

MAKING THE GRADE

Year 11

Monday 26th November 2018

'The key to success is hard work and determination'



Contents:

Page 2:	Introductory message from the Headteacher
Page 3:	Key Dates
Page 4:	Mock Exam timetable
Page 5:	Exam expectations
Page 6:	Revision Advice and Tips
Page 7:	Revision Advice and Tips (cont.)
Page 8:	Art
Page 9:	BTEC Business
Page 10:	Business Studies
Page 11:	Computer Science
Page 12:	Dance
Page 13:	Drama
Page 14:	English (Lang and Lit.)
Page 15:	Food Preparation and Nutrition
Page 16:	Food and Cookery – Level 2
Page 17:	French
Page 18:	Geography
Page 19:	Graphic Communication
Page 20:	Design and Technology
Page 21:	BTEC Health & Social Care
Page 22:	History
Page 23:	Mathematics
Page 24:	Media
Page 25:	Music
Page 26:	Photography
Page 27:	Physical Education
Page 28:	Religious Studies
Page 29:	Science (Combined)
Page 30:	Spanish
Page 31:	Textiles
Page 32:	Triple Science
Page 33:	How Parents/ Carers can support students
Page 34:	Student Wellbeing/ Coping with exams
Page 35:	Why GCSEs matter
Page 36:	Advice from current Y12 students
Page 37:	Good luck messages from staff

Introductory message from the Headteacher

Welcome to Bishopshalt School's 'Making the Grade' evening 2018. I hope that you will find this event helpful in guiding both you and your child through this important stage in their academic life.

At Bishopshalt, we firmly believe that hard work and determination is the key to success. We all have one shared goal and that is that your child will achieve their full potential at our school. To make this happen, they need our support.

The aim of this evening is to provide you and your child with the information they will need in order to do their best. There will be a series of talks by some of our key members of staff explaining what the students need to do in the build up to their mock examinations and how you can support them.

We understand that this will be a very demanding time for your child and we recognise that they may be anxious during this period. We believe that good planning, thorough revision, support from all, a healthy work life balance, and understanding the examination requirements, will give students more confidence and reduce their stress levels.

Your child will leave tonight with a revision pack in the hope that they will be fully equipped to put our advice into practice. This booklet also details every subject requirement and where students can access additional help.

We thank you for your continued support. I look forward to working with you to help your child be the best they can possibly be.

Kim Rowe



Important Dates

Autumn Term 2018

Trial exams begin	3 rd December 2018
Exam revision period	11 th to 21 st December 2018

Spring Term 2019

Entry information to parents	February 2019
GCSE Music Performance Exam	26 th March 2019

Summer Term 2019

GCSE MFL oral exams	25 th -26 th April 2019
GCSE Graphic Communication exam	2 nd - 3 rd May 2019
GCSE Art exam	7 th -8 th May 2019
GCSE Textiles exam	9 th - 10 th May 2019
GCSE Photography exam	9 th – 10 th May 2019
First written GCSE exam	13 th May 2019
Final GCSE exam	26 th June 2019

Sixth Form Induction Day 5th July 2019

Exam results and Sixth Form enrolment 22nd August 2019

Mock Exam Timetable

Date	Start	Room	Exam	Length	Start	Room	Exam	Length
03/12/2018	8.45AM	34/35	Art Unit 1	3hr	1:15PM	34/35	Art Unit 1	2hr
04/12/2018	8.45AM	34/35	Art Unit 1	3hr	1:15PM	34/35	Art Unit 1	2hr
	8.45AM	TBC	MFL Oral exams	3hr	1.15PM	TBC	MFL Oral Exams	2hr
05/12/2018	8.45AM	26/44	Photography Unit 1	3hr	1.15PM	26/44	Photography Unit 1	2hr
	8.45AM	TBC	MFL Oral Exams	3hr	1.15PM	TBC	MFL Oral Exams	2hr
06/12/2018	8.45AM	44/26	Photography Unit 1	3hr		44/26	Photography Unit 1	2hr
07/12/2018	8.45AM	47	Textiles Unit 2A	3hr		47	Textiles Unit 2A	2hr
Date	Start	Room	Exam	Length	Start	Room	Exam	Length
10/12/2018	8.45AM	MAN	Drama	1hr30	1.15PM	MAN	Religious St 1	1hr 45
	8.45AM	4	Food & Nutrition	1hr45	1.15PM	4	Religious St 1	1hr 45
	8.45AM	MAN	Food & Nutrition	1hr45				
11/12/2018	8.45AM	HALL	English Language 1	1hr 45	1.15PM	HALL	Biology Combined/Triple	1hr 45
	8.45AM	BALC	English Language	1hr 45	1.15PM	HALL	BiologyCombined/ Triple	1hr15
	8.45AM	30	English Language	1hr 45	1.15PM	BALC	Biology	1hr15
	8.45AM	4	English Language	1hr 45	1.15PM	30	Biology	1hr15
12/12/2018	8.45AM	Hall	Maths Paper 1 No Calc	1hr 30	1.15PM	HALL	History 1	1hr15
	8.45AM	Hall	Maths Paper 1 NonCalc	1hr 30	1.15PM	30	History 1	1hr15
	8.45AM	BALC	Maths Paper 1 NonCalc H	1hr 30				
	11.00AM	HALL	Computer Science 1	1hr				
	11.00AM	30	Computer Science 1	1hr				
13/12/2018	8.45AM	HALL	Chemistry Combined/Triple F	1hr 45	1.15PM	Hall	Geography 1	1hr 30
	8.45AM	HALL	Chemistry Combined/Triple H	1hr 15	1.15PM	30	Geography 1	1hr 30
	8.45AM	BALC	Chemistry	1hr 45	1.15PM	4	Geography 1	1hr 30
	8.45AM	30	Chemistry	1hr 45	1.15PM	ML	Geography 1	1hr 30
	11.00AM	HALL	French Writing Higher	1hr 15				
	11.00AM	HALL	Spanish Writing Higher	1hr15				
	11.00AM	30	French/Spanish Writing	1hr15				
14/12/2018	8.45AM	HALL	English Literature	1hr 45	1.15PM	HALL	French Listening Higher	45Min
	8.45AM	BALC	English Literature	1hr 45	2:00PM	HALL	French Reading Higher	1hr
	8.45AM	30	English Literature	1hr 45				
Date	Start	Room	Exam	Length	Start	Room	Exam	Length
17/12/2018	8.45AM	HALL	Maths Paper 2 Calculator	1hr 30	1.15PM	HALL	Computer Science 2	1hr
	8.45AM	HALL	Maths Paper 2 Calculator	1hr 30	1.15PM	30	Computer Science 2	1hr
	8.45AM	BALC	Maths Paper 2 Calc High	1hr 30				
	8.45AM	30	Maths Paper 2 Calc High/F	1hr 30				
18/12/2018	8.45AM	HALL	Physics Combined/Triple F	1hr45		HALL	Sports Studies Paper 1	1hr 45
	8.45AM	HALL	Physics Combined/Triple H	1hr 15		30	Sports Studies Paper 1	1hr 45
	8.45AM	BALC	Physics H	1hr 15	1.15PM	HALL	Media Studies	1hr 30
	8.45AM	30	Physics F	1hr 15	1.15PM	30	Media Studies	1hr 30
19/12/2018	8.45AM	HALL	Geography 2	1hr30		67/68	Spanish Listening Higher	45Min
	8.45AM	30	Geography 2	1hr30		67/68	Spanish Reading Higher	1Hr
20/12/2018	8.45AM	MAN	Business Studies	1hr 45		MAN	Religious St 2	50min
	8.45AM	4	Business Studies	1hr 45		30	Religious St 2	50min
	8.45AM	30	Business Studies	1hr 45	1.15PM	30	Dance	1hr30
	8.45AM	30	<i>Dance CLASH</i>	<i>1hr30</i>				
21/12/2018			Catch Up				Catch Up	
Date	Start	Room	Exam	Length	Start	Room	Exam	Length
07/01/2019	8.45AM	26	Graphic Comm	3hrs	1.15PM	26	Graphic Comm	2hrs
	8.45AM	57	Music	1hr 45	1.15PM	HALL	History 2	1hr 45
	8.45AM	4	Music	1hr 45	1.15PM	30	History 2	1hr 45
08/01/2019	8.45AM	HALL	Sports Studies Paper 2	1hr 15		HALL	Design Tech	1hr 45
	8.45AM	30	Sports Studies Paper 2	1hr 15		30	Design Tech	1hr 45

