

# **COURSE INFORMATION**



### **Course Title**

# GCSE Trilogy Science Foundation level



This blended learning course is designed for adult learners working towards the AQA GCSE Combined Science: Trilogy (Foundation Tier) qualification. The course aims to build learners' confidence and competence across the three core scientific disciplines: Biology, Chemistry, and Physics.

The course will be delivered primarily through **online distance learning**, supported by a minimum of **2 hours of guided learning activities per week**. These sessions may include key practical tasks, group discussions, and tutor-led activities.

This is an intensive course and there is an expectation that you must be prepared to complete weekly homework and commit to significant independent study in between the structured classes. There is an expectation to study for approx. 6 hours a week, in order to cover the full curriculum content, of this course.

# Course Description

#### **Course Delivery and Learning Methods**

Over approximately **30 weeks**, learners will engage with a variety of teaching and learning approaches, including:

- Interactive digital learning materials and Phet Animations
- Detailed PowerPoints and handouts
- Visual aids and video demonstrations
- Practice questions and mock exams
- Group and paired activities to encourage discussion and collaborative learning and practical work

#### **Course Content**

Learners will study key scientific concepts and develop essential skills in:

- Understanding scientific theories and principles in Biology, Chemistry, and Physics
- Applying scientific knowledge to real-world contexts

- Interpreting and analyzing data from experiments and investigations
- Developing practical skills through virtual and guided practical activities
- Using scientific vocabulary and mathematical techniques relevant to science

#### Assessment and Exams

The course follows the AQA GCSE Combined Science: Trilogy (8464) specification. Assessment is through six written exam papers (two each for Biology, Chemistry, and Physics), taken at the end of the course in May/June 2026. Each paper is 1 hour 15 minutes and contributes equally to the final grade.

Grades are awarded on the **9–1 scale**, with **Level 4** considered a standard pass and **Level 5** a good pass. For Trilogy Science you will see two grades as this course is equivalent to 2 GCSEs and you will be aiming for a 4:4-5:5

Exams take place in Comberton Village College and will be on dates set by the exams awarding body, you must ensure you can attend on the exam dates provided. Please note if this qualification is not achieved, it may be possible to re-sit the examination within the same academic year at an additional fee

Start Date	24 Sept 2025	Day & Time	Wednesday 19:00	Venue	Comberton Village College
Tutor Details	Suzanne Smith completed her teacher training qualification at the University of Reading over 20 years ago and has since taught in four secondary schools. She holds a PhD in Chemistry from the University of Warwick. Suzanne is also an examiner for A level OCR Chemistry.				
No. of wks	Approx. 30	Terms		3	
Fee	£756	Concessionary Fee		£582	
	Mixed ability				
Course Level:	Level 1, Level 2 (equiv. to GCSE / NVQ2)			Level 2	
	Level 3 Equivalent GCE A Level				

# Skills or qualifications needed for entry into the class

English Language and maths skills at a minimum of level 2 (or GCSE equivalent) are required to enroll onto our GCSE Science course.

All learners will need to complete an initial assessment in English and maths prior to enrolment, this will take place in person at Comberton Village College.

# **Course aims & objectives**

#### **Course Content**

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By the end of the course, and with the help of hard work and commitment, learners should be in a strong position to achieve a grade 5 in the final examinations.

A variety of teaching and learning approaches will be used, including digital learning materials and mock exams. Learners will be involved in various group activities from whole class to paired work and will have the opportunity to contribute by way of practical demonstrations and presentations.

In addition to the work covered in class, there will be compulsory independent learning set. This equates for approx. 6 hours independent study time per week, which must be completed by the deadline specified, in order to meet the minimum 240-hour teaching/learning requirement for this course.

## Progression – after this course what might you do next?

A GCSE Level 5 or higher will open up a variety of job and training opportunities for successful learners.

# **How progress & success will be recorded**

#### **Support and Progress Tracking**

Learners will receive regular feedback from tutors and have access to:

- Online forums and discussion groups
- One-to-one support sessions

Progress tracking tools to monitor development and readiness for exams

Initial diagnostic assessments will take place at the beginning of the course. Your progress will be regularly reviewed and recorded with the tutor using an independent learning plan (ILP). This document will be completed weekly by yourself as a record, to map your learning and track your achievement.

### **Additional course costs** (e.g. visits, materials, books, equipment)

This course will be taught both face to face and online, therefore you will need access to equipment that can run digital learning materials. You must be present and available during the lessons of this course and communicate fully with your tutor and learners. A minimum 90% attendance will be required, or you maybe withdrawn from the course.

