

Overview of changes in the Gateway Science Suite

Comparison of draft OCR Gateway GCSE Science specifications with the current OCR Gateway GCSE specifications.

	What stays the same	What changes
Structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The course can be taught as modular or linear. Three units, comprising two externally assessed units and one internally assessed unit. Externally assessed units are tiered – Foundation and Higher tier. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit weightings have been altered – Unit 1 now 35%, Unit 2 now 40%. Controlled Assessment replaces coursework, now 25% weighting. Some content re-ordered to provide a more coherent teaching order. Additional item addressing How Science Works.
Content	<p>Biology B, Chemistry B & Physics B</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Content is divided into 6 modules, B1 – B6, C1 – C6 and P1 – P6. <p>Science B</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Content is divided into 6 modules, B1, B2, C1, C2, P1 and P2. <p>Additional Science B</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Content is divided into 6 modules, B3, B4, C3, C4, P3 and P4. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some content has been moved between modules to meet the revised subject criteria from Ofqual. Module C3 has become C4 and vice versa. Content and terminology have been updated and some content statements replaced in all specifications. Additional exemplification has been added to many of the criteria statements.
Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Modules are externally assessed within two units, in sections. Papers include structured questions and objective questions. January and June assessments are available. Controlled Assessment available in June series only. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New terminal and re-sit rules apply to science GCSEs. The internally assessed unit is based on a single investigative task divided into three parts. There will be a choice of Controlled Assessment tasks, set by OCR, and valid for entry in one year only. Unit 1 paper is 1 hour 15 minutes long, with a total of 75 marks. Unit 2 paper is 1 hour 30 minutes long, with a total of 85 marks including a 10 mark analysis of evidence section. How Science Works will be assessed in all units. Quality of Written Communication (QWC) will be assessed in all units. Science in the news not part of Controlled Assessment.