Exam Expectations

- You should ensure you **arrive 10 minutes before** your exam is due to start.
- If you are **seriously** ill on the day of an exam, you must phone in and leave a message with reception stating that you have an exam. A doctor's note will be needed, your results could be affected.
- You should **attend all exams** in full and **correct school uniform**.
- You must **line up in the foyer, in form groups**. You should be in **alphabetical order**.
- When we are ready to take you into the exam hall, you are to stop talking and listen carefully. There should be **absolute silence**.
- All bags and coats must be left in the Foyer.
- Exam rules state that you **must not** have a mobile phone, smartwatch, ipod or any Technological/Web enabled device in your possession whilst sitting an exam. For this reason, any such devices will need to be switched off and handed in.
- If you are found to be in possession of a mobile phone, Smartwatch, ipod or any Technological/Web enabled device whilst in an exam you will be subject to penalty and possible disqualification.
- Normal analogue or digital watches may be brought into the exam room but must be placed on the exam desk next to your name card, they **must not** be kept on your wrist.
- Enter the exam room without talking. Sit at the desk with your name on it.
- Make sure you have at **least 2 black pens, a pencil, ruler, sharpener and eraser** for all exams.
- Additional equipment will also be needed for certain exams. All calculators need to be removed from their cases.
- If you are bringing a pencil case it needs to be **transparent** to enable us to see the contents.
- If you wish to bring in a drink, it must be **water only** and must be in a clear bottle. You should remove the label from the outside of the bottle and make sure it is full prior to the exam starting.
- Check you have been given the **correct question paper**, if unsure please ask an invigilator.
- Raise your hand if you need to ask a question and an invigilator will come and see you (they cannot help with questions in your exam).
- You will not be allowed to leave the exam room until the end of the allocated time for the exam, please make sure you use the toilet before your exam.
- If you feel unwell during an exam you must let an invigilator know.
- At the end of the exam, remain completely silent until you have left the room.
- Once you have left the exam hall, remember that others may have extra time and that there are lessons going on around school. Please be as quiet as possible.

Revision Advice

- Make a timetable
- Organise a quiet revision place
- 30 minute revision sessions
- Regular breaks
- Continue with things you enjoy
- Drink plenty of water
- Eat Bananas
- Listen to Mozart (optional)
- Get plenty of sleep

Revision Tips for Students

Post-it Stickers

Get a pack of post-it stickers and write the key words from a subject on the individual post-it stickers. Stick them all around the house on every object (milk bottle, door handle, light switch, toilet seat). Before using the object students need to explain what the word means. If they do not know, they need to go to their revision area and find out. Try using different coloured post-it stickers for different subjects.

Mind Maps/Spider diagrams/Notes

Rather than simply reading class notes re-write them in the form of a mind map (a lot of computers will do this for you). Add pictures as visual aids and use many different colours for different themes. Re-write your notes and then keep re-writing them so that you eventually get them down to one side of A4. This will be easier to do last minute revision from.

Make revision into a game

Blockbusters/Who wants to be a Millionaire/The Weakest Link/Trivial Pursuit/The Chase/Pointless.

Past Papers

Practice past papers or GCSE style questions. The school will provide these for students. You can also go onto the examination boards website and download past papers and mark schemes. There are 3 main exam boards that we use (AQA, Edexcel, OCR). These websites also offer advice on revision. You can also download the exam boards on an app with advice and past papers.

Revise with a friend

Find a study buddy. Make sure that you do revise and not spend all of your time gossiping. Test each other and take turns at being the teacher. If you are trying to explain a topic to your friend you will need to understand it first before you can explain it.

Use Acronyms and Mnemonics

Use the first letter of a word to make a new word to prompt your memory. Make up a silly sentence to help you remember the order of something

Use revision website

A list of useful websites will be provided at the end. The internet is much easier to update than books and these websites get revised every year and have the most up to date information. The school has purchased apps for students to use in English, Maths and Science.

Revision posters on bedroom walls

Make your revision notes on a giant piece of paper (strips of wallpaper). Place them around your bedroom and lie on your bed or even around your house. Immerse in your revision. Replace your current posters



with these for the next 8 months. Write down key quotes and formulas you need to learn. By doing this now you will familiarise yourself with important information.

Flash Cards/Postcards

Write information about a topic on a postcard. This will force you to condense your notes so you only include the most vital information. These are easy to transport and can be taken out shopping, to dinner or used whilst waiting for a bus. You could also write 10 questions on one side and 10 answers on the reverse.

Create a memory palace for the school hall

Place words, events, quotes, formulas etc. on a picture of the exam hall. Try to visualise these images so that when you enter the exam hall for your exams you are already picturing key words. In the hall you will see Curtains, fire extinguisher, the clock, a whiteboard, doors. Could these be a trigger for remembering important details? The school will provide an enlarged colour photograph of the exam hall to help.

Create a Personalised Learning Checklist (PLC)

Make a list of each of the topic areas that you have studied. Use a Red/Amber/Green colouring system to highlight how secure you are at a particular topic.

DTT

Diagnose (What you can/cannot do).

Red = No understanding,

Amber = Some/partial understanding

Green = Good understanding

Therapy (Go over the topic and revise it thoroughly)

Test Attempt a past question on the topic to check your understanding

Follow the 80/20 rule. If you can stick to what you are supposed to be doing for 80% of the time, you will be doing alright. It is unrealistic to expect everything to go 100%. Be flexible but try to make up any time lost

Useful Websites

www.aqa.org.uk

www.ocr.org.uk

<https://qualifications.pearson.com> (Edexcel)

www.gcseguide.co.uk (use "bookshop" for info on revision guides.).

www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize

www.Sparknotes.com

www.schoolnet.com

www.gcse.com

www.s-cool.co.uk

www.educlinks.co.uk



How many exams will I have?

This course is 60% coursework (Component 1) and 40% exam (Component 2). There is one real exam which will be 10 hours long (spread over two days). This will be a practical exam that you will have prepped for throughout your Component 2 project and will be included in the grade for this body of work.

Exam board: AQA

Trial exam dates:

3rd and 4th December 2018

How should I be preparing myself?

To prepare for your mock exam towards the end of November you should be planning your final developed ideas for the three dimensional part of your Component 1 (your chosen theme) and prepare any materials before the exam.

You should be completing any unfinished coursework during intervention sessions and at home.

You have until January to complete all coursework projects.

To best prepare yourself for your real exam you will need to make sure you have a sketchbook of preparatory work leading to your final exam piece (covering the four Assessment Objectives). You will need a small version of whatever it is that you are making so you come to the exam feeling confident as you will not be able to receive help during the 10 hours.

To Bring to the Mock Exam (you will not be able to take this home again between the two days of the exam):

- Your folder with all yr 10 and 11 work mounted (unmounted work will not be marked)
- Up to date notes explaining ideas – help with this is in your GCSE booklets
- A final idea piece made up and if 3D this will need to be photographed and mounted with notes

To Bring to the Real Exam (you will not be able to take this home again between the two days of the exam):

- Your book with all preparatory work for your Component 2 (exam unit)
- Up to date notes explaining ideas – help with this is in your GCSE booklets
- A final idea piece made up and if 3D this will need to be photographed and mounted with notes

Personal Organisation Skills:

- Time Management
- Check if you have the correct materials and equipment you need for your practical exams.
- Keep check of your assessment sheets with personal targets.
- Familiarise yourself with the Assessment Objectives and marking criteria set by the AQA exam board.
- Use the weekly intervention sessions and lunchtimes to complete missing or unfinished work.
- Ask for help

BTEC Business

How many exams will I have?

This course is 25 % exam and 75% coursework. There are three separate units of coursework. Each unit of coursework and the exam are worth 25% of your final grade.

Exam board: Edexcel BTEC Level 2 Award in Business

Real exam dates:

This exam is available on demand enabling a number of re-sits if appropriate. This is done on an individual needs basis. There is NO trial examination for this course.

How do I complete my coursework successfully?

- The key to performing well in all coursework units is to read the assignment brief. You are issued with an assignment brief for each piece of coursework. This clearly sets out what you are expected to do for each piece of work.
- Make clear and concise class notes so that you are able to use these in your coursework.
- Keep to the deadlines that are set in the classroom. If you do not keep to the deadlines you will find that you are not able to complete all the work that has been set and you will fall behind.
- You need to be organised and complete the amendments for any piece of work in a timely manner.
- To be successful you need to make sure that you complete all of the Pass criterion working up through the Merit criterion and onto the Distinction criterion.
- If you are struggling with a piece of work, then it is essential that you speak to your class teacher to go through a piece of theory again.
- Be proactive – if you know you have a deadline approaching and that you are going to struggle to meet this deadline then you need to discuss this with your class teacher.
- Use your time wisely, and do not leave all the coursework to the last minute.

