

**RE: Year 10 GCSE Science Exams**

Dear Parent/Carer,

As you probably know, Year 10 are currently studying a modular science course that is examined regularly in both Y10 for the Core Science GCSE and Y11 for the Additional Science GCSE. I thought that I would write to you to try to make some sense of the rather convoluted examination arrangements for this year and give you a heads up for next year.

**January 2012**

Group	Teacher(s)	Examination	Date
Curie	Mr Walford, Mr Brown, Mr Lewis	No exam	
Darwin	Mr Loynton, Mr Thorley, Mr Gaynor	No exam	
Einstein	Mr Hawkins, Mr Hammett	B1a/C1a/P1a	Thurs 12 <sup>th</sup> Jan
Faraday	Mr Thorley, Ms Vartuli	B1a/C1a/P1a	Thurs 12 <sup>th</sup> Jan
Galileo	Mr Davis, Mr Parfitt	Biology 1	Thurs 12 <sup>th</sup> Jan
Herschel	Mrs Henry, Mrs Palmer	Biology 1	Thurs 12 <sup>th</sup> Jan
Joule	Mr Brown, Mr Gaynor	Chemistry 1	Wed 18 <sup>th</sup> Jan
Kelvin	Mrs Marmion	No exam	
Latimer	Mr Loynton	No exam	

**June 2012**

Group	Teacher(s)	Examination	Date
Curie	Mr Walford, Mr Brown, Mr Lewis	B1 + C1 + P1	B1; Tues 12 <sup>th</sup> June
Darwin	Mr Loynton, Mr Thorley, Mr Gaynor	B1 + C1 + P1	C1; Fri 15 <sup>th</sup> June P1; Wed 20 <sup>th</sup> June
Einstein	Mr Hawkins, Mr Hammett	B1b/C1b/P1b	Fri 15 <sup>th</sup> June
Faraday	Mr Thorley, Ms Vartuli	B1b/C1b/P1b	Fri 15 <sup>th</sup> June
Galileo	Mr Davis, Mr Parfitt	C1, P1	C1; Fri 15 <sup>th</sup> June
Herschel	Mrs Henry, Mrs Palmer	C1, P1	P1; Wed 20 <sup>th</sup> June
Joule	Mr Brown, Mr Gaynor	B1, P1	B1; Tues 12 <sup>th</sup> June P1; Wed 20 <sup>th</sup> June
Kelvin	Mrs Marmion	P1	P1; Wed 20 <sup>th</sup> June
Latimer	Mr Loynton	P1	P1; Wed 20 <sup>th</sup> June

**Key to exam codes;**

B1; Core Science Biology (25% of the GCSE). C1; Core Science Chemistry (25% of the GCSE). P1 Core Science Physics (25% of the GCSE). Each exam is a written paper, 1hour in length.

B1a/C1a/P1a (35% of the GCSE) and B1b/C1b/P1b (40% of the GCSE); examinations testing a combination of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. The content is the same as the separate modules. Each exam is a written paper, 1hr 30mins long.

The final 25% of each paper is made up of an Independent Skills Assessment (coursework) that is carried out under controlled conditions in class. Students will be told in advance of these assessments. They will take approximately 5 lessons of teaching time plus one homework.

For next year the schedule is pretty much the same, although the dates are not yet available. Students will sit an exam (or exams for the Triple scientists) in January and final exams in June. We will be offering students an opportunity to resit the Jan 2012 exam in June, and similarly for Year 11 but students will be advised that the resit mark is the mark that will count towards the final GCSE, regardless of whether it is better or worse than the original mark.

Clearly it is imperative that you do not take your child out of school for any reason on these dates. Please do not hesitate to contact me at school ([jon.walford@chewvalleyschool.co.uk](mailto:jon.walford@chewvalleyschool.co.uk)) if you need any further clarification about this or any other matters regarding Science at school.

Kind regards.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jon Walford', written in a cursive style.

Jon Walford  
Head of Science