

Science

What will I learn?

The S3 Science course is broadly based around the content of level 3 and 4 CfE outcomes. These outcomes give teachers scope to explore many interesting and up-to-date aspects of Science including: alternative fuels, local versus imported foods, physiological measurements and the effects of poor health choices. There are 3 main units described below:

- Fragile Earth- uses of energy.
- Human Health- threats to health and lifestyle choices.
- Applications of Science- telecommunications, materials and safety.

What skills will I improve?

The topics have planned to allow pupils to progress their knowledge of science from the foundations of S1 and S2 Science. In order to prepare pupils effectively for progression onto N3 and N4 science the S3 course will also have a strong skills focus. Staff have analysed the new N3/4 qualifications and selected out specific skills which pupils need to develop in order to succeed as they continue to study science. For example:

- Numeracy- pupils will develop their selecting, predicting and processing skills by looking at experimental data.
- Literacy- pupils will be exposed to increasingly complex vocabulary and encouraged to develop their skills in describing and explaining biological concepts. Scientific report writing skills will also be improved through continued practice and feedback.
- Practical- pupils will carry out increasingly complex and interesting experiments which they will have a hand in planning.
- ICT- pupils will make use of the internet to research new and interesting areas of science before making summary reports of their findings.
- HWB- pupils have the chance to learn about key areas of human health which can be affected by poor choices and improved through a healthy lifestyle.

How will I be assessed?

The knowledge content of the course will be assessed continuously as the course progresses and through an end of unit test. Literacy and numeracy skills will also be assessed as pupils progress in class with some skills based questions at the end of the unit test as well.

What can I do next?

The S3 Science course is essential for studying science in the senior phase at various levels and will also be effective preparation for various other courses on offer at the colleges:

- N3/4 Science
- N5 Biology, Chemistry or Physics (in S5/6)
- Other Science courses at college
- University courses