Websites:

www.beebusinessbee.co.uk

www.businessed.com

www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/business

www.tutor2u.net

Exam - Finance for Business:

This is an on demand exam that is carried out on a computer. This exam runs for 1 hour and all students sat the exam in June 2018. Any student who achieves less than a Level 2 Pass or does not achieve their target grade are expected to re-sit the examination. We can decide when this examination is to be re-sat. It is also possible to re-sit the exam up to four times.

To access past papers you need this link:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-firsts/business-2012-nqf.coursematerials.html#filterQuery=Pearson-UK:Category%2FExternal-assessments>

You will then need to scroll down to where it says On Screen Tests.

How many exams will I have?

This course is 100% examination. There are 2 separate exam papers in total.

- Paper 1 (Influences of operations and HRM on Business activity) covers units 1,2,3 and 4.
- Paper 2 (Influences of marketing and finance on business activity) covers units 1,2,5 and 6.

Both papers have an equal weighting of 50% for the overall qualification.

Exam board: AQA – GCSE Business Studies 9 to 1 (8132)

Trial exam date: 20th December 2018 (covering units 1,2,3,4 and 5)

What should I be revising?

In order to perform well in Business Studies, students need to know all the theory well. Use your text book, class notes and revision materials provided by your teacher to make sure you know the content of all units well.

You need to ensure that you are able to demonstrate the following in your exams:

1. Recall, select and communicate their **knowledge and understanding** of concepts, issues and terminology.
2. Apply skills, knowledge and understanding to the **context** of the exam question.
3. Be able to **analyse** (explain with reasons) and **evaluate** making reasoned judgements and by giving logical conclusions.

The key to performing well in Business Studies is balancing all these skills – also known as assessment objectives.

Useful Revision websites:

- <https://revisionworld.com/gcse-revision/business-studies>
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zpsvr82>
- www.s-cool.co.uk/
- <https://www.thestudentroom.co.uk/content.php?r=2952-GCSE-business-studies>
- <https://revisionworld.com/gcse-revision/business-studies>
- <https://www.tutor2u.net/>

Past papers:

As you are the first students to sit these exams, there are no previous years' past papers available. However, students are encouraged to use the **specimen papers** and **mark schemes** that are freely available on the AQA website. This will really help you to prepare well for your exams.

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/business-subjects/gcse/business-8132/assessment-resources>

How many exams will I have?

This course is 80% exam. There are two separate exams:

Paper 1: Computer Systems (40%)

Paper 2: Computational thinking, algorithms and programming (40%)

Exam board: OCR – GCSE Computer Science 9-1 (J276)

Trial exam dates:

- Wednesday 12th December, 11:00 : Paper 1 (90 minutes)
Answer all questions
- Monday 17th December, 1:15pm : Paper 2 (90 minutes)
Answer all questions. This paper will have slightly fewer questions than paper 1 as you have not yet covered all of the paper 2 theory.

What should I be revising?

- Use Google Classroom and the Workbooks you completed in year 10, as well as the Algorithms workbook from this year.
- Revise from your exercise books which can be taken from room 33 during the exam period
- Re-watch and make fresh notes on the flipped-learning videos. The complete set can be found at <http://craigndave.org/free-ocr-flipped-classroom-videos-for-gcse-computer-science/>
- If you have access to a Windows PC, Mindmaple is a recommended way to make revision Mindmaps. Here is a link to a free download:- https://1drv.ms/u/s!AvAKLSJD_Tgjha4Ayd4W-CLiwVc7rA
- Consider purchasing a low-cost revision guide + workbook – any for the OCR GCSE Computer Science 9-1 specification would be suitable

Revision websites:

- This BBC bitesize link will take you to a separate revision section for each topic of your exams:
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/z34k7ty>
- The authors of our flipped learning videos provide a range of advice and support
<http://student.craigndave.org/>

Past papers:

There are plenty of revision questions throughout the revision workbooks and there are tests within BBC Bitesize. In your exercise books you have access to the end of unit test questions.



How many exams will I have?

Component 1: Performance and Choreography

Performance 30% (Trio and two Set Phrases) 40 marks, Choreography 30% (Group or Solo) 40 marks.

Component 2: Written

Written paper: A: Knowledge and Understanding of Performance and Choreography B: Critical appreciation of own work C: Anthology

Exam board: AQA – GCSE Dance (8236)

Trial exam dates:

Practical Paper- Week 5th December

Written Paper- 20th December 1.15pm

What should I be revising?

Anthology works- aspects of production: Lighting, set design, costume, movement material.

Access to these and related workbooks is on SMHW

Emancipation of Expressionism- Kenrick H2O Sandy

Shadows- Christopher Bruce

Within Her Eyes- James Cousins

Infra- Wayne McGregor

A Linha Curva- Itzik Galil

Artificial Things- Lucy Bennett

Rehearse the Set Phrases- link on SMHW

Book studio time: Available until 5pm Monday – Friday

Glossary, Dance Theory, Choreographic processes, Performance, Technical, Expressive language and examples in practice.

Past papers:

You can access past written papers from the old specification, which will help with section A and B revision.

www.aqa.org.uk/.../dance/gcse/dance-4230/past-papers-and-mark-schemes

GCSE Drama

How many exams will I have?

Component 1: Devising Theatre

Performance 10% 15 marks, written evaluation exam 10% 15 marks, Portfolio of evidence 20% 30marks.

Component 2: Performing From a Text

Performance practical exam. This is an externally assessed exam worth 20%

Component 3: Interpreting Theatre

Written examination, worth 40%. Set text question based on the play DNA and a question based on a live review.
1hour 30mintes examination

Exam board: Eduqas – GCSE Drama (8420)

Trial exam dates:

Practical Paper- Week beginning 27th
November

Written Paper- 10th December 8:45am

What should I be revising?

Learning your lines for you component 2 practical exam

Booking to rehearse after school in any of the Drama rooms

Re-read DNA.

Revise from notes looking at text from an actor/designer/directors point of view

Drama language.

Past papers:

You can access past written papers from the SAMs on the eduqas website.

<http://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/qualification-resources.html?subject=Drama&level=GCSE>

Break a leg and good luck to you all.



How many exams will I have?

This course is **100 % exam**. There are **four separate exams, two for English Literature** (Paper 1: Shakespeare and the Nineteenth-Century Novel; Paper 2: Modern Texts and Poetry – both 50% of final Literature grade) and **two for English Language** (Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing; Paper 2: Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives – both 50% of final Language grade).

Exam board: AQA – English Language (8700) and English Literature (8702)

Trial Exam dates:

English Lang Paper 1: **Tuesday 11th December (am)**

English Lit Paper 1: **Friday 14th December (am)**

What should I be revising?

- **The literature texts of 'Macbeth' and 'A Christmas Carol', 'An Inspector Calls' and the 'Power and Conflict' cluster of poetry:** rereading them is essential in ensuring you know all parts of the texts as well as knowing a wide variety of quotations.
- **Going over the structures of responses for the Literature exams:** your student should have a strong idea as to how to approach the Literature papers; writing example paragraphs or essays and handing them into their teacher would be a beneficial way of ensuring they do not forget the format.
- **Structures for responding to the questions in the Language exams:** ensure they are clear as to how to approach each question and what the mark scheme is asking from them
- **Reading non-fiction and fictional texts:** this will enable students to get an idea over how to structure their ideas as well as using a range of devices and developing their use of vocabulary, sentence structures and punctuation. Even if it is two pages of a novel, it can still give students an understanding over how certain ideas are shaped.

Revision websites:

- Pixl Lit - via desktop (<https://englishapp.pixl.org.uk/PiXLit.html>) or downloadable app
- Guardian 'Comment is Free' - <https://www.theguardian.com/uk/commentisfree> for reading a range of articles and see how arguments are shaped and written
- Cliffnotes for 'Macbeth' (<https://www.cliffsnotes.com/literature/m/macbeth/macbeth-at-a-glance>), Sparknotes for 'A Christmas Carol' (<http://www.sparknotes.com/lit/christmascarol/>) and 'An Inspector Calls' (<http://www.sparknotes.com/drama/an-inspector-calls/>) are useful starting points but **do not replace reading the texts**
- The Mr Bruff YouTube Channel (<https://www.youtube.com/user/mrbruff>) is useful in revising all parts of the English Literature and English Language exams

Past papers:

There are not many past papers available, but AQA have provided access to specimen papers:

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-language-8700/assessment-resources>

If you buy revision guides, they will have a variety of questions that are in the same manner to the actual exams.

