Science mark scheme terms for teachers

Term	Definition
NOT	This indicates that an incorrect answer is not to be disregarded but cancels another otherwise correct alternative offered by the learner. i.e. right plus wrong penalty applies.
IGNORE	The alternative to **NOT** – an incorrect answer that **can** be disregarded - is sometimes expressed in the mark schemes as **IGNORE.**
AND	This indicates that **both** answers are required to score the mark.
e.c.f	This means "**error carried forward**". This indicates that if a learner has made an earlier mistake and has carried his or her incorrect value forward to subsequent stages of working, he or she may be given marks indicated by e.c.f. provided his or her subsequent working is correct, bearing in mind his or her earlier mistake. This prevents a learner being penalised more than once for a mistake, but only applies to marks annotated "e.c.f."
e.e.o.o:	The learner loses marks for "**each error or omission**".
c.a.o.	Accept the "**correct answer only**" for the mark.
o.w.t.t.e.	This means **"Or words to that effect"** and should be used if the learner has written an answer that is different to that stated in the mark scheme but answer still assumes the same meaning.
o.e.	This means **"Or equivalent"** and should be used where an answer is given that has the same meaning and is relevant in the context of the question.
i.s.w.	Where **"Ignore subsequent workings "** is shown, any workings that are shown for the response to a further question can be ignored as it is not required for the marks.
s.o.i	This means **"Seen or implied".** Similar to "or equivalent", this should be used where the response to an answer has been seen previously or is implicit within another area where the learner has responded, e.g. a diagram.
o.r.a	This means **"Or reverse argument"** and should be used where a learner has given the reverse or opposite response as that stated in the mark scheme. In most cases this still shows an understanding of the concept being assessed.

b.o.d	This means "**benefit of doubt**". Where a learner provides an answer that is not wholly satisfactory but the teacher feels that sufficient work has been done to award the mark, the mark is annotated by writing 'bod'.
Physics specific marking notation	
M marks	These are **method marks** upon which further marks depend. For an M mark to be scored, the point to which it refers must be seen in a learner's answer. If a learner fails to score a particular M mark, then **none of the dependent marks** can be scored.
B marks	These are independent marks, which do not depend on other marks. For a B mark to be scored, the point to which it refers **must** be seen specifically in the learner's answers.
A marks	In general A marks are awarded for final answers to numerical questions. If a final numerical answer, eligible for A marks, is correct, with the correct unit and an acceptable number of significant figures, all the marks for that question are normally awarded. It is very occasionally possible to arrive at a correct answer by an entirely wrong approach. In these rare circumstances, do not award the A marks, but award C marks on their merits. However, correct numerical answers with no working shown gain all the marks available.
C marks	These are compensatory marks and generally applicable to numerical questions. These can be scored even if the point to which they refer are not written down by the learner, provided subsequent working gives evidence that they must have known it. For example, if an equation carries a C mark and the learner does not write down the actual equation but does correct substitution or working which shows he knew the equation, then the C mark is scored. C mark is not awarded if a learner makes two points which contradict each other. Points which are wrong but irrelevant are ignored.
Answer marks (A) and **Compensatory marks (C)** will be used in combination. The preference is to have the marking guidance prioritise the A marks text, and then caveat with references to the C marks later in the guidance.	