

Sciences GCSE (Intensive)

Course Overview

Do you want to progress into the science sector but need to strengthen your knowledge and skills before moving on to the next level? Our GCSE Science programme is designed to help you build a solid foundation while improving your previous GCSE outcomes.

The one-year intensive pathway combines GCSE English and GCSE Maths with the three separate sciences: GCSE Biology, GCSE Chemistry and GCSE Physics. This demanding yet rewarding course supports students to develop a deeper understanding of scientific theory, its real-world applications, and essential practical skills.

For students who do not yet meet the minimum entry requirements, we also offer a two-year pathway (course code P01057). This less intensive option allows you to spread your learning over a longer period, providing additional time and support to build confidence and achieve success.

If you are aged 16–18, you will study as part of a full-time programme, which includes retaking GCSEs or completing Functional Skills in English and maths (if you have not yet achieved a grade 4 or above). You will also complete a work experience placement and an employability programme, helping you to develop the skills and experience needed for further study or employment.

What you will learn

Each GCSE science follows a structured syllabus made up of core content and extension material, ensuring you develop both a strong understanding of key principles and the ability to apply them in more challenging contexts.

GCSE Biology explores topics such as cells and organisation, genetics and inheritance, ecology and environmental studies, human biology and behaviour, and biotechnology.

GCSE Chemistry covers atomic structure and the periodic table, chemical reactions, quantitative chemistry, chemical synthesis, and the role of chemistry in modern scientific and industrial applications.

GCSE Physics includes topics such as electricity, mechanics and motion, energy, radioactivity, space exploration, and the use of physics in medical and technological settings.

Alongside the sciences, you may also study GCSE English and Maths if required. If you have already achieved one or both qualifications, you will continue to develop your English and mathematical skills, as well as build your interpersonal, employability and digital skills as part of the wider programme.

You will be supported throughout your course by a learning coach and academic tutor, and you will have opportunities to take part in a wide range of enrichment activities designed to support your personal development and enhance your overall learning experience.

Entry Requirements

You must be aged between 16-18. Standard entry to this course requires one reference. It is desirable that you can demonstrate 90% attendance. A GCSE in English Language, maths and double science at grade 3 (D) or above is required.

Course Progression

This course provides a strong foundation for progression onto a range of Level 3 programmes, including T Level technical qualifications in Science or Health. It can also support progression into related apprenticeships, such as laboratory technician, healthcare support worker, science manufacturing operative, or pharmacy services apprenticeships. These routes allow learners to continue developing their skills while gaining practical experience within the science and health sectors.

What Happens Next

Apply online via the College website, or if your school uses the Positive Steps @16 (PS16) application system please apply through this and speak to your careers advisor if you are unsure. You will need details of your qualifications and employment history, a reference, and a personal statement to complete your application. Once your application has been successfully processed, you will be sent a conditional offer and be invited to a Welcome Event at the College to meet your tutors, learn more about your chosen course of study and tour the facilities. You will then need to confirm your acceptance of the course offered to you.

Course Details

Course Code	P00163
Start Date	06/09/2027
Study Hours	Full Time
Duration	1 year
Campus	Abbey Park Campus
Level	2

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