

What will my child be studying this year?

At Jesmond Park Academy we have developed a curriculum based on the AQA KS4 specifications.

Our aim is to deliver a knowledge rich spiral curriculum, which allows continuous learning from Y7 to Y13.

Year 10 & 11 GCSE Science

All students take science at GCSE.

All students must study all 3 subjects as part of their science curriculum.

All students study 6 lessons of science a week, 2 Biology, 2 Chemistry, 2 Physics.

Most will study Trilogy science where they are awarded two "Science" GCSE's at the end of Year 11.

Some students will be selected to study Separate Sciences in the same time as Trilogy, resulting in a Biology, a Chemistry and a Physics GCSE.

YEAR 11 Teaching Overview

AUTUMN TERM (Sept – Dec)		January 2026	Mock exams
Physics – The Particle model, atomic structure Chemistry – Atomic Structure, bonding Biology – Infection and response, Organism	OCTOBER HALF TERM	Physics – Electricity, energy Chemistry – Quantitative chemistry, chemical and energy changes Biology –, cell biology, bioenergetics	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS
SPRING TERM (Jan - Apr)		March 2026	Mock exams
Physics – Waves, Magnetism Chemistry – Rates and chemical changes, analysis Biology - Homeostasis and response,	FEBRUARY HALF TERM	Physics - Forces Chemistry – Chemistry of the Atmosphere, resources Biology – Inheritance, variation, ecology	EASTER HOLIDAYS
SUMMER TERM (Apr – July)		May / June 2026	Real GCSE exams
B1, C1, P1	MAY HALF TERM	B2, C2, P2	SUMMER HOLIDAYS

How will my child be assessed in science?

Assessment is a very important part of our curriculum.

2 types of assessment at Jesmond Park Academy

1. Formative assessment

- Designed to be low stakes for the students (not graded)
- Allow staff to easily identify and address any gaps in knowledge and/or areas of misconception.

2. Summative assessment

- Graded assessments
- Used to track student progress and encourage and support all students to be successful in science.

Trilogy Science - The Exams across year 11

Subject	Exam 1 Mock	Exam 2 Mock	GCSE Exams Paper 1	GCSE Exams Paper 2
Biology	January 2026	March 2026	Tuesday 12 th May 2026	Monday 8 th June 2026
Chemistry			Monday 18 th May 2026	Friday 12 th June 2026
Physics			Tuesday 2 nd June 2026	Monday 15 th June 2026

Your child will be examined by 2 exams in each subject. Each exam will be 1hr 15min.

Trilogy Science - Biology

Paper 1

What's assessed

Topics 1 - 4: Cell biology;
Organisation; Infection and
response; and
Bioenergetics.

How it's assessed

- written exam: 1 hour 15 minutes Foundation and Higher Tier
- 100 marks 16.7% of the GCSE

Questions

Multiple choice, structured, closed short answer and open response

Paper 2

What's assessed

Topics 5 - 7: Homeostasis
and response; Inheritance,
variation and evolution; and
Ecology.

How it's assessed

- written exam: 1 hour 15 minutes Foundation and Higher Tier
- 100 marks 16.7% of the GCSE

Questions

Multiple choice, structured, closed short answer and open response

Trilogy Science - Chemistry

Paper 1

What's assessed

- Topics 1-5: Atomic structure and the periodic table; Bonding, structure and the properties of matter; Quantitative chemistry; Chemical changes; and Energy changes

How it's assessed

- written exam: 1 hour 15 minutes
- 70 marks 16.7% of the GCSE

Questions

Multiple choice, structured, closed short answer and open response

Paper 2

What's assessed

- Topics 6-10: The rate and extent of chemical change; Organic chemistry; Chemical analysis, Chemistry of the atmosphere; and Using resources.

How it's assessed

- written exam: 1 hour 15 minutes
- 70 marks 16.7% of the GCSE

Questions

Multiple choice, structured, closed short answer and open response

Trilogy Science - Physics

Paper 1

What's assessed

Physics topics 18-21: Energy; Electricity; Particle model of matter; and Atomic structure.