How many exams will I have?

This course is 50% with 2 NEA (non-examination assessment) 1 food science investigation 2- based on culinary skills and 50% exam. There is one exam which will last 1 hour 45minutes and will test your understanding of food provenance, food choice, food safety, food science and nutrition and health.

Exam board: AQ

Trial exam dates:

Unit 2: Monday 10th December 2018

What should I be revising?

There are 5 different main topics areas which will be covered in the exam. All of the main topics, have great deal of content and all areas must be revised. In topic one you need to know about a particular nutrient such as protein, but you will need be able to link to other areas such as food choice or food provenance.

It is important that you are able to form links between all the topics areas as many have overlapping elements.

Below is an overview of the topics.

Topic 1 – food provenance

Topic 2 – food choice

Topic 3 – food safety

Topic 4 – food science

Topic 5 – nutrition and health

Revision website and textbooks:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/design/foodtech/>

CGP Food Preparation and Nutrition revision guide and workbook.

You will also find a series of PowerPoints covering the major topics on the shared area in school which you can download.

Past papers:

There aren't many past papers for Food Preparation and Nutrition but past papers from WJEC Catering have been downloaded onto the school shared area for you to take home.

Food and Cookery - Level 2 V Cert

How many exams will I have? 1

25% of the qualification's content is **Unit 3** externally assessed you have taken the exam twice pending on results 2017/2018.

Assessment requirements:

To be awarded the NCFE Level 2 Certificate in Food and Cookery, learners are required to successfully complete and pass 4 mandatory units.

- Internally assessed and externally moderated portfolio of evidence taking place May 2019

Unit 01 Preparing to cook (D/506/5036) – TBC

You may improve your grade / complete the unit to P M D (pass merit distinction)

Unit 02 Understanding food (H/506/5037) – course work must be completed for each practical lesson

Practical exam for this Unit is TBC

Unit 04 Plan and produce dishes in response to a brief (M/506/5039)

Practical exam TBC

Be able to plan a menu for a set brief, be able to prepare and make the dishes on the menu,

Be able to review the menu and completed dishes

Exam board: NCFE

Practical exam dates:

Examination and re-sit opportunities take place in November and March

What course work should I be completing for Moderation in April/ May 2019

Unit 2

1.1 Main food groups

1.2 Sources: eg farm-grown, reared, country of origin, processed, manufactured

2.1 Social factors: eg cultural, locality, accessibility, Fairtrade, personal

2.2 Environmental factors: eg food miles, carbon footprint, pesticides, weather, organic

2.3 Cost factors: eg availability, quality, varieties, brands, composition

2.4 Sensory factors: eg taste, texture, appearance, smell

3.1 Given dishes: eg pasta dish, fruit dish, meat dish

3.3 Evaluate: eg choices of ingredients and their effect, cost, taste, appearance, smell, texture, ways to improve the dish

Unit 04 Plan

Practical exam March 2019 TBC 'Two course Meal'

The course work for - Be able to plan a menu for a set brief, be able to prepare and make the dishes on the menu, Be able to review the menu and completed dishes and photographic evidence.

Website and textbooks:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/design/foodtech/>

[Food fact of life or Jenny Ridgwell nutrition website](#)

You will also find a series of Power Points covering the major topics on the shared area in school which you can download tech/food/ y10 food and cookery/ units to complete



GCSE French

How many exams will I have?

This course is 100 % exam. There are four separate exams (Listening, Speaking, Reading, Writing). They are each worth 25% of your final grade.

Exam board: AQA – GCSE French (8658)

Trial exam dates:

Speaking: **4th and 5th December 2018**

Listening & Reading: **14th December 2018**

Writing: **13th December**

What should I be revising?

- The key to performing well in all exams is to learn vocabulary. You have all been issued with a vocabulary booklet - any of these words could potentially be tested in the exam. You will not have access to a dictionary, so learn them off by heart! Make sure you can spell the words, as well as recognise them.
- One of the best ways to learn vocabulary is by regularly using memrise.com
- Once you have learnt the vocabulary for a particular topic, use the interactive activities on 'Kerboodle' to practise your listening, reading translation skills for this topic. You can also revisit activities which you have done in class using the online textbook.
- It is vital that you revise all of the grammar points covered in class. These will be of particular importance in the writing and speaking exams. The grammar PLC will help you to plan your revision. Use your class notes and grammar books to go over the key grammatical topics, learn the rules (and exceptions), and then practise by doing grammar exercises and translations.
- To prepare for your speaking exam, you should learn and practise your 'general conversation' questions. Remember delivery is just as important as the content, so focus on pronunciation and intonation.
- You should also use the AQA website to practise specimen role-plays and photo cards.

Revision websites:

www.duolingo.com

www.memrise.com

www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/french

www.languagesonline.org.uk

www.language-gym.com

Past papers:

As you are one of the first students to sit this exam, there are few past papers available. However, you can access past listening and reading papers from the old specification. Please remember that questions on these papers are all to be answered in English. In **your** exam, you will have to answer in both **English and French**.

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/languages/gcse/french-4655/past-papers-and-mark-schemes>

You can access the specimen papers you did for your Y10 mock, which will be useful to practise preparing for a variety of written and spoken tasks: <http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/languages/gcse/french-8658/assessment-resources>

GCSE Geography

How many exams will I have?

This course is 100 % exam. There are three separate exams:

Paper 1: Global Geographical issues (1 hour 30 min) (37.5%)

Paper 2: UK Geographical issues (1 hour 30 minutes) (37.5%)

Paper 3: People and Environment issues (1 hour 30 minutes) (25%)

Exam board: Edexcel – GCSE Geography

Trial exam dates:

- Thursday 13th December, 13:15 : Paper 1 (90 minutes)
Answer all questions in sections A + B
Answer questions 3 + 4 from Section C
- Wednesday 19th December, 8 :45
- Section A of Paper 2 (35 minutes)
- Section B of Paper 3 (40 minutes).

What should I be revising?

- As well as revising content, I would also suggest becoming more familiar with what the command words require of you.
- Ensure you are familiar with all the subject specific vocabulary associated with the course.
- Use the PLCs to ensure you know what content needs knowing and in what level of detail.

*All of the above information can be found in this dropbox link:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/gq1dm76wa9fspa1/AAC108ueLI7VUXU8HwqTYiura?dl=0>

Read through the exemplar student responses with examiner commentary

<http://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/geography/AQA-80351-EX.PDF> Use the examiner guidance to see how and where marks are awarded.

Revision websites:

This BBC bitesize link will take you to a separate revision section for each topic of your exams:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/education/examspecs/zy3ptyc>

Electronic copies of revision guides and revision work books are available in the revision guide folder via the dropbox link

Past papers:

As you are one of the first students to sit this exam, there are few past papers available.

There are plenty of revision questions throughout the revision workbook, and there are also specimen papers available at the end of the revision guides – see revision guide folder via the dropbox link.

GCSE Graphic Communication

How many exams will I have?

This course is 60% coursework (Unit 1) and 40% exam (Unit 2).

There is one exam (Unit 2) which will last 10 hours.

Overview of Assessment:

- The examination is 10 hours and marked by Mr Wilcox, Mr Flanagan and by the exam board AQA.
- The examination paper will be a question and students will be producing a project in response to it.
- Total amount of marks for Unit 1 is 96. Total amount of marks for Unit 2 is 96.

Exam board: AQA Art and Design: Graphic Communication

Trial exam dates:

Unit 1: Monday 7th January 2019

What should I be revising?

Now that you have created your final designs you will be working in stages. A stage includes the following. To complete a stage all sections must be complete, detailed and produced to your best ability. Anything missed out or rushed would negatively affect your grade. A minimum of 3 stages need to be completed before hand in, emphasis is on quality of work rather than quantity. To achieve the highest grades a balance between quality and quantity should be achieved. A stage has the following sections and must be completed in the following order. Inspired – Explore – Refine – Connect – Refine – Final outcome

- Inspired. Identification and selection of an appropriate technique.
- Explore. Use techniques to master that skill documenting your attempts along the way. You should add reflections and thoughts about your work as you go to show your ideas. Combine multiple techniques together to develop.
- Refine. Reflect and evaluate that technique being critical of weaknesses. Now act upon them and try again perfecting your outcome.
- Connect. Using your research artist make a connection between their work and your technique so that when you create your next piece there is a clear link and influence between your research and your work.
- Refine. Again refine your work identifying weaknesses and creating solutions. Act on these to create an extremely strong body of graphic communication work.
- Final outcome. Finally present your best work that is now refined, developed and has clear links to your artist.

