



# Y11 Helping My Child as a Learner

Supporting my Child in Science



# Science Examinations This Summer

Course	Examination	Date & Time
GCSE Gateway Additional Science	Unit 3 (B3,C3,P3)	Wed 14 <sup>th</sup> June AM
	Unit 4 (B4,C4,P4 & Section D)	Fri 16 <sup>th</sup> June AM
GCSE Gateway Biology Separate Science	Unit 1 (B1,B2,B3)	Wed 24 <sup>th</sup> May PM
	Unit 2 (B4,B5,B6 & Section D)	Fri 16 <sup>th</sup> June AM
GCSE Gateway Chemistry Separate Science	Unit 1 (C1,C2,C3)	Fri 9 <sup>th</sup> June AM
	Unit 2 (C4,C5,C6 & Section D)	Mon 19 <sup>th</sup> June AM
GCSE Gateway Physics Separate Science	Unit 1 (P1,P2,P3)	Wed 14 <sup>th</sup> June AM
	Unit 2 (P4,P5,P6 & Section D)	Wed 21 <sup>nd</sup> June AM

*A list of all science examinations is provided in the hand-out for your reference*



# Structure of GCSE Qualifications

## **Unit 1 Examination**

Additional Science Unit 1 (B3C3P3)  
Biology Unit 1 (B1B2B3)  
Chemistry Unit 1 (C1C2C3)  
Physics Unit 1 (P1P2P3)

**35%**

1 hour 15min  
75 Marks

## **Unit 2 Examination**

Additional Science Unit 2 (B4C4P4)  
Biology Unit 2 (B4B5B6)  
Chemistry Unit 2 (C4C5C6)  
Physics Unit 2(P4P5P6)

**40%**

1 hour 30min  
85 Marks

**Controlled Assessment**

**25%**



# Structure of GCSE Examinations

Assessment Objective	Criteria
AO1	Recall, Select & Communicate knowledge
AO2	Application of understanding and scientific skills in a new context
AO3	Drawing & Justifying Conclusions Evaluating Evidence

Examination	% of Examined Unit		
	AO1	AO2	AO3
Unit 1 Exam	46	50	4
Unit 2 Exam	40	44	16



# Extended Response Questions

Each GCSE Exam Paper will contain **three** extended response questions worth **6 marks** – one for each module.

These questions assess will assess both depth of understanding of scientific ideas and quality of written communication.



# Extended Response Questions

Level of Response	Marks	Generic Criteria for Scientific Understanding
3	5-6	Answers all parts of the question making multiple connections between a range of relevant ideas, principles & theories. Uses calculations where appropriate and makes quantitative comparisons between data. All trends on graphs are numerically compared and fully explained. All ideas are explained in detail demonstrating a high level of understanding.
2	3-4	Description of more than two relevant scientific observations or ideas. Uses some calculations or quantitative comparisons of data. Most trend on graphs are explained Makes at least one link between ideas where appropriate. Answers at least two parts of the question.
1	1-2	Answer is simplistic containing some relevant observations or scientific explanation. Answers at least one part of the question



## Extended Response Questions QWC

Level of Response	Marks	Criteria for Quality of Written Communication
3	5-6	<p>Expected scientific vocabulary is accurately used.</p> <p>Few if any errors in spelling punctuation &amp; grammar.</p> <p>All information is presented in a well structured, coherent format.</p> <p>Quality of written communication dose not impede the communication of science at this level.</p>
2	3-4	<p>The expected scientific vocabulary is used correctly for the most part.</p> <p>Information is presented in a structured, coherent format.</p> <p>Occasional errors in spelling, punctuation and grammar.</p> <p>Quality of Written communication partially impedes communication of science</p>
1	1-2	<p>Limited use of scientific vocabulary</p> <p>Errors in spelling, punctuation &amp; grammar</p> <p>Quality of communication impedes communication of science at this level</p>



## Section D: Data Analysis Questions

All unit 2 GCSE papers contain a Section D Data analysis question worth **10 marks**.

Section D will test students ability to analyse and evaluate data drawing and justifying conclusions.

Recall of ***knowledge is not tested*** in this section

Core and additional science papers may have examples taken from biology, chemistry or physics.

Students will be given tables, graphs, charts or extended pieces of text to analyse and will be expected to read the information and use it in the question.

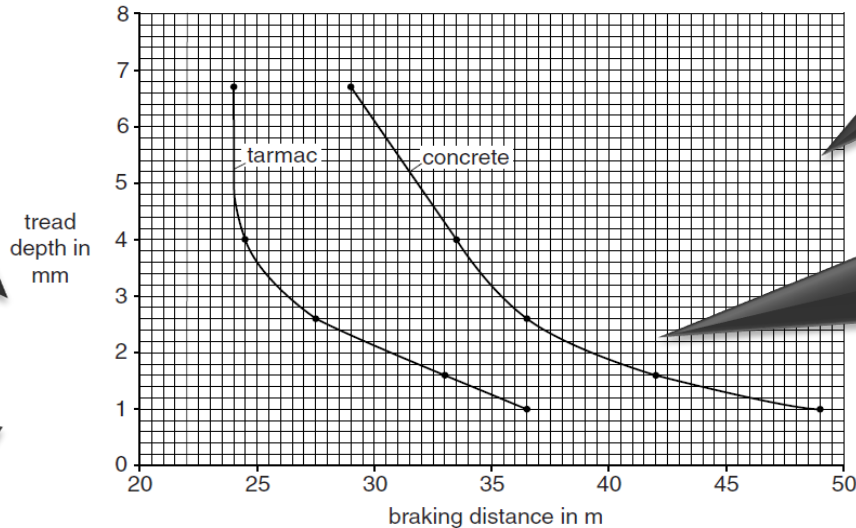




## Section D: Data Analysis Questions

(a) Look at the graph. It shows braking distances for tyres of different tread depths.

The data is for two different road surfaces on a wet day.



Do not rush take time to consider the details

Take time to read and understand the context

Compare the trends of each data set – what are the similarities and differences?

Read the questions carefully and answer the questions asked don't just write down what you think the question is about.

Pay careful attention to the labels of the axes including the units used, refer to these quantities when describing trends & drawing conclusions

If you have numerical data use numbers in your answers, don't just give vague statements

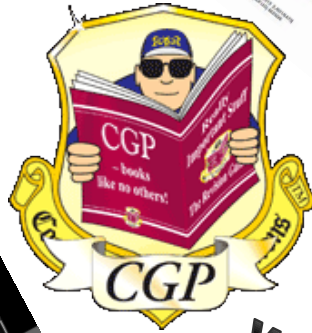


# Revising for Science Exams

- Identify content to be learned & make a **revision time table**.
- **Key Words & Definitions**
- Summary Notes / Key point Plus tools
- Read, Cover, Check – Get a family member to **test** you
- **Practice the Skills** e.g. data analysis, written explanations, balancing equations, using & rearranging physical formulae.
- Try **past paper questions** – use the mark schemes to **correct answers** in a different colour.
- **Be proactive** and seek help with difficult questions / ideas.
- **Have another go** – at any topic or exam questions that were difficult.



# Support Materials



[www.ocr.org.uk](http://www.ocr.org.uk)