How it's assessed

- Written exam: 1 hour 15 minutes
- Foundation and Higher Tier
- 70 marks
- 16.7% of GCSE

Questions

Multiple choice, structured, closed short answer and open response

Paper 2

What's assessed

Physics topics 22-24: Forces; Waves; and Magnetism and electromagnetism

How it's assessed

- Written exam: 1 hour 15 minutes
- Foundation and Higher Tier
- 70 marks
- 16.7% of GCSE

Questions

Multiple choice, structured, closed short answer and open response

Foundation or Higher - Tiers of entry for exams

Students will sit either a higher or foundation level paper during their GCSEs. These differ in difficulty, grading and the suitability of each paper for each individual's ability. Very careful monitoring and tracking occurs to make sure this is right for each individual.

Difficulty Level:

Foundation Tier: Covers easier, more straightforward questions and concepts, which focus on ensuring students have a solid understanding of the basics.

Higher Tier: Includes more challenging questions, requiring a deeper understanding of scientific concepts and more complex problem-solving.

Foundation or Higher - Tiers of entry for exams

Grades Available:

Foundation Tier: Students can achieve grades 1 to 5. This means the maximum grade possible is a 5.

Higher Tier: Students can achieve grades 4 to 9, where a 9 is the highest possible grade.

Choosing the Right Level:

If a student is struggling with science or tends to score lower in tests, Foundation may be better suited to help them achieve a pass (grades 1-5).

For students aiming for higher grades and who consistently achieve a grade 5 or higher in all sciences, Higher might be a better fit to help them access grades 6 to 9.

Foundation or Higher - Tiers of entry for exams

Risk of the Higher Paper:

If a student sits the Higher Tier exam but does not perform well, they risk getting a U (unclassified), if they don't reach at least a grade 4. This can be risky for students who are borderline between the two levels.

Our aim is always to secure the best possible grade for our students and allow as many as possible progression to A level. For A level sciences students need at least two grade 6's in science, it does not make a difference if those 6s come from separate sciences or from trilogy combined science. Our entry for A-Level sciences also requires a 5 or above on the higher maths paper.



I know how to... section

Formative assessment

- Mainly working content-based questions from past lessons.
- Looking to address misconceptions and gaps in knowledge.

		Misconceptions about the particle model 			
	Particle model	A	B	C	D
Question 1	A solid is heated up to become a liquid. Which statements are true?	Particles break free from the bonds that hold them together.	The solid particles expand.	The solid particles stay the same size.	The bonds holding the particles together weaken.
Question 2	When comparing a solid to a gas, which statement is true?	The solid particles are larger than the gas particles.	The solid particles are smaller than the gas particles.	They are different particles.	The solid particles are the same size as the gas particles.
Question 3	Why does steam take up more space than ice at room pressure?	The ice particles have no energy and cannot move around.	The steam particles are free to move around.	The steam particles are larger than the ice particles.	The ice particles are larger than the steam particles.



I know that... section

Formative assessment

- Test based on the knowledge goals for each topic, every lesson.
- Self-assessed by student in red pen
- Staff to review longer answers and highlight in green 3 EBIs questions that students should focus on when revising the topic.

KNOWLEDGE CHECK



DEEPER MARKING TASK: RP Specific Heat Capacity

Write the equation for working out Specific Heat Capacity (1)

Water in a kettle is boiled then cooled and the temperature of the water decreases by 22 °C. The mass of water in the kettle is 0.50 kg.

The specific heat capacity of water is 4200 J/kg °C. Calculate the energy transferred to the surroundings from the water.

Energy = _____ joules (2)

The energy transferred from the water in the kettle to the surroundings in 2 hours is 46 200 J.

The mass of water in the kettle is 0.50 kg.

The specific heat capacity of water is 4200 J/kg °C.

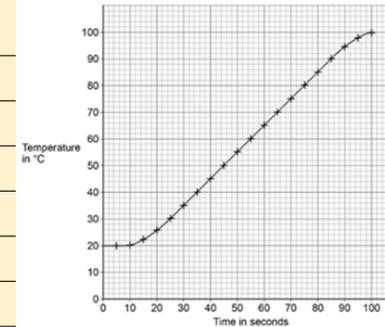
The initial temperature of the water is 100 °C.

Calculate the temperature of the water in the kettle after 2 hours.

A student heated water in an electric kettle. The student investigated how quickly the kettle could increase the temperature of 0.50 kg of water.

The graph below shows the results of the investigation.

Describe a method the student could have used to obtain the results shown in the graph.