Revision websites:

illustrationhistory.org/genres

illustrationweb.com/styles,

designschool.canva.com/blog/graphic-design-terms/

Thisiscolossal.com, Booooooom.com, Butdoesitfloat.com, Ignant.com, Thinkingwithtype.com, Typography.com,

Ilovetypography.com, Typedia.com, Dafont.com, Brusheasy.com, Microsofttypography.com, Itsnicethat.com,

Thedesignmuseum.com, Creativereview.com, Identifont.com

Past papers:

Mr Wilcox Experimental guide and examples of students work in those guides.

Mr Wilcox course guide and examples of students work in those guides.



GCSE DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

MAKING THE
GRADE

How many exams will I have?

This course is 50% coursework/NEA (Unit 1) and 50% exam (Unit 2). There is one exam which will last 1 hour and 45 minutes which will test your understanding of materials and processes alongside your ability to apply maths to a design based context. Students have questions on core content covering a range of different materials and then a specialist area which will be timber based questions.

Exam board: EDEXCEL– GCSE (9-1) Design and Technology (1DT0)

Trial exam dates:

Unit 2: Tuesday 8th January 2019

What should I be revising?

There are 17 different topics covered in core content of the exam. Some of the topics, such as Topic 1 –The impact of new and emerging technologies, have much more content than other topics. It is important though that you reference the revision list taken from the specification as there are only a selection of material you're required to have knowledge of. For example there are many types of manufactured board available but the exam will only make references to plywood, chipboard, MDF or hardboard.

Students have revision text books to aid revision but the biggest wealth of revision resources is available via the Google Classroom. In this area they will find PowerPoints, worksheets, keyword lists, videos and much more covering the key content of the upcoming exam.

Further Preparation:

With the NEA/Coursework accounting for 50% of your overall grade you should ensure you are up to date and on track for meeting the March Deadline for completion. Intervention is available every Tuesday and Thursday within the department.

Revision websites:

www.technologystudent.com

www.bcbitesize.co.uk

You will also find a series of PowerPoints covering the major topics in the Google Classroom area which you can download.

Past papers:

As this is a new qualification there is a limited number of sample exam papers which can be accessed via the Edexcel website but further example questions can be found via google classroom.

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/design-and-technology-2017.html>

This GCSE is made up of two units (A911 and A912). A911 is a controlled conditions coursework unit and makes up 60% of your final grade. A912 is an examinable unit and makes up 40% of your final grade.



The BTEC TECH Level 2 Health and Social care is made up of three components –

1. **Component 1** (internally assessed, 30% of overall grade) – **Human Lifespan Development**
2. **Component 2** (internally assessed, 30% of overall grade) – **Health and Social Care Services and Values**
3. **Component 3** (externally assessed, 40% of overall grade) – **Health and Wellbeing**

Exam board: Pearson

- Examiners expect to see answers that go beyond the obvious so make sure you know all of the specialist vocabulary we have covered and that you can use this in your writing with confidence. Do not assume that the examiner knows what you are thinking or that it is 'common sense'.
- Reword the assignment brief criteria to ensure you understand what you need to include for the pass, merit and distinction criteria.
- Clearly apply your knowledge to the relevant case studies. Break down the information and demands of the assignment brief and plan your coursework.
- Proof read your work and ask a friend to read your work and provide feedback.
- Keep your bibliography up to date.
- Clearly reference all your sources in your coursework using the correct format.
- Plan your work and time so that you can meet the deadline.

Assessment

There is no trial/mock assessment as students are working on component 2 of their coursework. The externally assessed examination will take place in June 2019.

How many exams will I have?

This course is 100 % exam. There are three separate examined units. Unit 1: Warfare and British society c.1250-present (Thematic study) & (London and the Second World War, 1939-45 (historical environment) Paper 2: Superpower relations and the Cold War, 1941-91 (period study) and the reigns of King Richard I and King John, 1189-1216 (British depth study) and Paper 3: The USA, 1954-75: conflict at home and abroad (Modern depth study)

Exam board: EDEXCEL (1HI0)

Trial exam dates:

Paper 1: 12th December 2018

Paper 2: 7th January 2019

What should I be revising?

- As well as revising content, I would also suggest becoming more familiar with what the command words require of you.
- Ensure you are familiar with all the subject specific vocabulary associated with each of the units.
- When we mark your exam questions in class, we used a grid sheet that outlines how each question should be answered. Refer back to these.
- Make sure you remember how long you should be spending on each exam question.
- Use the PLCs to ensure you know what content needs knowing and in what level of detail.
- Use the revision guides that are available in the shared area or purchase your own copies.

Revision websites:

YouTube resources:

Channels

- * History Chappy (covers most elements of the Edexcel course)
- * Magna Carta History (revision videos for Richard and John)
- * Crash Course World History (Cold War and the Crusades)

Videos

- * John D Ruddy (Cold War)
- * Evie Flynn (Current Yr 11 student discussing revision for GCSE History)
- * Matthew Langridge (Cold War)
- * Magna Carta History
- *

BBC bitesize revision- revision videos on the Cold War and Vietnam.

After school revision classes:

Exam skills and content every Thursday in the History Block

Past papers:

Model and exemplar answers can be found in each of the revision guides (Pearson).

GCSE Mathematics

How many exams will I have?

This course is 100 % exam. There are three separate exams (One Non Calculator, Two Calculator). They are each worth third of your final grade.

Exam board: AQA – GCSE Mathematics (8300)

Trial exam dates

No Calculator: **12th December 2018**

Calculator: **17th December 2018**

What should I be revising?

Use www.hegartymaths.com. Bishopshalt subscribe to this website and it is a great revision resource which covers all GCSE topics with videos and questions. Students use their personal login which they have been provided with. If they have forgotten their password, their teachers can reset this.

Try logging on to <http://corbettmaths.com/5-a-day/gcse1/>. This is a great free resource that has 5 different maths questions each day including answers. It also includes video tutorials. You can also access these through twitter follow @Corbettmaths.

Try to avoid completing the sample papers that the Examination Boards have produced at home or with your tutor at this early stage. It would be of more benefit to students if these resources are left until the run up to the final examination where they can test their knowledge. At this stage students should be focused on the practice of key skills and independent study.

Checking your work is very important especially the questions at the beginning of the paper as every mark counts to the final grade. Silly mistakes can cost marks and lower your grade. Students studying for the Foundation paper should work on grade 1 to 5 skills and those studying for the Higher paper should work on grade 5 – 9 skills.

Buy a revision guide and workbook from Bishopshalt School or any book store.

Use the revision topic list provided by the school.

Revision websites:

www.hegartymaths.com

www.corbettmaths.com

www.mathsgenie.co.uk

Past papers:

There are very few past papers available for students to access online. However, you will be provided with practice papers to prepare for you Mock exams in December. We will make past papers and practice papers available to all students in preparation for the final exams in May 2019.



How many exams will I have?

This GCSE is made up of two exams and one unit of coursework.

Paper 1 : 1 hour 30 minutes, 84 marks, 35% of GCSE

Paper 2 : 1 hour 30 minutes, 84 marks, 35% of GCSE

Coursework: 60 marks, 30% of GCSE

Exam board: AQA – GCSE Single Award Media Studies (8572)

Real exam date:

Paper 1 : Monday 3rd June 2019 PM

Trial exam: Based all CSPs that you have studied since year 10.

Paper 2 : Monday 10th June 2019 PM

Exam date: *Tuesday 18th December 2018*

What should I be revising?

- The key to performing well is ensuring you have secured the best possible coursework grade. Make sure you hand in all your coursework. Use media terminology and theory throughout and make links to the relevant topic areas- **Media language, Audience, Representation and Institutions.**
- You have a PLC for each CSP you have studied. Use these to make notes and revise all the topic areas.
- Practise completing the tasks in exam conditions (we will do this in class as well).
- Examiners expect to see answers that are well structured and with clear references to the CSPs, Use media terminology and theory.
- Make sure you know and understand **conventions** relating to each product.

Suggested activities for exam practice:

Media Language-

1. List all the conventions you expect from each type of product.
2. Identify the conventions that the CSPs have used and explain why they have been used (connotations).

Institutions

1. Compare the marketing techniques used by different CSPs within the same category.
2. Compare the financing and production of different CSPs within the same category.

