

GCSE Science

at

Roundwood Park

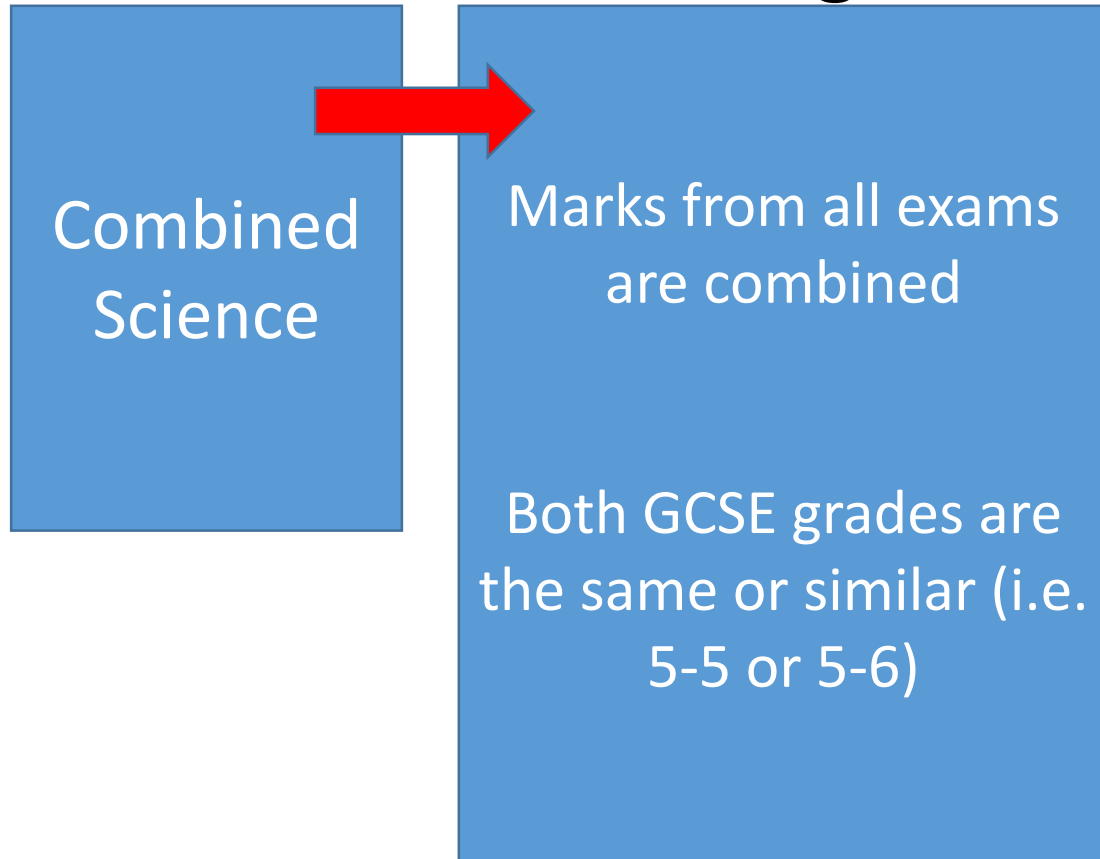
Mr P Binks – Head of Science

What are the differences between the Science options?