(6)



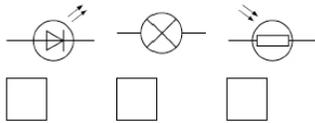
I know how to... section

Formative assessment

- Mainly working scientifically skills-based questions from past GCSE papers.
- Maximum 20 marks and teacher assessed in green pen.

Q1. A filament lamp breaks if the electric current in the filament becomes too big.

(a) What is the correct symbol for a filament lamp? Tick (✓) **one** box.



(1)

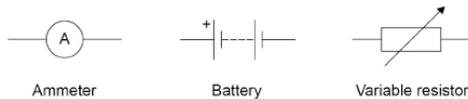
(b) What is meant by an electric current? Tick (✓) **one** box.

- The energy carried by each unit of charge
- The flow of electrical charge
- The number of electrons in a circuit
- The speed at which charge moves

(1)

A manufacturer investigated the maximum current value of some filament lamps.

(c) The figure below shows the symbols for an ammeter, a battery and a variable resistor.



The manufacturer connected an ammeter, battery, filament lamp and variable resistor in series.

Draw a circuit diagram to show the manufacturer's circuit. Include the symbol for a filament lamp from part (a)

(1)

(e) When the potential difference across a filament lamp was 0.75 V, the current in the filament lamp was 0.16 A.

Calculate the power of the filament lamp.

Use the equation: power = potential difference \times current

Power = _____ W

(2)

(f) Write down the equation which links charge flow (Q), current (I) and time (t).

(1)

(g) The manufacturer increased the current in the filament lamp to 200 mA.

Calculate the charge flow through the filament lamp in 15 s.

Charge flow = _____ C

(3)

(h) The manufacturer increased the current in the filament lamp from 200 mA.

The filament in the lamp broke when the current reached 320 mA.

How many times greater than 200 mA was the current at which the filament broke?

1hr 15min minute exam papers

- Consists of multiple exam style questions from past GCSE papers.
- Assessments will test knowledge and understanding of content while also assessing working scientifically skills.
- Questions will increase in demand from grade 1 to 5 on the foundation paper and 4 to 9 on the higher paper.

Q1. (a) Peter used the equipment below to investigate growth. Complete the table below.

equipment	measurement
	measures the temperature for the experiment
	measures mass
	measures mass

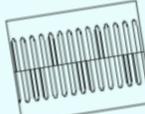
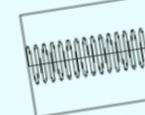
Q4. The drawings below show six ways of providing energy.

coal fire
burns coal to provide heat
A

gas boiler
burns gas to provide heat
D

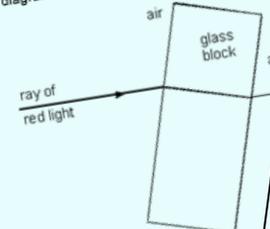
turbine
uses solar provides energy
E

The pupil then plays her flute at a higher pitch and more quietly.
Which diagram below shows the pattern that would be seen on the oscilloscope?

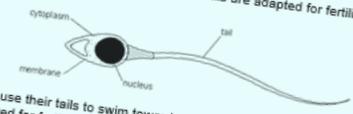
A  **B** 

C  **D** 

Q6. (a) The diagram below shows a ray of red light entering a glass block.



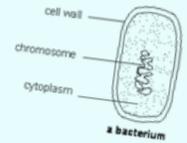
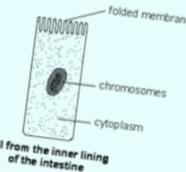
Q9. (a) The diagram shows a sperm cell. Sperm cells are adapted for fertilisation.



Sperm cells use their tails to swim towards an ovum (egg). This cell is adapted for fertilisation. Give one other way the sperm cell is adapted for fertilisation.

.....
.....

(b) The diagrams below show two other cells.

(i) Look at the diagrams above. What is the difference between the location of the genetic material in the bacterium and in the cell from the lining of the intestine?

.....
.....

(ii) What is the function of the genetic material in a cell?

.....
.....

(c) Cells in the lining of the intestine are adapted to absorb digested food. How does the folded membrane of these cells enable them to absorb the maximum amount of digested food?

.....
.....

How can I support my child with their science?