Audience

1. Complete 'audience needs table' for each product
2. Create a demographic profile of the target audience for each product.

Representation

1. Explain how particular groups are portrayed in relation to the product. Are they portrayed in a positive or negative way, why?
2. Explain how stereotypes are used in the product.

GCSE Music

How many exams will I have?

Unit 1 – Performing (Solo and Ensemble) 30%

Unit 2 – Composing (2 compositions) 30%

Unit 3 – Listening and Appraising 40%

Exam board: Edexcel – GCSE

Trial exam dates:

Listening and Appraising 7th January 2019

What should I be revising?

- LISTEN TO YOUR SET WORKS WITH THE SCORE IN FRONT OF YOU
If you find following the score in your anthology difficult use the video resources from the shared area (also available on youtube) as these keep only the music being played in front of you on the screen.
- Ensure you have at least electronic copies (better still - paper copies) of the SET WORKS from the shared area/Edexcel's website that you not only read but can HIGHLIGHT key information/terms.
- It is important to remember that you will get an unseen piece of music similar to one of your set works so you must try and listen to other pieces similar to the ones you are studying and see if it is possible to obtain a score of the music online (all 'classical' types of pieces can be found on IMSLP)
- Familiarise yourself with all the keywords/musical terms associated with each set work. Remember that you need to know musical theory.

Revision websites:

www.bbc.co.uk/schools/websites/16/music

www.topmarks.co.uk

www.revision-notes.co.uk

www.school-resources.co.uk/ExternalLinks.html

www.revisemusic.org.uk

Past papers:

As you are one of the first students to sit this exam, there are few past papers available. However, you can listen to the older set works and use the score videos on Youtube as useful listening.

The books below are incredibly useful things to buy:

- | | |
|---|-------------------|
| • GCSE MUSIC (EDEXCEL) Revision Guide from 2016 | 978-1-78558-168-7 |
| • GCSE MUSIC (EDEXCEL) Study Guide from 2016 | 978-1-78558-166-3 |

There is also:

- | | |
|--|-------------------|
| • GCSE MUSIC (EDEXCEL) Listening Tests from 2016 | 978-1-78558-167-0 |
|--|-------------------|

How many exams will I have?

This course is 60% coursework (Component 1) and 40% exam (Component 2). There is one real exam which will be 10 hours (spread over two days). This will be a practical exam that you will have prepped for throughout your Component 2 project and will be included in the grade for this body of work.

Exam board: AQA

Trial exam dates:

5th and 6th December 2018

How should I be preparing myself?

To prepare for your mock exam towards the end of November you should research, plan and shoot all your sets of Photographs as part of your Component 1 (Combined Images) and prepare any materials before the exam. You will not have access to the internet during the exam, so you must have collected all of your research, brushes (Photoshop) and images/textures you need to add into your edits.

You should be completing any unfinished coursework (Y10 work) during intervention sessions and at home. You have until January to complete all coursework projects.

To best prepare yourself for your real exam you will need to make sure you have a Power Point (digital sketch book) of preparatory, based on your chosen theme from the exam paper, work leading to your final exam piece/s (covering the four Assessment Objectives). You will have to have taken all your sets of Photographs (minimum 10), completed all work linked with the sets (contact sheets, best originals, analysis, edits, evaluations) for 9 of the sets (presented in your PPT). You should practise your editing skills (or any other weak areas) before the exam, making sure that you come to the exam feeling confident as you will not be able to receive help during the 10 hours.

To bring to the Mock Exam

- Your up to date Power Point with all completed prep work for component 1 “Combined images”
- Digital folders of all work needed for the exam (research, brushes, images, sets, tutorials etc) saved in your work space (you can access your own work space during the exam).
- Ideas on how you will present your final “combined images”

To Bring to the Real Exam (you will not be able to take this home again between the two days of the exam):

- Your up to date Power Point with all completed prep work for your component 2 work (exam chosen theme)
- Digital folders of all work needed for the exam (research, brushes, images, sets, tutorials etc) saved in your work space (you can access your own work space during the exam).
- Ideas on how you will present your final work

Personal Organisation Skills:

- Time Management
- Check if you have the correct materials and resources you need for your practical exams.
- Listen and act on feedback from your subject teacher
- Familiarise yourself with the Assessment Objectives and marking criteria set by the AQA exam board.
- Use the weekly intervention sessions and lunchtimes to complete missing or unfinished work.
- Ask for help!

How many exams will I have?

This course is 60% Theory (Components 1 & 2), 30% Practical performance (Component 3) and 10% coursework (component 4).

There are two examinations:

- **Paper 1** which will last 1 hour 45 minutes, will test your knowledge and understanding of Fitness and Body Systems.
- **Paper 2** is a 75 minute examination on Health and Performance.

Exam board: EDEXCEL– GCSE Physical Education (1PE0)

Trial exam dates:

Paper 1 *Tuesday 18th December 2018*

Paper 2: *Tuesday 8th January 2019*

What should I be revising?

Component 1: Fitness and Body Systems

Topic 1: Applied anatomy and physiology (*Musculo-skeletal and cardio-respiratory systems, anaerobic & aerobic exercise and the effects of exercise*)

Topic 2: Movement analysis (*Levers, planes and axes*)

Topic 3: Physical training (*components of fitness, principles of training, injuries and warming up and cooling down*)

Topic 4: Use of data

Component 2: Health and Performance

Topic 1: Health, fitness and well-being (*Physical social & emotional Health and diet*)

Topic 2: Sport psychology (*classification of skill, Smart targets, guidance and feedback*)

Topic 3: Socio-cultural influences (*Engagement patterns of different groups, commercialisation and ethical issues*)

Topic 4: Use of data

Revision websites:

www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/pe/

www.teachpe.com

www.myexampe.com

You will also find a series of PowerPoints covering the major topics on the shared area in school and on Show My Homework which you can download.

Past papers:

You can download past papers (old specification) from the Edexcel website and these have also been downloaded onto the school shared area for you to take home.

New specification style questions that relate to the exams you will be taking can be found in your **purchased revision guides**.

How many exams will I have?

This course is 100 % exam. There are two separate exams:

Paper 1: Study of Religions - Buddhist Beliefs and Teachings; Buddhist Practices; Christian Beliefs and Teachings; Christian Practices (50%)

Paper 2: Thematic Studies - Relationships and family; Religion and Life; Crime and Punishment and Human Rights and Social Justice (50%)

Exam board: AQA

Trial exam dates:

Paper 1: Monday 10th December 2018 (13:15)

Paper 2: Thursday 20th December 2018 (13:15)

What should I be revising?

- First and foremost students need to be familiar with all key words. These can also be found - <http://www.aqa.org.uk/resources/religious-studies/gcse/religious-studies-a/teach/subject-specific-vocabulary>
- Once a basic understanding is there, students need to revise in more depth using a combination of class notes, revision guides created by Miss Sri and revision guides that are available to purchase. The CGP revision guide covers Christianity and the Themes (no Buddhism). CGP New Grade 9-1 GCSE Religious Studies: Revision Guide. ISBN: 978 1 78294 641 0. £5.95
- You need to understand how exam questions are laid out as different papers have slightly different wording – this has been provided for you on the practice questions sheet. Understanding the wording of the questions and what exactly is required as it ensures you answer the question directly.
- Also refer to the various essay structure sheets you have to formulate effective essay and paragraph structures.
- Further to this, look at the marking feedback grids that I use to mark your work in order to understand what is needed for you to progress.
- The key is to practise as many exam questions as you can – do a few a week and over time you will cover a significant amount. Application of knowledge is key to gaining marks.
- Practise questions in timed conditions.

Revision classes:

- Due to the range of abilities in RS, intervention is currently done every morning and lunch time in small groups – this is largely focused on building written skills. Your child will have been told which session they need to attend.
- After school revision sessions on content will take place after the mocks. These will be optional for those who meet their target in their mocks and compulsory for those under target.

Past papers:

- Specimen papers can be found here –<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/religious-studies/gcse/religious-studies-a-8062/assessment-resources>
- As the specification is new, there are limited resources, but Miss Sri is providing sheets for each topic with as many potential exam questions as possible to best prepare students.

How many exams will I have?

This course is 100 % exam. There are six separate exams – two for biology, two for chemistry and two for physics. Each one is 1hr 15 minutes. They are each worth one sixth of your final grade.

Exam board: AQA – GCSE Combined Science: Trilogy (8464)

Biology: 11th December 2018 (pm)

Chemistry: 13th December 2018 (am)

Physics: 18th December 2018 (am)

What should I be revising?

