

Improve your Science GCSE Grade

During the Year

- Keep your book up to date. If you are absent make sure you copy up missing notes and/or ask your teacher for the work you have missed.
- Science GCSEs have a lot of content – make your revision cards/notes as you go along. These can then be used for revision rather than taking up valuable revision time making them at the last minute.
- Whenever you come up against a topic you find difficult, ask and get it sorted out – these things have a knack of coming up in the exam!
- There is often scientific news on TV or in newspapers, watch and read these articles and try and understand them. Talk to your Science teacher about what you have come across.
- Make a glossary of Key Words as you go along, make sure you know what they all mean.
- Try and connect the sciences together. For example, there are some aspects of Chemistry that can also be found in Physics etc.
- Make sure you get good ISA marks. It is worth 25% of the exam so can put you in a really good position overall. Focus on what you have to do to get a high mark and make sure you do this when you do your ISAs.

Revision

- Make sure you know your level of entry (higher or foundation tier) and revise accordingly. You will be given a syllabus contents list – make sure you use it.
- Plan a revision timetable, there is too much to revise the night before.
- Start your revision a long time before the exams.
- Revise the topics you find the hardest – not the easy ones!
- Make sure you are asking your teacher for help when you come across things you can't remember or understand.
- Use past papers wisely (they are available on this website under exams with the mark schemes) – make sure you learn from your mistakes. Use this knowledge to plan your revision. It is good to do the same paper again, and see how you have progressed.

Taking the Exam

- Don't panic – this is where you get to show off all the information you have learnt.
- Read the questions well – make sure you understand what it is asking.
- Underline key words or instructions if this helps.
- Look at the number of marks the question is worth. Do not write 5 sentences for a 1 mark question or a 1 word answer for a 4 mark question!
- Aim roughly for 1 mark per minute to help with timing. i.e. a 3 mark question to take 3 minutes.
- Do not leave any questions blank especially tick box questions. Have an educated guess if you are not sure of the answer.
- Double check units when writing numbers.