General advice

1. Check your child's planner and frog each week.
 - Discuss any planner comments with a focus on how to improve.
 - Talk to them about their homework.
2. Ask them what they have been learning in science.
 - Ask them to bring home their books to show you.
 - If they open up and say they are struggling email their teacher.
3. Encourage them to attend P7's - these will become compulsory at the end of year 10 and during year 11.

How can I support my child with their science?

Revision Support

Before any summative assessment, students will be given a revision list. This is a list of all the topics that may be assessed in the test.

Revision Homework: SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT 1

Task Objective: To revise the key concepts required for your summative assessment

To prepare for your forthcoming science test you will need to revise the following topics:

MATTER: Periodic table

- Atomic structure
- What are elements
- Structure of the periodic table

ECOSYSTEMS: Photosynthesis

- Word equation
- What photosynthesis is
- Factors affecting photosynthesis

MATTER: types of reaction

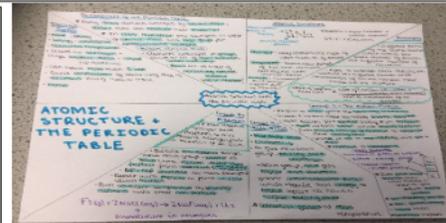
- What are compounds
- Writing word equations
- Balancing equations
- Chemical and physical changes
- Reactivity of metals
- Displacement reactions

Digestive system

- Balanced diet
- Food labels
- Digestive system
- Enzymes and how they work
- Digestive enzymes

Revision Tips:

- Make a revision poster to summarise all key points
- Make small flashcards to help memorise content
- Use BBC Bitesize to revise the key ideas and the end of topic quizzes to test your knowledge
- Don't forget to see you teacher if you have any questions!



YOU MUST PROVIDE EVIDENCE OF YOUR REVISION

Pearson
Revise

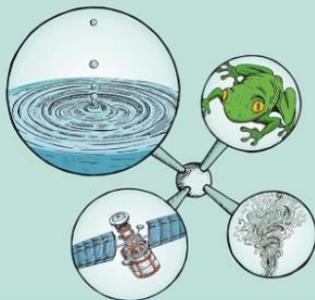
AQA GCSE (9-1)

Combined Science: Trilogy

Higher tier

Revision Guide

Includes **FREE** online book



Unbeatable revision and exam preparation

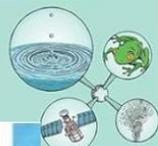
Pearson
Revise

AQA GCSE (9-1)

Combined Science: Trilogy

Foundation tier

Revision Workbook



AQA

Exam preparation

REVISION GUIDE

AQA

REVISE AQA GCSE (9-1)
Combined Science: Trilogy

REVISION GUIDE

Foundation

For the **9-1** exam



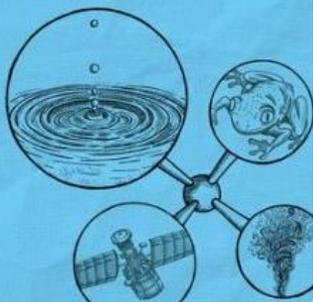
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Higher

For the **9-1** exam

Includes free online edition

Pearson



Biology
Paper 1

Had a look

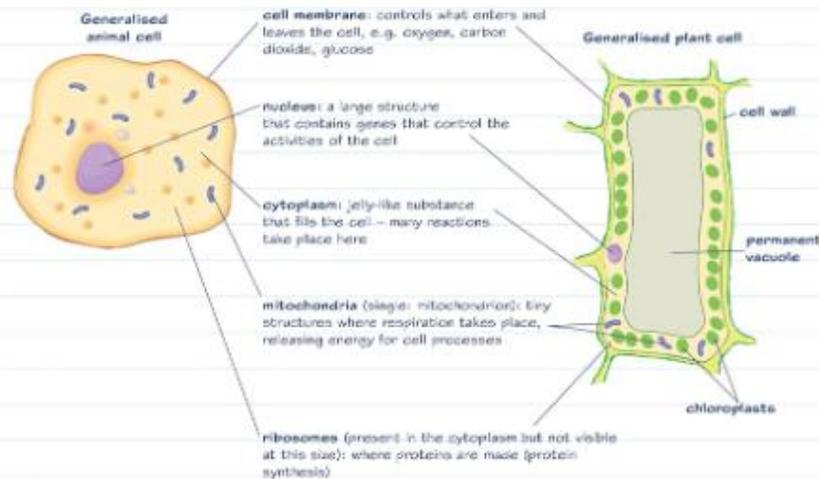
Nearly there

Nailed it!

