

## GCSE 2009 Astronomy



How might your candidates' journey through the new GCSE 2009 differs from that taken through the old Astronomy 1627 specification?

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| Modular -              | Greater flexibility in sitting exams when your students are ready and opportunities to improve at a later stage.   |
| Resits                 | Only one resit opportunity for each unit is available  |
| Terminal requirement - | at least 40% of the entire GCSE must be completed at the end of the course - this means for GCSE Astronomy, Unit 1 must be taken in the final examination session. Student could complete the controlled assessment part of the qualification (25%) in the first year. |
| Uniform Mark Scale -   | Candidates' best marks are stored for aggregation at the end of the course, ensuring their best performance is awarded, however the scores for the units being used to satisfy the terminal rule will be used even if they are lower than those held in the bank       |
| The GCSE standard -    | All units are assessed at the GCSE standard in whichever exam series they are offered  |

**Below is an example of how your candidates' experience of the new specification might differ to that of the old**

Please note: this example is not a recommendation of how the course should be sat or the number of hours required to deliver the course but an example of some of the ways that the qualification might be approached. There may be alternative ways to approach the qualification.

### Legacy GCSE Astronomy 1627

| Unit availability     | weightings % | Mode       | Max Sbj Mark |               |
|-----------------------|--------------|------------|--------------|---------------|
| JUNE                  |              |            |              |               |
| ACQUIRING GCSE SKILLS |              |            |              |               |
| Examined unit         | 75           | Exam       | 100          | Overall grade |
| Internal assessment   | 25           | Coursework |              |               |

### GCSE 2009: Astronomy (2AS01)

| Unit availability   | weightings % | Mode       | Max UMS Mark |               |
|---|--------------|------------|--------------|---------------|
| JUNE  |              |            |              |               |
| 5AS01   |              |            |              |               |
| ACQUIRING GCSE SKILLS   |              |            |              |               |
| Unit 1 Understanding the universe                                     | 75           | Exam       | 100          | Overall grade |
| Unit 2 Exploring the universe (unit could be completed on first year) | 25           | Controlled |              |               |

For more information about Edexcel's new GCSEs from 2009 go to:

[www.edexcel.com/GCSE09-resultsupport](http://www.edexcel.com/GCSE09-resultsupport)