

KS3 Science curriculum overview 2026-2027

Year	HT 1	HT2	HT3	HT4	HT5	HT6
7	Particles	Forces	Magnetism	Space	Digestion	Reproduction
	1 Properties of solids, liquids and gases 2 The particle model 3 Compare solids, liquids and gases 4 Changes of state 5 Melting and boiling points 6 Investigate changes of state 7 Brownian motion 8 Diffusion 9 Gas pressure	1 Balanced and unbalanced forces 2 Calculate resultant force 3 Weight 4 Friction 5 Investigate friction 6 Resistance in air 7 Investigate resistance in air 8 Resistance in liquids	1 Magnetic materials 2 Magnetic force 3 Magnetic fields 4 Investigate magnetic fields 5 The Earth's magnetic field system 6 Investigate magnetic fields between magnets	1 The Solar System 2 Gravity, mass and weight 3 Models of the Solar System 4 Stars and galaxies 5 Patterns of light on the Earth and the Moon 6 Seasonal heating of the Earth	1 Human diet 2 Digestion and enzymes 3 Benedict's test 4 The digestive system 5 Adaptations of the digestive system 6 Energy values and requirements 7 Energy in foods 8 Unbalanced diets 9 Lifestyle choices	1 Gametes 2 Male reproductive system 3 Female reproductive system 4 The menstrual cycle 5 Fertilisation 6 Gestation and birth 7 Plant reproductive system 8 Pollination and fertilisation 9 Seed dispersal and germination 10 Investigate seed dispersal
	Cells	Separation	Chemical Reactions	Acids and alkalis	Gas exchange	Waves
	1 Organisms 2 The light microscope 3 Animal cells 4 Observe animal cells 5 Plant cells 6 Explore plant cells 7 Unicellular organisms 8 Sizes of biological structures	1 Atoms, elements and compounds 2 Pure and impure substances 3 Solutions 4 Solubility 5 Filtration 6 Crystallisation and evaporation 7 Distillation 8 Chromatography 9 Apply separation techniques	1 The periodic table of elements 2 Represent chemical substances 3 Physical and chemical changes 4 Represent chemical reactions 5 Oxidation and combustion 6 Combustion	1 Acids and alkalis 2 Indicators 3 Neutralisation 4 Naming salts 5 Making salts 6 Acid rain	1 The respiratory system 2 Mechanism of breathing 3 Gas exchange 4 Adaptations of the respiratory system 5 Health and lungs 6 Plan – Lung volume 7 Investigate – Lung volume 8 Evaluate – Lung volume Respiratory diseases	1 Transverse waves 2 Longitudinal waves 3 Represent waves 4 The ear and audible ranges 5 Echoes and reflection 6 Uses of ultrasound 7 Seismic waves