Animal and plant cells

Animal cells and plant cells contain smaller structures which have different functions.

Structures of animal cells and plant cells



Worked example

Name the three structures that are present in most plant and algal cells, but are not present in animal cells. Describe the function of each structure. (3 marks)

Plant and algal cells contain a permanent **vacuole**. This is filled with cell sap and helps to keep the cell rigid. They have a **cell wall** made of cellulose, which strengthens the cell. They also contain **chloroplasts**. These are the structures where photosynthesis takes place to make food for the cell.

Algae are simple aquatic organisms. Their cells have a similar structure to plant cells, so algae used to be classified as plants. They are now classified as protists (see pages 34 and 74).

Take care not to confuse the cell wall with the cell membrane. Bacterial cells also have cell walls, but these are not made from cellulose.

Now try this

- Name the cell structures that are found in both animal cells and plant cells. (5 marks)
- Muscle cells contain more mitochondria than skin cells. Suggest an explanation for this. (2 marks)
- Cells found in plant roots do not usually contain chloroplasts. Suggest an explanation for this. (2 marks)

Revision

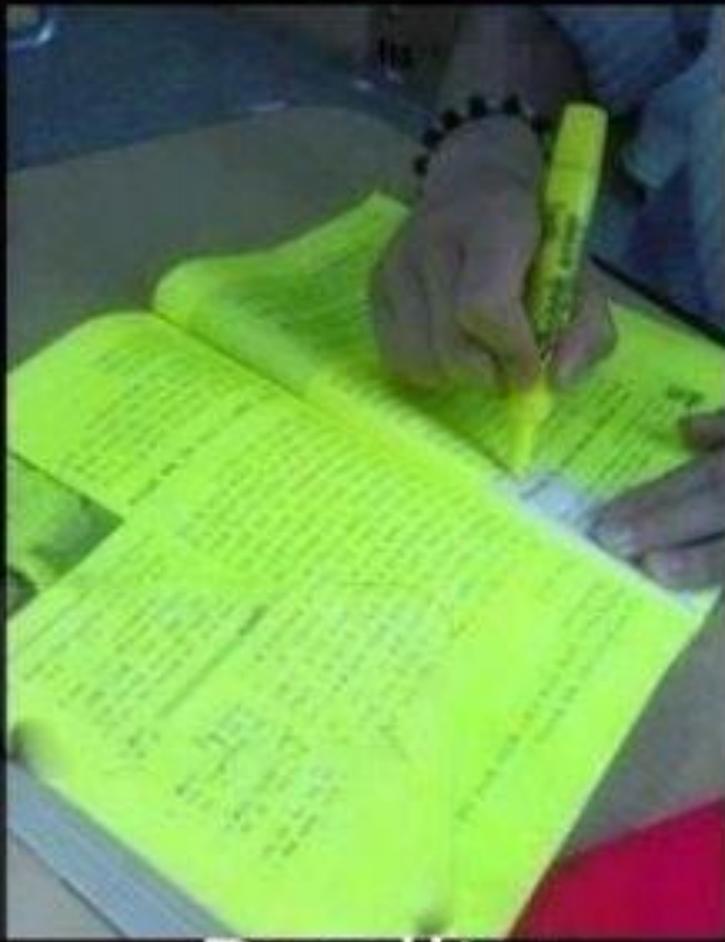
What students think happens with revision...



Summarizing before exam.



