SEPARATE SCIENCE

COURSE DETAILS

'Separate Science' refers to GCSE Biology, GCSE Chemistry and GCSE Physics.

Exam Board AQA
Website: www.aqa.org.uk

The Separate Science course has been developed to emphasise explanations, theories and modelling in science along with the implications of science for society.

Strong emphasis will be placed on the active involvement of students in the learning process and the specification encourages a wide range of teaching and learning activities. This is to be achieved by:

- Identifying activities and experiences which will excite learners' interest through links to scientific ideas and their implications for society
- Providing opportunities to develop science explanations and theories

Students take all three sciences: Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Each subject follows a traditional science course exploring core scientific principles and building on these to give breadth and depth. Students will achieve GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS
The course is linear and therefore assessed through final exams at the end of Year 11. There are no controlled assessments in the new science qualification. Instead, questions in the written exams will draw on the knowledge and understanding students have gained by carrying out the practical activities during the course of the two years. These questions will count for at least 15% of the overall marks for the qualification. Many of the questions will also focus on investigative skills and how well students can apply what they know to practical situations often in novel contexts.

The exams will be 3.5 hours per subject.

Assessment will be using the new 9-1 grading system. The higher tier will cover grades 4-9.

MR P BROWN