



Choosing to study science is an essential first step to many

careers Taking science not only leads on to a great variety of science based careers, anything from a vet to a dental nurse, but it's also a vital part of many other jobs.



Even jobs that appear unrelated to

science often contain elements of it and require knowledge or skills that are covered in science courses or an understanding of scientific processes. If your child hopes to be a pilot or a photographer, an electrician or an engineer; science is important.

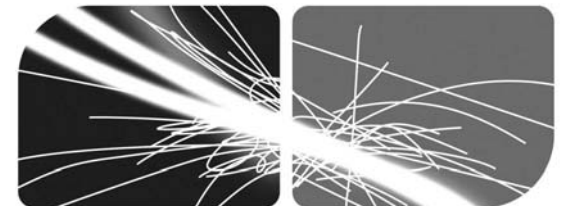
In addition to providing the basis for a good career, studying science is a well-established and respected means of acquiring the right credentials to pursue further studies at university.



**The Association
for Science Education**

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Choosing
Science at 14



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Why study science?

A curriculum that incorporates science is one that provides a balanced education and a rounded view of the world.

Studying science teaches students to think in a logical and precise fashion, and helps them to communicate with clarity and precision, as well as providing the intellectual apparatus to make informed and reasoned judgements on the issues of the day, long after they have left school.

It enables students to grow into adults with an understanding of the principles that our technologically based world is founded upon. It allows them to assess whether the risks posed in an increasingly scientific society are acceptable as well as enhancing their understanding of inventions and technological developments.

Studying science also gives students the confidence to tackle practical problems and allows them to become proficient at working as part of a team.

Those who study it learn to interpret data, a valuable asset in a world awash with information and statistics, and acquire the practical skills of observation and measurement that are readily translated into other areas of life and work.

What are the choices?



Deciding which courses to take at S3 is an important decision in the life of your child. Making the right choices now will open up opportunities for them in the future and enable them to benefit from a broad and balanced education. In S3 and 4 your child will have to study at least one science subject, from the following Standard grades, Biology, Chemistry, Physics or Science.

Biology and Biological Sciences study life in all its forms, from single cells to whole organisms and how they interact with each other and with their environment.



Chemistry and Chemical Sciences study substances in living and non-living things, what they are made of and how they interact.



Physics and Physical Sciences

study small particles and forces that make up and control the universe, they also develop new modes of communication, ways of diagnosing illness and much more.

All these subjects are offered at Credit and General level, in addition Science is also offered at Foundation level. The Science course offers a combination of Biology, Physics and Chemistry.

If your child has an interest in or wishes to follow a career in science then they should study two science subjects from Biology, Physics, or Chemistry. In some cases there may be an opportunity to study all three science subjects in S3. This will restrict your child's choice of other subjects and might mean other areas of their education are neglected.