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8	Chemical reactions	Digestion	Waves	Light	Density and pressure	Respiration
	1 The periodic table of elements 2 Represent chemical substances 3 Physical and chemical changes 4 Represent chemical reactions 5 Oxidation and combustion 6 Combustion	1 Human diet 2 Digestion and enzymes 3 Benedict's test 4 The digestive system 5 Adaptations of the digestive system 6 Energy values and requirements 7 Energy in foods 8 Unbalanced diets 9 Lifestyle choices	1 Transverse waves 2 Longitudinal waves 3 Represent waves 4 The ear and audible ranges 5 Echoes and reflection 6 Uses of ultrasound 7 Seismic waves	1 Light as waves 2 Pinhole camera 3 Reflection 4 Refraction 5 Convex lenses 6 Compare cameras and eyes 7 White and coloured light 8 Optical filters 9 Objects under coloured light 10 Electromagnetic spectrum	1 Calculate density 2 Measure density of liquids 3 Pressure in fluids 4 Float or sink? 5 Calculate pressure 6 Calculate pressure in a liquid	1 Aerobic respiration 2 Anaerobic respiration in humans 3 Anaerobic respiration in plants and microorganisms 4 Investigate anaerobic respiration in microorganisms 5 Compare aerobic and anaerobic respiration
	Magnetism	Energetics	Gas Exchange	Reactions of metals	Coordination	Genetics
	1 Magnetic materials 2 Magnetic force 3 Magnetic fields 4 Investigate magnetic fields 5 The Earth's magnetic field system 6 Investigate magnetic fields between magnets	1 Exothermic and endothermic processes 2 Plan – Exothermic reactions 3 Investigate – Exothermic reactions 4 Evaluate – Exothermic reactions 5 Thermal decomposition 6 Catalysts	1 The respiratory system 2 Mechanism of breathing 3 Gas exchange 4 Adaptations of the respiratory system 5 Health and lungs 6 Plan – Lung volume 7 Investigate – Lung volume 8 Evaluate – Lung volume Respiratory diseases	1 Conservation of mass 2 Oxidation of metals 3 Metal and acid reactions 4 Observe metal and acid reactions 5 Metal oxide and acid reactions 6 Observe metal oxide and acid reactions 7 Metal carbonate and acid reactions 8 Observe metal carbonate and acid reactions	1 The musculoskeletal system 2 Movement of the skeleton 3 Moments – joints as levers 4 The nervous system 5 Neurones	1 DNA and chromosomes 2 Discovery of DNA 3 Extract DNA 4 Alleles 5 Genetic crosses 6 Mendel and inheritance

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9	Periodic Table	Speed distance time	Bioenergetics	Variation	Reactivity	Atoms
	1 Atomic structure 2 Electron configuration 3 Interpret the periodic table 4 Properties of metals 5 Properties of non-metals 6 Group 1 7 Group 7 8 Word equations 9 Symbol equations	1 Speed and relative motion 2 Calculate speed 3 Solve speed 4 Interpret distance–time graphs 5 Draw distance–time graphs 6 Investigate speed 7 Speed–time graphs	1 Photosynthesis 2 History of photosynthesis 3 Leaf adaptations 4 Sucrose transport in plants 5 Uses of carbohydrates in plants 6 Sustainability 7 Aerobic respiration 8 Investigate aerobic respiration 9 Exercise and respiration 10 Compare photosynthesis and respiration	1 Variation 2 Adaptations and competition 3 Natural selection 4 Speciation 5 Extinction	1 Reactions of metals 2 The reactivity series 3 Displacement reactions 4 Balance equations 5 Investigate – Displacement reactions 6 Extraction of metals with carbon	1 Atoms, elements, compounds and mixtures 2 The nuclear model 3 Development of the atomic model 4 Electron configuration 5 Isotopes 6 Relative atomic mass 7 Relative formula mass 8 The periodic table 9 Development of the periodic table
	Transport systems	Atmosphere	Engineering	Energy and power	Cells	Forces
	1 Blood 2 Blood vessels 3 The heart 4 Organisation in plants 5 Water transport in plants	1 The Earth's atmosphere 2 The carbon cycle 3 Causes of climate change 4 Effects of climate change 5 Reducing climate change	1 Hooke's law 2 Elasticity of plastic 3 Calculate moments 4 Investigate moments in equilibrium 5 Machines and energy 6 Gears and pulleys 7 Efficiency	1 Energy stores 2 Energy pathways 3 Mechanical working 4 Electrical working 5 Compare power of appliances 6 Calculate power 7 Domestic fuel bills 8 Electrical power in circuits	1 Eukaryotes 2 Prokaryotes 3 Sizes of cells 4 Calculate sizes of cells 5 Observe cells 6 Compare microscopes 7 Stem cells 8 Uses of stem cells 9 Cell differentiation 10 Cell specialisation 11 The cell cycle	1 Weight, mass and gravity 2 Contact and non-contact forces 3 Newton's First Law 4 Newton's Third Law 5 Scalar and vector quantities