



November 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 10 Revision Support for GCSE Combined Science and Triple Science students

With your child's first Year 10 Parents Evening fast approaching, it seems like an appropriate time to share with you our top tips for making a success of this year and some early guidance on how to be ready for the Year 10 Trial Exams in March 2026.

Year 10 Trial Exams for Science

Year 10 will sit their Trial Exams in Term 4. They will sit one paper in Biology, one in Chemistry and one in Physics. Students will only be assessed on the GCSE Topics studied in Year 9 (GCSE content is taught from the start of Year 9). Many of the skills they have been learning and applying in Year 10 will also be assessed.

All Year 10 classes have now studied the 'Science Skills' unit and students should have taken the related booklet and resources home. Students should also use their exercise books from last year as they will be useful. If students have not kept their exercise books our 'GCSE Science – Resources' site on Frog has all the details regarding what and how to revise for these exams.

Revision books

We recommend the Revision Guides by CGP. They cover all the required knowledge and have lots of retrieval practice, as well as exam style questions. They also contain many other support materials e.g. help with the Maths skills in Science and all the Required Practical's.

[The UK's Favourite Educational Books | CGP Books \(www.cgpbooks.co.uk\)](http://www.cgpbooks.co.uk). They offer both Higher and Foundation tier versions for Combined Science and also guides for the separate GCSEs (Triple), plus lots of other useful revision resources. Pupil Premium Students will be provided their own copies of Revision Guides by the school. Details of these guides (including ISBNs) can be found on our 'GCSE Science - Resources' site on Frog.

Lunchtime Specialist Support

Our specialist teams of teachers run weekly support drop-in sessions during lunchtimes. Students from Year 10 can come along to any of the sessions and get help understanding specific topics and get support/resources/guidance/practice on answering exam questions.

Subject	Day	Room
Physics	Tuesday lunchtimes	Sc7
Biology	Wednesday lunchtimes	Sc6
Chemistry	Thursday lunchtimes	S13

Online support

Our GCSE Science homepage on Frog (called GCSE Science - Resources) is full of useful links and resources for revision. Backwell School also subscribes to www.kerboodle.com which is an excellent resource that your child is hopefully already using. Students have their own personal login, which allows access to full copies of the main textbooks used in class, as well as online lessons, worksheets and questions.

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The websites www.senecalearning.com and www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize are also extremely popular with students. The Science area of Frog has past papers and mark schemes for the all the AQA GCSE exams, as well as practice questions relating to the Required Practical element. More importantly for Year 10, it has a section of past exams questions arranged by topic. There is also a Virtual Lab where students can practice any of the Required Practical's that will be assessed in the exams. Instructions on how to get started are on Frog. It would be helpful for your child if you could ensure that they know how to access these websites via Frog from home.

I also highly recommend students practice Extended Response Questions (ERQs), as these questions can be the most challenging and will come up at least once in any Trial Exam paper, and the real exam in the summer when students are in Year 11. We have a separate page on our GCSE Frog site dedicated to practising ERQs.

Should your child encounter any problems accessing any of these sites, please contact their teacher so that they can resolve any issues.

We would be grateful if you could support the school by discussing the above with your child, and make sure they are made fully aware of how important their Science GCSEs are, good grades in Science widens future educational and employment choices. Your child's teachers will be more than happy to answer any questions you may have about support, please speak to them at the upcoming parents evening or email them directly.

Yours sincerely

M Lake
Director of Science