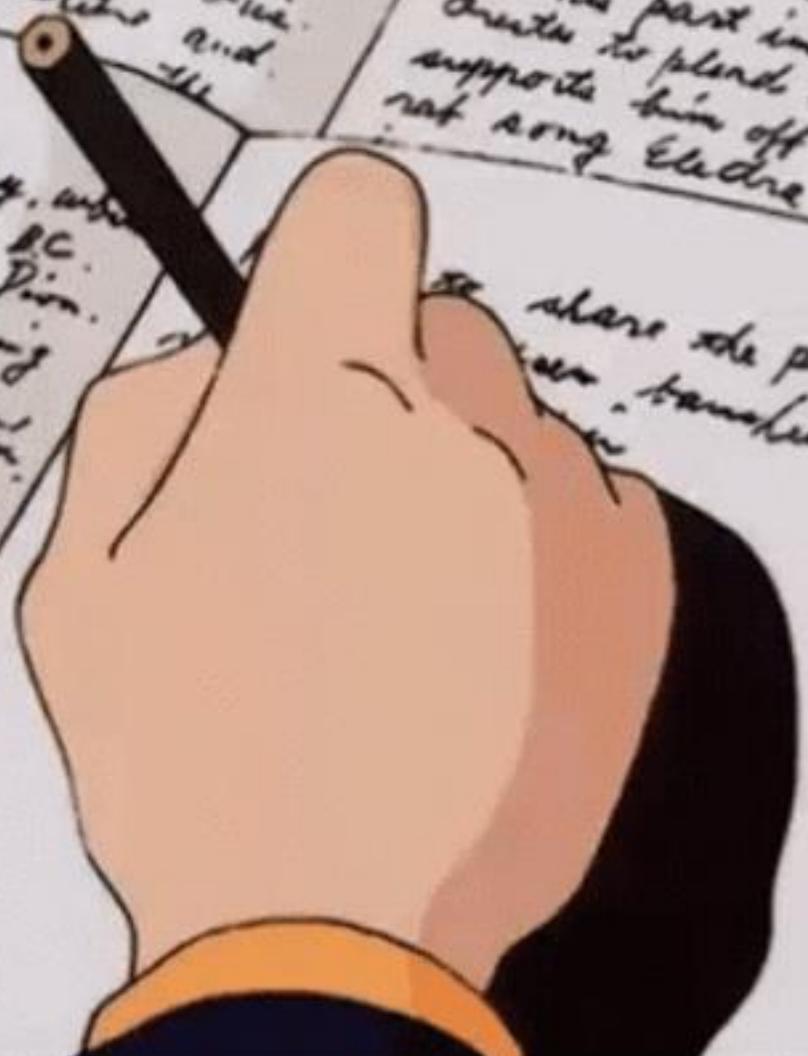
expectation



Reality

... to the court of
she should send. I know
they wake up the sleeping
sympathizers with these
in the mountains and
I am to

his last play, who
stages in 600 BC.
Theatre of Dion.
before having
accidoma,
do post contin.
of beachy.
accurately
then don!
tive and
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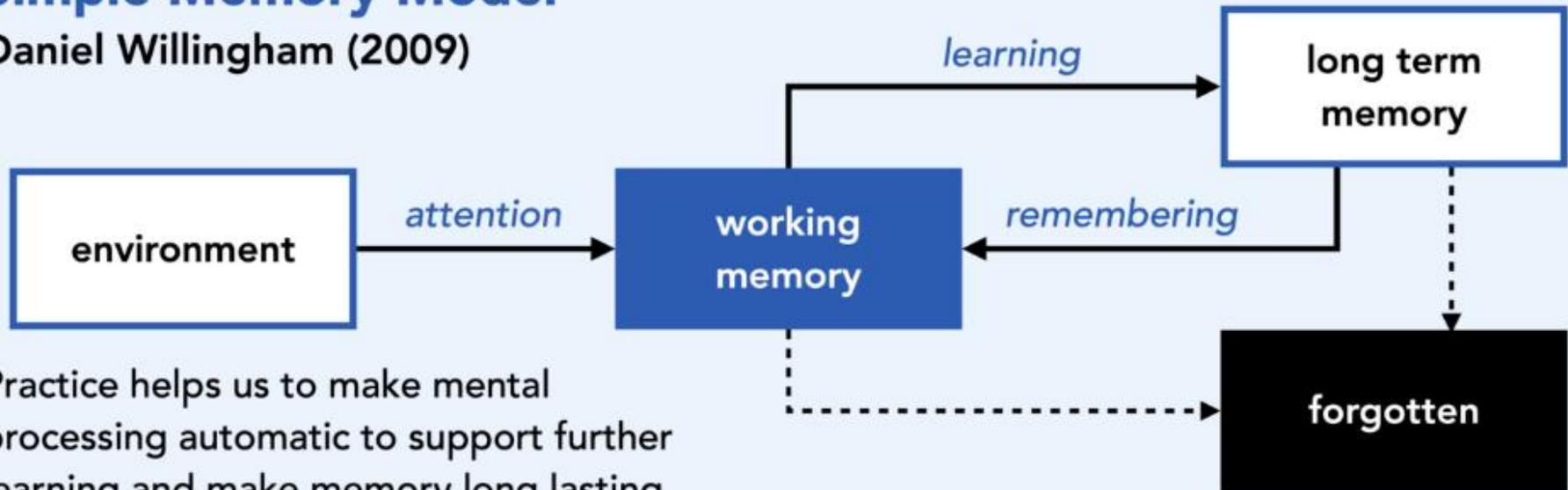
palace to share the prisoner's troubles.
He has been banished by his father
for his part in the matricide. He urges
Creon to plead his case at the trial and
support him off the stage. After the de-
part song Electra comes out and

