a double award in GCSE Science. (Counts as two GCSE subjects).

The modules studied are as follows:-

Biology	Chemistry	Physics
Module 7 Food production & environment	Module 9 Chemicals & the Earth	Module 11 Movement & change
Module 8 Health & exercise	Module 10 Understanding chemical reactions	Module 12 Energy, force & communication.

A further opportunity to complete and improve the coursework will be given during the year.

Coursework must be complete by the end of January.

In the event of pupils having not completed the six modules in Year 10, (Modules 1-6), they will be given the opportunity to complete those modules and be entered for single award science.

Strategies are in effect to maximise pupils' performance which include, Coursework catch up sessions, extra lessons after school, holiday revision sessions and the provision of examination revision and guidance material.

Homework

Two homeworks are set each week. The type of homework varies and may be used to reinforce the learning in lessons. This will be in the form of questions which test subject knowledge. Some homeworks are used as assessment for learning exercises and pupils will be asked to search out information from various sources. Some homeworks may be a practical task and the pupils will always seek parental permission in this instance. Further revision homework will be set before the module test dates and terminal examinations.

Assessment

- **Module tests** will take place on 8th November 2006, 7th March 2007 and 16th May 2007, (provisional date).
- Module tests are multiple choice and each test has 24 questions to be completed in 20 minutes.
- The tests are graded, questions 1-8 low demand, 9-16 moderate demand, 17-24 High demand.
- The module tests are externally marked and are 30% of the final mark.
- The Coursework consists of Practical **assessment** and makes up 20% of the final mark. Students require a minimum of two complete pieces of coursework consisting of:

Planning / 8 marks	Observing / 8 marks	Analysing / 8 marks	Evaluating / 6 marks
--------------------	---------------------	---------------------	----------------------

Students are given an opportunity to complete three pieces of coursework so that the two best marks for each section can be used to maximise their overall mark. The total mark for each completed piece of coursework is 30 and students should set a minimum target of 20/30 for each complete piece of coursework.

- Two **terminal papers** which count 50% of the final mark are taken in June for Double award. Paper 1 tests modules 1-6 and paper 2 tests modules 7-12.
- Students taking Single award only Paper 1.(Modules 1-6)
- The terminal papers are tiered, Foundation and Higher and require written answers testing subject knowledge.
- Entry to the Higher level paper will be determined by marks in Module tests.
- The terminal examinations are externally marked.

How Parents can help

- Ensure your son attends school with the correct equipment.
- Check that your son records his homework, knows when the module test are and attends school on these days
- Ensure your son is up to date with coursework and knows the deadline dates (January 2007)
- Encourage your son to watch scientific programmes on television, read about scientific events in newspapers and visit scientific sites on the internet and uses the various sources for revision which are available
- Revision guides will be made available at cost price from the Science department.

