

Combined Science Grades

Separate Science Grades

50% OF MARKS

in Higher Tier papers cover grades from 9-9 to 7-6




50% OF MARKS

in Higher Tier papers cover grades from 6-6 to 4-4

Combined Science content contains the same specification statements as found in Separate Sciences. Therefore, these are identical in level and demand in both Combined and Separate Sciences and are examined as such. The extra content found in Separate Sciences is not more difficult but just extra topics.

Hence a grade 7 in Combined Science is the same standard as a grade 7 in a Separate Science.

KEY

-  Higher Tier only
-  Higher and Foundation Tier
-  Foundation Tier only

The highest grade available on the Foundation Tier is 5-5 (5)

50% OF MARKS

in Foundation Tier papers cover grades from 5-5 to 3-3 (5 to 3)

50% OF MARKS

in Foundation Tier papers cover grades from 3-3 to 1-1 (3 to 1)



50% OF MARKS

in Higher Tier papers cover grades for 9 to 7

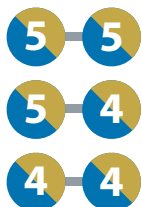
50% OF MARKS

in Higher Tier papers cover grades for 6 to 4

The advice provided on this sheet is **for guidance only**. Teachers are best placed to make decisions for their students.

Across Separate and Combined Sciences:

COMMON GRADES



20%
OF MARKS

targeted at grades common to Higher and Foundation Tier

MATHS DEMAND

Higher Tier

Not lower than demand expected for Foundation Tier GCSE Maths



Foundation Tier

Not lower than demand expected of students at Key Stage 3 Maths

PRACTICAL



MINIMUM
15%
OF MARKS

assess practical skills, in both tiers across all components and assessment objectives

Separate or Combined? What to consider when making entries

CONSIDER ENTERING STUDENT FOR SEPARATE SCIENCES

MOSTLY YES

ACHIEVEMENT

Does the student achieve better in one Science over the other two?

ATTENDANCE

Are you confident the student will attend all the exam papers?

STAMINA

(Gateway Only)

Are you confident the student will be able to work through longer exams?

Low achievement in one science will affect the overall Combined Science grade. In Separate Sciences, low attainment in one Science does not affect the others

Combined Science exams all feed into the final grade. If one is missed, it will affect the overall double grade. In Separate Science, missing an exam will only affect one out of three grades.

Combined Science exams in Gateway are 70 minutes each. Separate Science exams are 105 minutes long

MOSTLY NO

CONSIDER ENTERING STUDENT FOR COMBINED SCIENCES