



# How to Succeed with A level Sciences

Hopefully you have chosen a science course because you are good at it and you enjoy doing it. At A level, you will need a greater depth of knowledge and understanding, and a more analytical approach. This leaflet covers key skills which will help you. At first any new routine feels uncomfortable, but the effort of developing more effective study habits will be quickly repaid by increased confidence and success.

## Organising Your Time & Meeting Deadlines

Compared with school timetables, you will already have noticed the big gaps in your teaching week. You are expected to use this time for your studies.

At A level the pace of new ideas is brisk. In this course you will need to study about 5 hours weekly outside lessons. It is important that you do not fall behind on work set. Deeper understanding comes from thorough study. Deadlines are set so that you do not fall behind, because it will very quickly undermine your enjoyment of the course and your self-confidence.

You will get general advice on using time effectively in Tutorials.

## Your Folder

During this course you will collect class notes, printed sheets, homeworks, and revision notes. These things will be useful to you later. We *strongly recommend* you use *one ring binder per subject*. Your folder will be more useful if it is well organised. One way which works for many students is:

- dividers separating sections *by topic* (not simply date order)
- all pages are punched and filed in the correct place
- a general section for
  - year plan
  - advice on how to . . .
  - practical techniques
  - formulae & definitions
  - etc

Your teacher will periodically check your folder.