

## NOTICE TO CENTRES

FAO: Head of Science/KS4 Science Coordinator

Date: September 2006

Subject: Gateway Science Suite

### Equations

This notice is to clarify the situation regarding equations in the externally assessed units of Science B Gateway Suite specifications. OCR in line with the other Awarding Bodies does not require candidates to recall the equations.

In the Assessable learning outcomes within the specifications the phrase “state and use the equation” is given. However, candidates will not be expected to recall and state equations in any of the examination papers. They will be required to use the equations in answering questions. Therefore candidates will need to be familiar with the equations so they are able to select the correct equation from the list provided on the examination paper.

Candidates will be provided with an appropriate list of equations (printed on page 2) for the externally assessed papers where required.

Different lists of equations have been designed to meet the requirements of the different external units and also for Foundation and Higher candidates. It is therefore important that candidates are given the opportunity to use these lists prior to the examination. Copies are attached to this notice.

### Periodic Table

All examination papers assessing chemistry modules C1, C2, C3, C4, C5 and C6 will have the Periodic Table printed on the back page. A copy is attached to this notice for information.

Centres are advised to familiarise candidates with this version during the course.

### Examination Entries

The certification codes for the Gateway Science Suite are shown below:

Science J640

Additional Science J641

Biology J643

Chemistry J644

Physics J645

Candidates can be entered for individual units but to gain an overall grade a certification entry must be made.

# NOTICE TO CENTRES *continued*

A candidate who has completed all the units required for the qualification may enter for certification either in the same examination session (within a specified period after publication of results) or at a later session. Making entries for units will not mean that the units are aggregated into an overall award by OCR. This will only happen if a certification entry is made.

First certification for Science will be available in June 2007 and then every January and June thereafter.

First certification for Additional Science, Biology, Chemistry and Physics will be available in June 2008 and then every January and June thereafter.

It is important to remember that certification cannot be declined.

## Internal Skills Assessment

All stimulus materials for the Internal Skills Assessment tasks are available on OCR Interchange.

Instructions for downloading these tasks are given in a document called 'Using OCR Interchange'. This can be downloaded from the website [www.gcse-science.com](http://www.gcse-science.com). It can be located in the Teachers and Centres section under Sample Assessment Materials, Gateway.

Centres are reminded that the Internal Skills Assessment materials are confidential and should be stored securely. **Candidates should not be given the Research Study confidential Anticipated Responses.**

A centre wishing to develop their own Science in the News stimulus material should refer to the guidance notes which are available from their Cluster Coordinator or the website above in the section Sample Assessment Materials, Gateway, Skills Assessment Coursework Guidelines.

In the first year OCR recommends centres to use an OCR produced Science in the News.

## Advice to Candidates

All Gateway examination papers will be marked electronically. This means the pages of the examination paper are scanned. Candidates need to be made aware that they should not write outside the box on each page of the examination paper. **Anything written outside this area will not be marked.**

Any enquiry about this notice should be referred to the OCR Customer Contact Centre, (01223 553998), OCR, 1 Hills Road, Cambridge, CB1 2EU.

# **NOTICE TO CENTRES** *continued*