

GCE Life and Health Sciences (Single and Double Award) Specification Addendum

Exceptional Assessment Adaptations (for 2020–2021)

This addendum should be used in conjunction with the current specification

The table below details any temporary adaptations that have been made due to public health restrictions for Summer 2021.

Please note: This applies only to candidates entering in Summer 2021

Content	Assessment	Single Award Weightings	Double Award Weightings	Assessment Adaptations 2020–2021
Unit AS 1: Experimental Techniques	Internal assessment Core unit	33.34% of AS 13.34% of A level	16.67% of AS 6.67% of A level	The requirement to conduct 12 experimental techniques is reduced to 9 . Any 3 out of the 4 for each of the scientific areas.
Unit AS 2: Human Body Systems	External written examination Core unit 1 hour 30 mins	33.33% of AS 13.33% of A level	16.67% of AS 6.67% of A level	No changes
Unit AS 3: Aspects of Physical Chemistry in Industrial Processes	External written examination Core unit 1 hour 30 mins	33.33% of AS 13.33% of A level	16.67% of AS 6.67% of A level	No changes
Unit AS 4: Brain Science	Internal assessment Core unit (Double Award)		16.66% of AS 6.66% of A level	No changes
Unit AS 5: Material Science	External written examination Core unit (Double Award) 1 hour 30 mins		16.67% of AS 6.67% of A level	No changes
Unit AS 6: Medicine, Drugs and Clinical Trials	Internal assessment Core unit (Double Award)		16.66% of AS 6.66% of A level	No changes

Content	Assessment	Single Award Weightings	Double Award Weightings	Assessment Adaptations 2020–2021
Unit A2 1: Scientific Method, Investigation, Analysis and Evaluation	Internal assessment Core unit	20% of A level	10% of A level	No changes
Unit A2 2: Organic Chemistry	External written examination 1 hour 45 mins Core unit	20% of A level	10% of A level	No changes
Unit A2 3: Medical Physics	External written examination 1 hour 45 mins Optional units	20% of A level (Single Award students take any one of these units.)	10% of A level for each unit (Double Award students take any two of these units.)	No changes
Unit A2 4: Sound and Light				
Unit A2 5: Genetics, Stem Cell Research and Cloning				
Unit A2 6: Microbiology	Internal assessment Optional units		10% of A level for each unit (Double Award students take any two of these units.)	No changes
Unit A2 7: Oral Health and Dentistry				
Unit A2 8: Histology and Pathology				
Unit A2 9: Analytical Chemistry Techniques				
Unit A2 10: Enabling Technology				

For candidates who started their GCE course in September 2019 and hope to achieve a GCE qualification level grade in Summer 2021, they will be awarded a grade based on their performance in their A2 units only.

If a candidate decides they wish to re-enter for the corresponding AS units, they will be awarded the higher of two options:

- a) the grade based on the outcome of the A2 exams; or
- b) the grade based on the outcome of the AS and A2 exams together.

Candidates who commenced their course in September 2019 and wish to re-enter AS units must enter for all AS units.

For candidates commencing their GCE course in September 2020, it is recommended that, as far as possible, the units are delivered in numerical order in case of any further disruption to the academic year.