

Rationale for GCSE Combined Sciences Teacher Assessments 2021

This year students will receive grades awarded and determined by teachers, with students only assessed on what they have been taught and based on the standard at which they are performing.

Fairness and flexibility are at the heart of this plan. Teachers have been asked to draw on a range of evidence when determining grades, including the optional use of questions provided by exam boards, as well as mock exams, coursework, or other work completed as part of a student's course, such as essays or in-class tests.

The Process for awarding a Teacher Assessment Grade (TAG) for GCSE Combined Science at KNGS:

- At KNGS, GCSE Combined Science is taught by 3 specialist science teachers.
- GCSE Combined Science has 3 Components, Biology, Chemistry, and Physics, each of which is broken down over two papers in normal exam situations
- Throughout the course, the science department keeps records of data in order to calculate performance.
- Y10 assessment data covers all content from paper 1
- Y11 assessment data covers all content from paper 2
- Termly assessments are average grades, composed from biology, chemistry and physics components of equal weighting. Autumn 1, Autumn 2, and Spring 1 were 30 marks from each discipline, October 2020 was 25 marks from each discipline - 365 marks in total
- A greater amount of weight is given to paper 2 assessment to better reflect the working at grade.
- April structured assessments will cover the most recent content, all of which was covered during in-person lessons.
- Students will be given a list of what content to revise to minimise quantity of revision
- Exam board grade boundaries will be used when assigning grades.
- Internal quality assurance processes will take place to ensure that judgements are standardised.
- Any access arrangements and individual needs will be considered.
- Exam board support materials and guidance will be used to make grade judgements.

TAG Grades 2021

The range of evidence used ensures that all Assessment Objectives are covered. Furthermore, all syllabus components will be considered when calculating the TAG. The weighting will be as follows:

Component	Expected Evidence	Type of Assessment	Expected Weighting to that component
Average Mark from Termly Assessments	Autumn 1 Average 2019	Unseen	25%
	Autumn 2 Average 2019	Unseen	
	Spring 1 Average 2020	Unseen	
	Oct Autumn 1 Average 2020	Unseen	
Formal Structured Assessments	April 2021 Structured Assessment: Biology Paper 2	Unseen	25%
	April 2021 Structured Assessment: Chemistry Paper 2	Unseen	25%
	April 2021 Structured Assessment: Physics Paper 2	Unseen	25%