



Patcham High School  
Ladies Mile Road, Brighton  
East Sussex, BN1 8PB

Telephone: 01273 503908  
Facsimile: 01273 562896  
E-mail: [office@patchamhigh.org.uk](mailto:office@patchamhigh.org.uk)  
Website: [www.patchamhigh.brighton-hove.sch.uk](http://www.patchamhigh.brighton-hove.sch.uk)

Headteacher: Paula Sargent

Dear Parents,

We are writing to tell you about changes that are occurring to the Triple Science GCSEs. Until now, Triple Science has resulted in 3 GCSE qualifications called Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Now that our government is insisting on terminal exams for everyone, all 6 of the science exams are planned to take place at the end of Year 11.

This would mean:

- a) a lot of revision work at this busy time,
- b) no mid-course reliable, national test of a student's progress to check they are on target,
- c) and no chance of any retakes until after the course is over.

However a second option has been announced. Students can now study the same triple science topics but then they can be assessed in a different way. The new way of combining those topics gives 3 science GCSEs called Core Science, Additional Science and Further Additional Science. The names are different but the content is identical to Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Core Science and Additional Science are well established GCSEs, Further Additional Science is a new title that has allowed this new combination of topics. With these new exams, students will be as prepared for A Level as they were with the separate sciences. Sixth Form Colleges will be happy to accept students onto Science A levels with the appropriate grade in the three science GCSEs in whatever format. Universities will not look on Further Additional Science as in anyway inferior to the three individual sciences.

The way it would work is as follows. These students will already have passed (gained a C or above) a Core Science GCSE from their Year 9 exams. By the end of Year 10 we will have completed



**INSPIRE**

*A Specialist School in  
English, Media &  
the Visual Arts*



visit: [www.patchamhigh.brighton-hove.sch.uk](http://www.patchamhigh.brighton-hove.sch.uk)

enough of the course to enable students to take the 2 exams leading to Additional Science GCSE. Students would then be awarded their Additional Science GCSE grade that August. In Year 11 we would complete the remainder of the course and at the end of Year 11 students would take the 2 exams for the Further Additional Science GCSE.

I see these advantages to using this new system of assessment:

- a) it would mean less science revision in Year 11 when students will be busy with many other subjects.
- b) National exams are a very reliable way to check a student is making adequate progress during the course.
- c) If a student does badly in their Year 10 exams (due to ill health for example), then they can have a shot at retaking that exam in Year 11.

Thus I propose to enter all triple science students for Additional Science GCSE at the end of Year 10 and Further Additional Science GCSE at the end of Year 11.

If you have any queries about these changes please contact me by email [jhall@patchamhigh.org.uk](mailto:jhall@patchamhigh.org.uk).

Regards,  
Mrs J Hall  
Head of Science

Current Triple Science Model			
B1, B2, B3 35% 75 min	B4, B5, B6 40% 90 min	Controlled assessment B 25%	GCSE Biology in Y11
C1, C2, C3 35% 75 min	C4, C5, C6 40% 90 min	Controlled assessment C 25%	GCSE Chemistry in Y11
P1, P2, P3 35% 75 min	P4, P5, P6 40% 90 min	Controlled assessment P 25%	GCSE Physics in Y11

New Triple Science Model			
B1,C1,P1 35% 75 min	B2, C2, P2 40% 90 min	Controlled assessment 25%	GCSE Core Science in Y9
B3, C3, P3 35% 75 min	B4, C4, P4 40% 90 min	Controlled assessment 25%	GCSE Additional Science in Y10
B5, C5, P5 35% 75 min	B6, C6, P6 40% 90 min	Controlled assessment 25%	GCSE Further Additional Science in Y11



visit: [www.patchamhigh.brighton-hove.sch.uk](http://www.patchamhigh.brighton-hove.sch.uk)

**INSPIRE**  
A Specialist School in  
English, Media &  
the Visual Arts