- Break each subject down into topics. The titles are on your “Tracking Sheet” at the front of your exercise book. The chapters in the “kerboodle” online book follow a similar format.
- Use the “Personal Learning Checklists” (PLCs) for each topic (ask your teacher or check on SMHW) – they allow you to record what you know and what you need to still work on. As you revise and understand more, record your progress on the PLCs to help you feel more confident about the work you are doing.
- Highlight key words in your exercise book or revision notes and make sure you know what they mean. Use the online “kerboodle” book for the “Trilogy” course in each subject to remind yourself of key words and their meaning. Write them out on flashcards, or make a list for each topic as part of your revision. You can also revisit activities which you have done in class using the online textbook.
- The “kerboodle” book also has “key points” on every double page, so you can work through each topic to make a set of “key points” cards, or posters for your bedroom wall. If there are things that you don’t understand, use the information in the textbook or your exercise book, or ask a friend. You can even ask your Science teacher!
- You will need to remember as many details of the “Required Practicals” as you can. There are 7 for biology, 6 for chemistry and 8 for physics. You will have “RP” worksheets in your exercise book.
- You should also use the AQA website to practise specimen exam papers and past papers.

Revision websites:

Every pupil is signed up to Tassomai, the online revision scheme that adapts to your strengths and supports areas that need to be improved. If you ever forget your log-in details or password, see your Science teacher or Mr Howe in Science. www.Tassomai.com

Your CGP revision book (the “information” book with the red cover) has details of an online version you can use – information inside the front cover of the revision guide. cgpbooks.co.uk/extras

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zrkw2hv>

Past papers:

As you are one of the first students to sit this exam, there are few past papers available. However, you can access past biology, chemistry and physics papers from the old specification. Remember the content is slightly different, so these test won’t cover EVERYTHING, but they should give you a good idea of many key areas. The mark schemes are important as well as they show the scientific vocabulary that will earn you the highest marks. Use the link below, then select “Science”, “GCSE” and then either “Science 4405” or “Additional Science 4408” in the drop down boxes. Specimen exam papers (which are similar to the new exams in 2018) are also available on the AQA website. Use the link below and then select “Science” “GCSE” “Combined Science: Trilogy” in the “drop down” boxes for the papers you want to use.

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/exams-administration/exams-guidance/find-past-papers-and-mark-schemes>

How many exams will I have?

This course is 100 % exam. There are four separate exams (Listening, Speaking, Reading, Writing). They are each worth 25% of your final grade.

Exam board: AQA – GCSE Spanish (8698)

Trial exam dates:

Speaking: **4th and 5th December 2018**

Listening and Reading: **19th December 2018**

Writing: **13th December 2018**

What should I be revising?

- The key to performing well in all exams is to learn vocabulary. You have all been issued with a vocabulary booklet - any of these words could potentially be tested in the exam. You will not have access to a dictionary, so learn them off by heart! Make sure you can spell the words, as well as recognise them.
- One of the best ways to learn vocabulary is by regularly using memrise.com
- Once you have learnt the vocabulary for a particular topic, use the interactive activities on 'Kerboodle' to practise your listening, reading translation skills for this topic. You can also revisit activities which you have done in class using the online textbook.
- It is vital that you revise all of the grammar points covered in class. These will be of particular importance in the writing and speaking exams. The grammar PLC will help you to plan your revision. Use your class notes and grammar books to go over the key grammatical topics, learn the rules (and exceptions), and then practise by doing grammar exercises and translations.
- To prepare for your speaking exam, you should learn and practise your 'general conversation' questions. Remember delivery is just as important as the content, so focus on pronunciation and intonation.
- You should also use the AQA website to practise specimen role-plays and photo cards.

Revision websites:

- www.duolingo.com
- www.memrise.com
- www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/spanish
- www.languagesonline.org.uk
- www.language-gym.com

Past papers

As you are one of the first students to sit this exam, there are few past papers available. However, you can access past listening and reading papers from the old specification. Please remember that questions on these papers are all to be answered in English. In **your** exam, you will have to answer in both **English and Spanish**.

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/languages/gcse/spanish-4695/past-papers-and-mark-schemes>

You can access the papers you did for your Y10 mock which will be useful to practise preparing for a variety of written and spoken tasks:

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/languages/gcse/spanish-8698/assessment-resources>



GCSE Textiles

How many exams will I have?

This course is 60% coursework (Unit 1) and 40% exam (Unit 2). There is a 10 hour practical exam which will be held over two consecutive days. Students will complete their final outcome, relating to the exam question chosen in January. All supporting work for the exam project needs to be handed in on the first day of the exam. This includes all of Unit 1 coursework projects.

Exam board: AQA

Trial exam dates:

Unit 1: Friday 7th December 2018 (5 hrs)

How should I be preparing myself?

To prepare for your mock exam in December you should be planning your final outcome for the 'cultures' project and prepare any materials before the exam. E.g. Dye/print fabric, purchase specific fabric and materials and cut from a paper pattern. – *These tasks take time and you will need to bring the prepared materials to the exam in order to make the best of the 5 hrs.*

You should be completing any unfinished coursework during intervention sessions and at home.

You have until January to complete all coursework projects.

To best prepare yourself for your practical exam you need to make sure you are confident in setting up a sewing machine for both straight/zig-zag stitch and free machine embroidery. – You may need to re fresh your knowledge, this is best done by completing as many fabric samples for your coursework projects.

It is also really useful to be able to change a needle on a sewing machine.

Skills to practise:

- Setting up and successfully changing the settings on your sewing machine.
- Free machine embroidery.
- Recording and researching information/relevant artists.
- Relevant first hand photographs.
- Drawing skills.
- Developing ideas through mixed medium/fabrics and sample techniques.

Personal Organisation Skills:

- Time Management
- Check if you have the correct materials and equipment you need for your practical exams.
- Keep check of your Personalised Target checklist.
- Refer to the Deadline sheet to ensure you are not missing any work.
- Familiarise yourself with the Assessment Objectives and marking criteria set by the AQA exam board.
- Use the weekly intervention sessions and lunchtimes to complete missing or unfinished work.
- Ask for help!

Where to buy materials...

- The Fabric warehouse in Cowley, The pavilions shopping centre: fabric market stall (limited selection), Hobby craft, Dunelm, Southall fabric shops.

How many exams will I have?

All 3 courses are 100 % exam. Each subject has two exams – two for GCSE Biology, two for GCSE Chemistry and two for GCSE Physics. Each one is 1hr 45 minutes, and is worth 50% of the final grade for that subject.

Exam board: AQA – GCSE Combined Science: Biology (8461) AND Chemistry (8462) AND Physics (8463)

Trial exam dates:

Biology	11 th December 2018 pm
Chemistry	13 th December am
Physics	18 th December am

What should I be revising?

- Break each subject down into topics. The titles are on your “Tracking Sheet” at the front of your exercise book. The chapters in the “kerboodle” online book follow a similar format.
- Use the “Personal Learning Checklists” (PLCs) for each topic (ask your teacher or check on SMHW) – they allow you to record what you know and what you need to still work on. As you revise and understand more, record your progress on the PLCs to help you feel more confident about the work you are doing.
- Highlight key words in your exercise book or revision notes and make sure you know what they mean. Use the online “kerboodle” book for the individual Biology, Chemistry and Physics courses to remind yourself of key words and their meaning. Write them out on flashcards, or make a list for each topic as part of your revision. You can also revisit activities which you have done in class using the online book.
- The “kerboodle” book also has “key points” on every double page, so you can work through each topic to make a set of “key points” cards, or posters for your bedroom wall. If there are things that you don’t understand, use the information in the textbook or your exercise book, or ask a friend. You can even ask your Science teacher!
- You will need to remember as many details of the “Required Practicals” as you can. There are 10 for biology, 8 for chemistry and 10 for physics. You will have “RP” worksheets in your exercise books.
- You should also use the AQA website to practise specimen exam papers and past papers.

Revision websites:

Your CGP revision book (the “information” book with the green, red or purple cover) has details of an online version you can use – information inside the front cover of the revision guide. cgpbooks.co.uk/extras
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zrkw2hv>

Past papers:

As you are one of the first students to sit this exam, there are few past papers available. However, you can access past Biology, Chemistry and Physics papers from the old specification. Remember the content is slightly different, so these test won’t cover EVERYTHING, but they should give you a good idea of many key areas. The mark schemes are important as well as they show the scientific vocabulary that will earn you the highest marks. Use the link below, then select “Science”, “GCSE” and then “Biology 4401” or “Chemistry 4402” or “Physics 4403” in the drop down boxes.

