

GCSE Combined Science

This GCSE course can only be taken as part of a package of GCSEs.

The GCSE Combined Science course offers a comprehensive understanding of key scientific principles across biology, chemistry and physics. Designed to foster critical thinking and practical skills, this course provides a solid foundation for further study or employment in science-related fields.

Students will explore a range of topics, from the structure of atoms to the complexities of ecosystems, gaining insight into the natural world and its underlying mechanisms.

- [Sector Overview](#)

GCSE stands for General Certificate of Secondary Education, and they are part of the national curriculum. Typically, GCSEs are studied between the ages of 14-16 in years 10 and 11. Waltham Forest College's GCSE courses are studied as a package for those who are new to the country or those who achieved a Grade 3 in their English and maths GCSEs in Year 11.

- [Entry Requirements](#)

The entry requirements for this course are:

This GCSE course is open to those who are new to the country, or those who achieved a Grade 3 in their science, English and maths GCSEs in Year 11.

For those new to the country, there will be an entrance assessment to complete. This is common to the GCSE programme and not for this subject individually.

- [What will I study?](#)

This course consists of the following:

Biology: Topics include cells and control, genetics, ecology and evolution. Students delve into the structure and function of living organisms, exploring concepts such as photosynthesis, inheritance and ecosystems.

Chemistry: Covering atomic structure, bonding, chemical reactions and the periodic table, this section delves into the fundamental principles of chemistry. Students investigate topics like chemical calculations, organic chemistry and the properties of matter.

Physics: From forces and motion to waves and electromagnetism, the physics component explores the fundamental laws governing the physical universe. Students analyse concepts like energy transfer, electricity, magnetism and the behaviour of waves.

- [How will I be assessed?](#)

The assessment consists of six externally examined papers, two for each science discipline.

Each paper is 1 hour 15 minutes long and contributes equally to the overall grade.

The exams include a mix of multiple-choice, structured, closed short answer and open response questions.

Practical skills are assessed through a series of required practical activities completed during the course and examined within the written papers.

- [Enrichment](#)

Our Student Common Room is a great place to unwind and relax during your breaks. It features pool tables,

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table tennis, a gaming corner and lots of comfy sofas so you can refresh before your next lesson.

Themed events are held in the Common Room so you can get the best experience of being a Waltham Forest College student.

- [Work Experience](#)

Work experience will be sourced for learners on this pathway at the end of their GCSE study. This is owing to the intense study and limited time ahead of externally assessed examinations.

- [Progression opportunities](#)

Successful completion of GCSE Combined Science opens various pathways for further study and career opportunities.

Learners may choose to continue their scientific education with A Levels in individual sciences or pursue vocational qualifications in related fields such as engineering, healthcare or environmental science.

Additionally, this qualification provides a solid foundation for entry into apprenticeships or employment in sectors requiring scientific literacy and analytical skills.

- [Alumni](#)

Waltham Forest College is a vibrant and aspirational college and will support you to reach your career aspirations. Last year 96% of learners progressed onto a positive destination either to higher levels of study, employment, or an Apprenticeship.

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