

Changes in AQA GCSE Science A

Comparison of draft AQA Science specifications with current AQA Science specifications: Biology Unit B1, Chemistry Unit C1 and Physics Unit P1

Unit	New content/new emphases	Content transferred in from a different unit	Content transferred out to a different unit	Content removed (and not referenced in any of the units)
B1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plant sensitivity, hormones, phototropism and geotropism Clinical trials Cannabis and performance enhancing drugs Extremophiles Effect of environmental change on organisms Non-living indicators of environmental change GM crops 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Microorganism cultures and the action of disinfectants and antibiotics (from B3) Material and energy in biomass (from B2) Decay processes and the carbon cycle (from B2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sports drinks (to B3) Origins of life on Earth (to B2) Fossils as evidence of evolution (to B2) Extinction (to B2) Human effects on the environment (including increasing human population, land use and deforestation, waste production and global warming (to B3) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diseases and health problems linked to excess weight and malnutrition (except type 2 diabetes) Specific details about cholesterol Smoking and alcohol Drugs from natural products
C1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extraction of copper by phytomining, bioleaching and displacement Use of phytomining to recover metals from contaminated sites Biofuels Biodegradable polymers Production of ethanol by fermentation Use of vegetable oils in cooking Hydrophobic and hydrophilic properties of emulsifiers Chemical theories for the origins of life Absorption of carbon dioxide by the oceans Fractional distillation of liquid air 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Charges on protons, neutrons and electrons and atom neutrality (from C2) Difference between elements in terms of proton numbers (from C2) Electronic structure of atoms and relationship with the periodic table (from C2) Reaction of carbonates with acid and use of limewater to detect for carbon dioxide (from C3) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alloy properties in terms of their structure and bonding (to C2) Reactants and reaction conditions affecting polymer properties (to C2) Analysis of food additives (to C2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Atom economy
P1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kinetic theory Energy transfer by evaporation and condensation Factors affecting the rate of energy transfer U-values Specific heat capacities Transverse and longitudinal waves and their characteristics Cosmic microwave background radiation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reflection in a plane mirror (from P3) Sound waves (from P3) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Atomic structure and radioactivity (to P2) Absorption of electromagnetic radiation (to P3) Effect of electromagnetic radiation on living cells (to P3) Optical fibres (to P3) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of food additives Uses of noble gases