



## Pearson Edexcel Level 1 / Level 2 GCSE (9-1)

- **Biology (1BI0)**
- **Chemistry (1CH0)**
- **Physics (1PH0)**
- **Combined Science (1SC0)**

## Summer 2021 assessment arrangements

### Introduction

On 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2020, Ofqual announced changes to the Summer 2021 examination series in some subjects. These changes are an interim measure to address any impact COVID-19 has had/will have on students taking their examination in 2021.

The changes announced have had an impact on this qualification. The information below details what changes have been made to our specification and sample assessment materials for students taking their final examinations in Summer 2021.

The changes outlined in this document are correct as of the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2020.

### Summary of the current content and assessment arrangements

- Students must carry out all of the mandatory core practicals listed in the specification (8 in Biology, Chemistry & Physics; 18 in Combined Science)
- Teachers must sign a declaration confirming that reasonable steps have been taken to ensure each candidate has completed each of the practical activities.

### Summary of the Summer 2021 assessment arrangements

Students are now permitted to observe demonstrations and/or simulations of the core practicals to cover required apparatus and techniques.



## Changes to the specification

- [Biology](#) (Issue 3)
- [Chemistry](#) (Issue 3)
- [Physics](#) (Issue 3)
- [Combined Science](#) (Issue 5)

Page/ Component reference(s)	Specification states:	Changes made for Summer 2021 assessments only
“Practical work” section	“Students must carry out all... of the mandatory core practicals listed below”	It is now permitted for students to observe demonstrations / simulations in place of carrying out practical work themselves.
p8 (Biology)	“Centres must confirm that each student has completed the... mandatory core practicals.”	Centres will still need to confirm that students have completed the mandatory core practicals, but this can be by observation of demonstrations / simulations in place of carrying out practical work themselves.
p8 – 9 (Chemistry)		
p9 – 10 (Physics)		
p10 – 12 (Combined Science)	“Centres must complete and submit a Practical Science Statement to confirm that all students have completed the eight mandatory core practicals”	A revised declaration form will be made available.
Appendix 4 (Biology)	<b>Practical Science statement</b>  The Head teachers sign this to confirm that: “reasonable steps have been taken to ensure each candidate has completed the practical activities set out above in accordance with Pearson Edexcel Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9–1) in Biology/Chemistry/Physics/Combined Science practical science work requirements.”	The requirement for students to conduct practicals has been modified.  It is now permitted for students to observe demonstrations / simulations in place of carrying out practical work themselves.  A revised declaration form will be made available.
Appendix 5 (Chemistry)		
Appendix 6 (Physics)		
Appendix 7 (Combined Science)		

## Sample Assessment Materials (SAMs)

There are no changes to the SAMs in GCSE Biology, Chemistry, Physics or Combined Science.