Specimen exam papers (which are similar to the new exams in 2018) are also available on the AQA website. Use the link below and then select “Science” “GCSE” and then “Biology 8461” or “Chemistry 8462” or “Physics 8463” in the drop down boxes for the papers you want to use.

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/exams-administration/exams-guidance/find-past-papers-and-mark-schemes>



What can Parents and Carers do to support?

Your child is unique

There is no 'one size fits all' answer to the question about how best to support your child. Each young person responds differently to the pressure that revision and exams inevitably bring. Nevertheless, some form of assessment is an inevitable part of all of our lives going forward and therefore it is important that we help young people to develop strategies that will enable them to cope with this in the long term.

You know your child's character and personality well. You will know how best to motivate and support them. What works effectively for one child, may not have the same impact upon another. Siblings are different....

Communication

Parental support and encouragement is very important to children of all ages and it can make a huge difference to the outcomes that they achieve.

Here are some general guidelines:

- Do not panic if your child feels stressed. This is inevitable but it does need to be managed
- Show an interest in their revision and perhaps join in as a 'study buddy'
- Remain positive, encouraging and calm throughout, even if they become grumpy and rude
- Reduce their chores when they are revising and doing exams
- Cook their favourite meals and provide healthy snacks
- Reward their effort, rather than their results and give them a treat to look forward to
- Find a suitable revision space for them: ideally somewhere quiet when they can leave their work out
- Provide revision materials; paper, pens, postcards
- Download revision materials, past papers, mark schemes for them, so that they can save time
- Limit their 'screen' time and ensure they are not distracted by their phone whilst revising.

Parenting websites:

- www.parentscentre.gov.uk
- www.projecteducation.co.uk
- www.parentlineplus.org.uk
- www.bbc.co.uk/parenting/supportforyou
- www.learn.co.uk
- www.connexions-direct.com/parentcarer

Get Organised

- Look carefully at your exam timetable and ensure you know exactly when and where you need to be
- Plan a revision timetable and break down your subjects into manageable chunks
- Organise a revision space
- Organise your resources and revision materials: pens, pencils, paper, postcards, post it notes, past papers, mark schemes

Well-Being and stress management

Be aware that some stress is to be expected and will actually help you to maximise your ability. Adrenalin can enhance exam performance. However, stress needs to be managed, so that it does not become overwhelming and lead to feelings of panic and fear

- **EAT WELL.** Follow a healthy diet. Avoid junk food and too many crisps, sweets and fizzy drinks. Provide nutrition for your brain by eating proper, well balanced meals and snacking on fruit and unsalted nuts. Do NOT skip meals, especially breakfast
- **SLEEP WELL.** Teenagers need 9 hours sleep a night, so if you get up at 7.30, you need to fall asleep by 10.30. Turn off electrical devices and mobile phones at least 30-60 minutes before this, so that your brain stops being stimulated by the light from the devices and is able to 'switch off'
- **Drink plenty of water.** Your brain needs to be well hydrated in order to think clearly. You should drink at least 2 litres of water a day, more if it is hot or if you are exercising. Other benefits of drinking plenty of water are clearer skin and you will be less likely to gain too much weight
- **Exercise.** If you regularly play sport or exercise, do not give up these activities altogether to make more time for revision. If you don't play sport or exercise regularly, try going for a brisk 20-30 minute walk every day. This will not only give you a well- deserved break from work, but it will make you feel better, less stressed. It will improve your ability to focus and concentrate as your brain will have more oxygen
- **Avoid distractions.** Turn off your smartphone and reduce your use of social media
- **Stroke your pet, if you have one.** Studies show that this reduces stress and enhances feelings of well-being
- **Eat dark chocolate.** Studies show that eating dark chocolate (over 70% cocoa) fights the stress hormone cortisol and has a relaxing effect on the body
- **Talk to your family.** Talking about your feelings if you are anxious or stressed will help you to off-load your feelings and keep everything in perspective
- **Practice mindfulness.** Stilling, meditation, yoga, positive affirmations and adult colouring books can all have a positive impact

Helpful websites:

www.stressedteens.com

www.nhs.uk

www.studentminds.org.uk

www.bbc.co.uk



Why GCSEs are important

GCSE Results Day is on Thursday 22nd August 2019; how do you **want** to feel on this day?

It's easy to assume that GCSEs are just another way for your teachers to give you more work and more exams, but the truth is your GCSEs are crucial to helping you succeed later in life. It's not just the ability to total up your monthly bills without a calculator or put together a well written cover letter when applying for a job that makes them a crucial part of your life. They act as a gateway to gaining the necessary qualifications you will need to pursue your dream career.

Good GCSE grades give you more options to choose from. They will determine :-

- Whether you study Level 2 (GCSE) or Level 3 (A level) standard;
- What subjects you study at A-level, as course requirements differ for each subject;
- The type of apprenticeship you may be offered and the salary. Some apprenticeships require you to have specific grades at GCSE. For example, most advanced apprenticeships ask for around five GCSEs at grades 9-4, including English and maths.

Further Education

Universities will look at your GCSE grades as these will be the only public exam you sit before you sit A levels. Remember that your last set of exams are the ones that you will be judged on when applying for jobs and further education courses. Believe it or not, obtaining a top grades in your GCSEs at a comprehensive school will ensure that you stand out academically!

The Russell Group of Universities are the top research universities in the country and the most competitive to enter. They want good grades at GCSE and may also want you to study specific A levels such as the 'Facilitating' subjects.

- Medicine & dentistry degrees demand the highest grades at GCSE.
- Law – requires proof of literacy in English language & literature but equally history & geography and other written subjects are also important.
- Universities look at all your GCSE results.

Success in Life

Beyond, the most important reasons for pushing yourself to obtain the very best that you can, GCSEs provide evidence that you have:-

- Academic ability & potential;
- An enjoyment of learning and future study;
- A willingness to contribute to your school, university or workplace and;
- The motivation to achieve your best.

All the above evidence will ensure that you are well placed to succeed at your chosen university, be selected for future job opportunities and be rewarded accordingly.



Advice from Year 12 Students

'Stop procrastinating, just get on with it.'

'Start revising as early as possible.'

'Don't put things off just because you find them difficult. Ask for help.'

'Put your phone in a different room when you are revising, it'll only distract you.'

'Don't kid yourself. Spending an hour with your books in front of you whilst you're on Snapchat isn't revision!'

'When you take a break, do some exercise or get some fresh air, it helps to clear your head.'

'Don't let anything knock you down, or make you give up. Everyone gets things wrong at times. Learning to deal with failure is really important.'

'Don't let anyone distract you from doing your best. It's not worth it.'

'Ask if you're not sure . . .'

'Even though you're tired at the end of the day, make the most of revision and intervention sessions by trying your hardest. If you don't focus, there's not much point in going.'

Good luck messages from staff

"As I famously say, 'in years to come, you can always look back and say you really, REALLY did try. So give it your all and leave Year 11 feeling proud of yourself." Ms Dhillon

"If you do your best, you are proud of whatever grade you receive. Sleep easily at night knowing you have done all that you can." Mr Wilson

"Don't forget that these exams are your opportunity to show off what you have already learnt and how far you have come. ¡Buena suerte! Bon courage! Viel Glück!" Miss Platt

"I would like them to know that the real secret of success is effort and enthusiasm and all anyone can ever do is try their absolute best. The rest will look after itself. Sixth Form is ready and waiting for students with the right attitude." Mr Jones

"Best of luck for your mocks year 11! Before you cram, remember you need sleep to do an exam." Miss Pearson

"Health and Social Care students- let your girl power shine in this trial exam. You can do this!" Ms Knight

"Year 11: Just keep calm and believe in yourself. You CAN do it." Mrs J. King

"Working hard is important. But there is something that matters even more: believing in yourself." Harry Potter/J.K. Rowling/Miss Sri

"11 Art Students - your creativity, perseverance and commitment have impressed us so much this year. Good luck for the final lap, you'll be great!" Miss Gee, Miss Grahame and Mrs Batts

"Success isn't an accident, it doesn't happen by chance. Great GCSE grades don't fall from the sky and land on your lap. You will achieve amazing things in life because you have worked unbelievably hard. There's not long left Year 11. Keep going and good luck." Mrs Denial

"Hard work really does pay off! The students who do well are the ones who put the most effort in and have the determination to never give up. I know you can all do it! Work hard and enjoy the results in the summer." Miss Duff

"Believe in yourselves as much as we believe in you." Mr Cockcroft

Good luck!

