

COMBINED SCIENCE GCSE-SUMMER 2023- STUDENT STUDY SUPPORT

AQA GCSE (9-1) DOUBLE GRADED	Link to download specification
Combined Science – Synergy	https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/science/specifications/AQA-8465-SP-2016.PDF

AQA 9-1 Combined Science Synergy	
What is AQA Synergy? AQA Synergy is a combined science course which is worth two GCSE grades. Traditionally the three disciplines (biology, chemistry and physics) have been taught separately, whereas the Synergy course is taught synoptically. This helps the students to see the link between all three disciplines.	
Specification link	https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/science/specifications/AQA-8465-SP-2016.PDF
Topics	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Building blocks 2. Transport over large distances 3. Interactions with the environment 4. Explaining change 5. Building blocks for understanding 6. Interactions over small and large distances 7. Movement and interactions 8. Guiding Spaceship Earth towards a sustainable future
Exams	There will be four 1 hour and 45 minutes exam papers, each worth 25% of the GCSE. This will result in two GCSE grades. Information about each paper is below:

Paper 1
What's assessed Life and environmental sciences Topics 4.1–4.4: Building blocks; Transport over larger distances; Interactions with the environment and Explaining change.
How it's assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes • Foundation or Higher Tier • 100 marks • 25% of GCSE
Questions Multiple choice, structured, closed and open short answer questions, with greater emphasis on knowledge and application (AO1 and AO2) than analysis and evaluation (AO3).



Paper 2

What's assessed

Life and environmental sciences

Topics 4.1–4.4: Building blocks; Transport over larger distances; Interactions with the environment and Explaining change.

How it's assessed

- Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- Foundation and Higher Tier
- 100 marks
- 25% of GCSE

Questions

Multiple choice, structured, closed and open short answer questions. This paper assesses most of the analysis and evaluation (AO3) skills, and most of the work on the required practicals, for the topics.

Paper 3

What's assessed

Physical sciences

Topics 4.5–4.8: Building blocks for understanding; Interactions over small and large distances; Movement and interactions and Guiding Spaceship Earth towards a sustainable future.

How it's assessed

- Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- Foundation and Higher Tier
- 100 marks
- 25% of GCSE

Questions

Multiple choice, structured, closed and open short answer questions, with greater emphasis on

Paper 4

What's assessed

Physical sciences

Topics 4.5–4.8: Building blocks for understanding; Interactions over small and large distances; Movement and interactions and Guiding Spaceship Earth towards a sustainable future.

How it's assessed

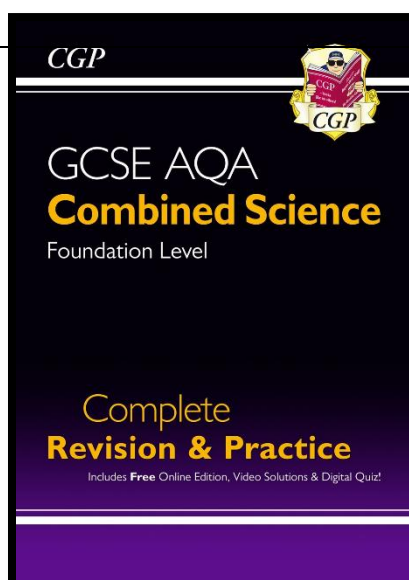
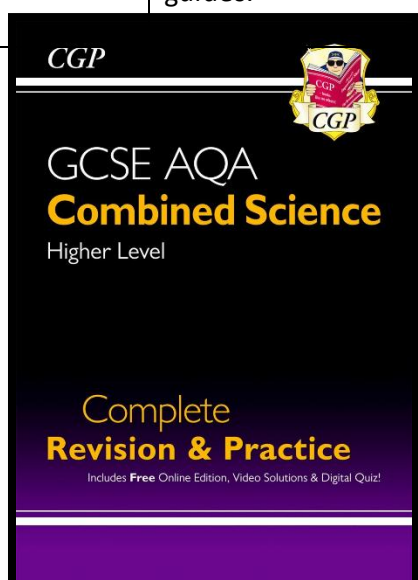
- Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- Foundation and Higher Tier
- 100 marks
- 25% of GCSE

Questions

Multiple choice, structured, closed and open short answer questions. This paper assesses most of the analysis and evaluation (AO3) skills, and most of the work on the required practicals, for the topics.

Revision and Resources

Resource	What is it?	Website
Tassomai	This is an online app that is personal to each student. Each child has been provided with a Tassomai log in and is expected to complete their 'Daily Goal' three times a week minimum as their homework.	https://www.tassomai.com/
Youtube – Cognito	Short online videos for all sections of the GCSE specification as well as revision advice.	https://www.youtube.com/c/Cognitoedu/videos
Physics and Maths Tutor	A website that provides past papers and revision resources for biology, chemistry and physics.	https://www.physicsandmathstutor.com/
CGP AQA Revision Guides	Revision content for all GCSE topics in one combined revision guide. There are higher and foundation guides available.	The CGP AQA Combined Science Revision Guide is available on Amazon as well as the CGP website. Other forms of revision resources are available on the website such as revision cards and workbooks. https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/secondary-books/gcse/science
GCSE Bitesize	Revision materials and quizzes.	https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize There are links on the website specifically for GCSE combined science.
Exercise Books	Class exercise books contain tasks and notes from science lessons and will be very useful alongside the revision guides.	N/A



Examples of revision guides and practice workbooks available to order online