... share the prisoner's trouble.
... banished by his father.

Best form of revision is retrieval practice ...

Simple Memory Model

Daniel Willingham (2009)



Practice helps us to make mental processing automatic to support further learning and make memory long lasting.

3 'R's: Remember It, Recall It,
Retain It.

Promote revision strategies that get your child to actively retrieve their learning.

Example: Flashcards.

Cards with question and the front and answers on the back.

ORGANISM: Digestion Summary Sheets

Food

We need to eat a wide variety of foods to get all the food substances that we need. When we do this, we are said to have a **balanced diet**. Carbohydrates, proteins, fats and oils (lipids), vitamins and minerals are **nutrients**, which means that they provide the raw materials for making other substances that the body needs.

Substance needed	Examples	Why it is needed	Good source
carbohydrate	starch, sugars	For energy in respiration	potatoes, bread, rice, potatoes
protein		for growth and repair (building new substances)	meat, fish, beans
vitamins	vitamin C	for health	fruits and vegetables (e.g. oranges contain lots of vitamin C)
minerals	calcium	for health	fruits, vegetables and dairy products (e.g. milk contains calcium)
fibre		for health (helps to stop constipation)	wholemeal bread, wholegrain rice, celery and other fibrous vegetables
water		for health (water dissolves substances and lets us eat)	

We can do tests to find out which substances are in foods. For example, starch makes iodine solution go a black colour.

Nutrition information labels on foodstuffs tell us what the food contains. The labels also tell us how much energy is stored in the substances that make up the food. The amount of energy is measured in kJ.

- levels of a
- age (some
- whether it

Food labels tell us how many calories are in the food. People strive to maintain a healthy weight. Vitamin C is an essential nutrient.

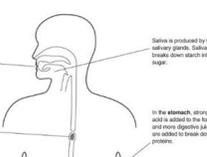
Digestion

Digestion is the process of breaking down food into smaller molecules that can be used by the body.

ORGANISM: Digestion Summary Sheets

The gut

Food is digested in the gut.



Putting food in the mouth is called **chewing** or **mastication**. The teeth grind up the food and mix it with **salivary glands** called **saliva**. Salivary glands contain enzymes.

Saliva is produced by the salivary glands. Saliva makes down starch into sugar.

In the stomach, strong acids are added to the food and more digestive juices are added to break down proteins.

Food is swallowed down the **gullet** (oesophagus) in food **bolus**. The muscles along the **oesophagus** get smaller (they contract).

Y8 Periodic table Assessment

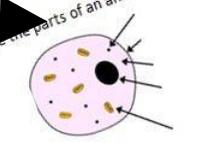
Name: _____ Class: _____

- I know that the periodic table is made from...
 - A. several different types of atoms.
 - B. only one type of atom.
 - C. made of two different types of atoms joined together.
 - D. made of different types of compounds.
- I know that an atom is made from...
 - A. Protons, neutrons, and molecules
 - B. Protons, electrons, and neutrons
 - C. Neutrons, electrons, and compounds
 - D. Electrons, neutrons, and cells
- I know that the atomic number of an element tells us...
 - A. the number of neutrons in an atom
 - B. the number of protons in an atom
 - C. the number of electrons in an atom
 - D. the mass of the atom
- I know how to calculate the number of neutrons in an atom.
 - A. Subtract the atomic number from the mass number.
 - B. Add the atomic number to the mass number.
 - C. Subtract the mass number from the atomic number.
 - D. Divide the mass number by the atomic number.
- I know that the electrons are...
 - A. located in the nucleus and have a positive charge.
 - B. located on the shells/orbitals and have a positive charge.
 - C. located in the nucleus and have a negative charge.
 - D. located on the shells/orbitals and have a negative charge.
- I know that the periodic table is a...
 - A. list of all known molecules
 - B. a list of all known elements
 - C. a chart of all known compounds
 - D. a table of all known atoms

Cell Biology

Biology Paper 1

Name the parts of an animal cell



TeachSci

Cell Biology

Biology Paper 1

What is the definition of diffusion?

