

All students at King Edward VI School study the **AQA Science GCSE**. All students study Separate Science in Year 9 and in year 10 students are streamed into Combined Science GCSE (which will give two GCSE grades) or Separate Science GCSE (which will give three GCSE grades). Both courses are good preparation to continue the study of science at A-Level

## YEAR 9

Students are taught in mixed ability groups in Year 9. They begin study of the AQA Trilogy Separate Science course.

Curriculum time: All Year 9 students receive 6 x 75-minute lessons per fortnight. This is made up from 2 x Biology, 2 x Chemistry and 2 x Physics lessons.

Students complete a 75-mark (75 minute) end of year test at the end of the year. The test is made up of 25 marks for each of the three sciences and will decide which stream (Combined or Separate) that the students will complete in Year 11. Special considerations for illness or other circumstances will be followed according to published [JCQ guidelines](#).

## YEAR 10 AND 11

One class of students are placed into Separate science for each division. All other students complete the Combined Science specification. Details about each of the courses can be found on the AQA website: <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse>

Curriculum time: All Year 10 and 11 students receive 9 x 75-minute lessons per fortnight. This is made up from 3 x Biology, 3 x Chemistry and 3 x Physics lessons.

## TIERS OF ENTRY

Students can get up to a level 5 on the foundation paper. The higher paper is levels 4 -9.

## ASSESSMENTS

Students are assessed at the end of each topic using a 25 mark test that uses past exam questions

At the end of the course, there are six papers: two biology, two chemistry and two physics. Each of the papers will assess knowledge and understanding from distinct topic areas.