You will be required to attend Comberton Village College to undertake additional exam practice sessions in the run up to the exams. All exams are held in person, in Comberton Village College.

All course materials will be provided by the tutor and will be emailed to all students after each class to support revision and self-study. It is necessary that:

- your email address can receive and open PowerPoint presentations which, in some cases, may be quite large.
- you have an A4 folder, A4 pad of paper, pens, pencils and a set of highlighters.
- you have a dictionary and/or thesaurus.

What to bring to the assessment	Photographic ID National Insurance Number Evidence of any prior learning, or certificates Supporting documents for any access arrangement requests, for the exam  Assessments are held in person in Comberton Village College and take approx. 60 minutes. Please contact us to arrange a booking.
Contact for further information	Community Education: 01223 264721 <a href="mailto:commed@combertonvc.org">commed@combertonvc.org</a>

#### **Enrolment and payment**

Enrolments in person, for all our courses, can take place from our office based at Comberton Village College. Please note, the quickest way to enrol onto a class will be to visit our website and follow the

online booking links from there. Enquiries can also be made by emailing <a href="mailto:commed@combertonvc.org">commed@combertonvc.org</a> or calling our office on 01223 264721.

We are a cashless school. We accept card and cheque payments (made payable to The Cam Academy Trust), from our office based in Comberton Village College.

Online enrolments can be paid directly in GBP (Sterling) via a secure server over the internet by debit or credit card. Online enrolment will ask for additional information that will enable us to register you, on your chosen course and allocate your payment accordingly.

We can accept payments in installments for this course, please contact us to arrange this.

Your debit/card details will be encrypted via a payment processing company Stripe, payment information is not held on college servers. If you are paying online for a course, you will also be asked for contact information to be provided. This information will be held by the college, so we are able to contact you if required.

For further information on Stripe and its privacy policy <a href="https://stripe.com/qb/privacy">https://stripe.com/qb/privacy</a>

For further information on how we use your data https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/privacy-information-key-stage-4-and-5-and-adult-education

Secure payment links for courses, can also be sent out via emails or text messages. This process would involve you being notified in advance, of a secure link due to be sent shortly afterwards. If required card payments, in person, can also be taken at the beginning of each term, via a portable payment system.

#### Refunds

If you choose to withdraw your booking, at least 2 weeks before the start date of a course, a refund will be given, minus a £5 administrative charge. Refunds are only available in the event of course cancellation or early closure from the college.

Classes cancelled by the college due to unforeseen circumstances, will be replaced with an extra class at the end of the course, whenever possible. For comprehensive details, please refer to our fees and refund policy which can be found on our website.

#### **Concessionary Fees**

A 25% discount is available for those in receipt of JSA/ESA, Universal Credit, Carers Allowance or a social care assessment (EHCP/PIP), evidence must be provided on enrolment. Most of our courses display two fees, the concessionary fee is the lower amount advertised. It is also possible to pay the fees for a course by instalments, please contact us directly for details.

#### **Equalities statement**

We are fully committed to equality of opportunity and welcome enrolments from all adults aged 19+ (on 31 August 2025). We positively encourage all learners with any concerns about specific needs which might affect their learning to discuss their requirements with us in confidence. We believe that everyone is entitled to learn in an environment that is free from discriminatory behaviour so that we build a community based on mutual trust and respect. We will do our best to ensure that resources and equipment are accessible to all and make reasonable adjustments to ensure that all learners can access activities.

Cambridgeshire County Council, Adult Learning and Skills service supports a wide range of other adult learning opportunities across Cambridgeshire to support adults with the lowest level of qualifications or no qualification at all, and so typically find themselves in lower paid, less secure jobs or unemployed. Search their website **www.cambsals.co.uk** for details of all their funded courses.

#### **Safeguarding Statement**

Arrangements have been made to make sure that you are safe at our Centers. If you feel you are not safe for any reason, for example through verbal or physical abuse or you have been discriminated against, please tell your tutor or the Centre Manager, who will investigate to ensure your safety.

**Calendar** (Please check start date of specific courses)

Autumn Term Half term 27<sup>th</sup> Oct – 31<sup>st</sup> Oct 2025 Spring Term Half term 16<sup>th</sup> Feb – 20<sup>th</sup> Feb 2026 Summer Term Half term 25<sup>th</sup> May – 29<sup>th</sup> May 2026