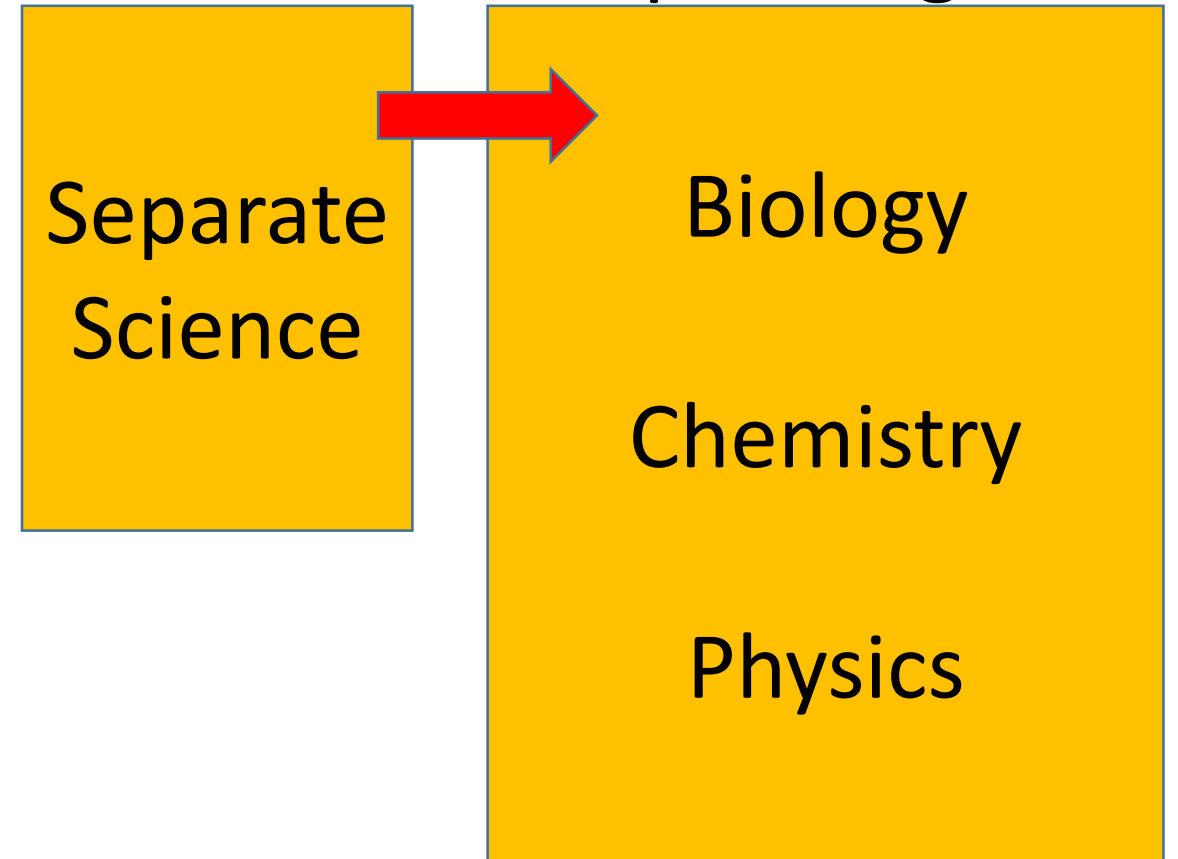
Combined
Science

Separate
Science

2 linked grades



3 separate grades



Grading the New GCSEs in 2017

NEW GCSE GRADING STRUCTURE										
9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	U	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Broadly the same proportion of students will achieve a grade 4 and above as currently achieve a grade C and above.■ Broadly the same proportion of students will achieve a grade 7 and above as achieve an A and above.■ The bottom of grade 1 will be aligned with the bottom of grade G.										
CURRENT GCSE GRADING STRUCTURE										

Year 9 have already started content from the new specification GCSE and will have covered and equal proportion of Biology, Chemistry and Physics by the end of the year

Need to achieve a grade 5 minimum in the end of unit tests in Year 9

Why choose separate science?

- Provides the best foundation for students to go on to study A-level Sciences (**although this is not the only way to access A-Level**)
- Make a smoother transition to the ‘jump’ of A-level science
- Provides the opportunity to gain an good understanding across a broader range of rich and relevant topics
- Enjoy hard work and can manage workload and homework successfully
- Working at a grade 5 or above during the Year 9 end of unit exams

Why choose combined science?

- Provides the opportunity to gain an good understanding across a wide range of rich and relevant topics in three subjects
- Slightly lower workload, so more manageable around other studies
- **Can go on to study A-level Sciences** – many students do so successfully
- Provides the opportunity to consolidate the Science topics learned in Year 9 and prepare in the best possible way to meet your potential in two Science GCSEs

How are the courses examined?

Combined Science

Six 75 minute exams – 2 Biology, 2 Physics, 2 Chemistry (16.7% each)

No Coursework

How are the courses examined?

Separate Sciences

Two 1 hour 45 minutes exams per subject (Biology, Physics and Chemistry) – 50% of one GCSE per exam

No Coursework

What if I can't make up my mind?

- Are you definitely looking to study A-level sciences?
- Do you enjoy being stretched and challenged?
- Can you manage your workload well?

Speak to your Science teacher who will be able to discuss what is best for you as a learner and a scientist.

Summary

Combined	Separates
2 GCSEs	3 GCSEs
2 combined grades	3 separate grades
Learn biology/chemistry/physics	Learn biology/chemistry/physics
No coursework	No coursework
3 exams for each GCSE (= 6)	2 exams for each GCSE (= 6)
2 teachers	3 teachers
2 pieces of H/L per week	3 pieces of H/L per week
Can go on to study A levels sciences	Best preparation for A level sciences