The movement of particles from an area of high concentration to an area of low concentration.

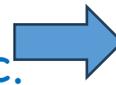
TeachSci

FOLD HERE AND GLUE INTO BOOK

Promote revision strategies that get your child to actively retrieve their learning.

Example: Brain dump

On an A4 piece of paper, write down what you can remember from the topic.



Use the summary sheet (one drive) to add any info in red that they couldn't recall.



RETRIEVAL PRACTICE – NO NOTES ALLOWED!

Without looking in your books, write down everything you remember about _____



REPEAT

!

Hopefully, each time they will remember more.

ORGANISM: Digestion

Food

We need to eat a wide variety of foods to get all the food substances that we need. When we do this, we are said to have a **balanced diet**. Carbohydrates, proteins, fats and oils (lipids), vitamins and minerals are **nutrients**, which means that they provide the raw materials for making other substances that the body needs.

Substance needed	Examples	Why it is needed	Good sources
Carbohydrates	starch, sugars	respiration)	pasta, bread, rice, potatoes
Proteins	amino acids	repair (cellular substances)	meat, fish, beans
Fats and oils	lipids	fruits and vegetables (e.g. oranges contain lots of Vitamin C)	fruits and vegetables
Minerals	calcium	fruits, vegetables and dairy products (e.g. milk contains calcium)	fruits, vegetables and dairy products
Vitamins	vitamin B1	wholemeal bread, wholegrain rice, celery and other fibrous vegetables	wholemeal bread, wholegrain rice, celery and other fibrous vegetables

Food that cannot be digested forms **faeces**. Faeces are stored in the **rectum**.

To help absorb the digested food, the wall of the small intestine is folded and covered with **villi**. The cells have **microvilli**. These features all increase the **surface area**. The wall of the small intestine is also only one-cell thick, meaning that it is easy for small molecules to **diffuse** out of the small intestine and into the blood. The digested food molecules are carried in the **blood plasma**.

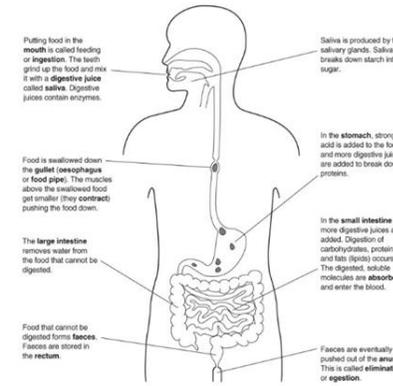
The surface area is the total area of the faces of a three-dimensional object.

ORGANISM: Digestion

Summary Sheets

The gut

Food is digested in the gut



Putting food in the mouth is called **feeding** or **ingestion**. The **teeth** grind up the food and mix it with a **digestive juice** called **saliva**. Digestive juices contain enzymes.

Saliva is produced by the **salivary glands**. Saliva breaks down starch into sugar.

In the **stomach**, **strong acid** is added to the food and more digestive juices are added to break down proteins.

In the **small intestine** more digestive juices are added. Digestion of carbohydrates, proteins and fats (lipids) occurs. The digested, soluble molecules are **absorbed** and enter the blood.

Faeces are eventually pushed out of the anus. This is called **elimination** or **egestion**.

When and how will course decisions be made?

Separate Sciences or Trilogy?

1. Differences in the courses

Our separate sciences are taught in the same amount of lesson time as trilogy higher science but contains a greater amount of content and as such is taught at a fast pace. We must ensure that we select students who have shown throughout their year 9 studies that they are ready for the challenge of the content, pace and demand of the separate science course.

2. Requirements for separates selection

Grade 5 across the three summative assessments in year 9.

3. When the decision be made

After the final assessment has been completed, all data will be reviewed and course selection and set selection will be arranged. Students will find out their course when they receive their timetable in September