**STAGE 2 CHEMISTRY**

**ASSESSMENT TYPE 1: Investigation Folio**

**Issues Investigation**

###### Purpose

This assessment provides you with the opportunity to inquire into an issue of social and environmental relevance relating to Environmental Chemistry. You will demonstrate your ability to:

* formulate a question for investigation
* gather information from different sources
* analyse your findings
* critically evaluate the evidence
* present a written report on your findings

**Description of Assessment**

There are two parts to this investigation. Combined length of Part A and Part B is a maximum of 1500 words.

***Part A: Formulation of a question and information search***

* You are required to choose an issue relating to Environmental Chemistry. Issues you could choose from, but are not limited to, include:
	+ Biofuels (eg bioethanol, bioalgae, biodiesel)
	+ Desalination plants
	+ Coal seam gas recovery
	+ Fuel cells (eg hydrogen, methanol)
	+ Mining Industry (eg lead, coal, natural gas)
	+ Pesticide use
	+ Industrial waste storage/disposal
	+ Fertiliser use
	+ CO2 sequestration
* You need to formulate a question that allows you to investigate the different perspectives of the issue. You may find it useful to begin your question with "Should..."
* Locate and choose 2 relevant articles that you intend to use.
* Annotate each article and highlight any relevant information relating to your issue. You need to consider suitability, credibility, accuracy and bias when reading the article. (**Annotations will count towards your word count)**
* Write a paragraph or two comparing and contrasting the 2 articles. You need to consider content, suitability to the issue, credibility, accuracy, bias, clarity and any other distinguishing features of the article.
* Submit the articles with your evaluation

Part A is to be completed prior to writing your report. Word count should be approximately 300 words (*this includes the annotations on your article plus your overall comparison of the two articles*)

***Part B: Report***

You will use the information that you have gathered to write a report that critically analyses and evaluates the issue to enable you to link concepts and use evidence to draw logical conclusions.

The report should include:

* an introduction that identifies the issue being investigated
* relevant chemical background to the issue
* identification and explanation of the different perspectives of the issue
* a summary of findings and an explanation from your own personal view
* appropriate referencing and a reference list