



William Farr C of E Comprehensive School



Class of 2024

Subject Guidance



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GCSE English Language

How is this qualification assessed? Exam board AQA (8700)

Paper 1: 1hr 45mins (50% GCSE)

Section A: Reading One literature fiction extract:

- Q1 explicit and implicit meanings in a text (4 marks)
- Q2 how a writer uses language for effect (8 marks)
- Q3 how a writer uses structure for effect (8 marks)
- Q4 whether you agree with a statement about the text (20 marks)

Section B: Writing Descriptive or narrative writing:

Q5 write a description or a narrative about a picture (40 marks)

Paper 2 : 1hrs 45 mins (50% GCSE)

Section A: Reading Two non-fiction extracts: (one will be pre-1900)

- Q1 explicit and implicit meanings in **one** of the texts (4 marks)
- Q2 synthesis comparing the presentation of the subject in **both** texts (8 marks)
- Q3 how a writer uses language for effect in **one** of the texts (12 marks)
- Q4 comparison of the writers' view points and methods in **both** texts (16 marks)

Section B: Writing Persuasive or Argumentative

Q5 Writing to express a point of view (could be a letter, a blog, a newspaper or magazine article, or a script) (40 marks)

What support is in place for students?

All students completed the English Language course by the end of Year 10 so they will have extensive notes in their exercise books. In Year 11, we have revisited these papers to revise for mocks and will do so again before the final exams. Students should be revisiting and revising these papers independently. All students have a textbook to support the course. Students have completed several practice papers, including their Year 11 mocks, and will have been given feedback and targets out of these. They will also have received sample past papers and examples throughout the course. Extensive resources are available on the VLE including links to revision sites.

How can you best support your child in English Language?

For English Language, it is important that students know what to do for each question to ensure that they meet the assessment objectives. Helping and testing students on what to do for each question will help.

- Use the "Crab" textbook and complete the activities for each language question.
- Re-read your class notes and make cue cards.
- Look at the resources on the VLE.
- Use revision guides and attempt practice questions.
- Practice the writing questions for Paper 1 Question 5 by finding your own image and writing a description or narrative based on the image or write an argument or persuasive piece about a topical issue from the news.
- Read fiction (novels) and non-fiction (news or magazine articles) – extracts will do fine.
- Revise the features of types of texts e.g. speeches, blogs, persuasive writing, etc.
- Proof-read work and check for SPAG errors correcting and learning spellings.
- Build up a vocabulary builder list to help extend your vocabulary and practise commonly misspelt words.



GCSE English Literature

How is this qualification assessed? Exam board AQA (8702)

Paper 1: 1hr 50mins (40% GCSE)

Section A: Shakespeare One essay question about an extract and then link this focus to the wider play.

Section B: 19th Century Novel One essay question about an extract and then link this to the novel as a whole.

Paper 2 : 2 hrs 15 mins (60% GCSE)

Section A: Modern Texts One essay question from a choice of two on the modern prose or drama text.

Section B: Poetry One comparative essay question on one named poem printed on the paper and one other poem from the poetry cluster.

Section C: Unseen Poetry One essay question on one unseen poem and one essay question comparing this poem with a second unseen poem.

What support is in place for students?

All students completed their c19th text and modern text in Year 10 so they will have extensive notes in their exercise books. In Year 11, we have revisited these texts to revise for mocks and will do so again before the final exams. Students should be revisiting and revising these texts independently. In Year 11, the Shakespeare text has also been completed and students are well through the poetry anthology. Students should be continuing to use their notes to revise and prepare, focusing on themes and characters in the Shakespeare play, and on comparing poems focusing on themes in the poetry. All the poems in the anthology have been taught as unseen poems, and students will be practising using these skills to approach other unseen poems. Students have also been given in-house revision materials such as Literary Eye booklets, revision booklets, theme grids, and lists of past questions. The course will be complete within the next few weeks and lessons will focus on revision from then on. Extensive resources are available on the VLE including links to other revision sites.

How can you best support your child in English Literature?

For English Literature, it is important that students know their texts well and can refer to events and examples from the texts to support their arguments. Parents can support students by helping test their knowledge, for example by asking about details of how a character or a theme is presented in the text.

- Re-read set texts or plot summaries.
- Read and highlight points in the Literary Eye booklets or other revision materials from lessons.
- Watch film versions.
- Use revision guides to make notes (e.g. many students took up the offer to buy SNAP revision guides which also have QR codes to revision videos).
- Re-read class notes and make character-grams or theme mind maps.
- Make notes on the context for each text.
- Use revision materials from the VLE.
- Learn a selection of quotes for each text.
- Mind map or plan answers to example essays.
- Supplement revision with online for materials such as YouTube revision videos, e.g. Mr Bruff on poetry, Mr Salles for achieving top grades, and Seneca or Bitesize.
- Create revision crib cards.



GCSE Mathematics (OCR)

How is this qualification assessed?

Three 1.5 hour examinations. Each paper is worth 100 marks. The first and third papers are calculator papers. The second paper is non-calculator. Students will have a formula sheet for this summer (students have been given a copy to look at) – however, these are not exhaustive, there are still many formula they will need to remember.

What support is in place for students?

- Revision and support are available from each student's class teacher. Staff are happy to help all students at breaktime or lunchtime.
- Weekly revision / study group in G3 every Thursday lunchtime for students to use to drop-in with any questions they may have.
- Students are practising examination style questions every Monday in lesson time and should be finishing these examination papers weekly at home.
- All groups have finished the course and will be embarking on a 20 lesson Programme of Revision in class.

How can you best support your child in Mathematics?

Students can purchase a CGP Revision Guide for £2 from the school shop. Revision lists can be found in the index of the revision guides, and also on the Mathematics Department section of the school website.

The best way to revise Mathematics is to do Mathematics (lots of examination question practice and checking answers against the mark schemes or asking your teacher to check your work). Exam papers are given out each Monday to complete at home.

Suggested resources:

- Working through areas of weakness identified from the Mocks using their analysis sheet – using CGP Revision Guides or similar.
- Using examination style questions from www.corbettmaths.com and using the videos to get help.
- Working through lots of past papers. Additional papers can be found here. <http://mathsgenie.co.uk>.
- You can print out a paper and use a walkthrough online to help you check your work, or assist you when you are stuck. There are some useful ones here <https://tinyurl.com/2b3a48r5>
- Regular completion of homework tasks set on www.sparxmaths.uk to complement the revision programme. Students can also use the Independent Study section on this website to practise key areas.
- Encourage students to write down lots of steps of their working, even the easy ones that they can do in their head. An examiner wants to see how you got to your answer. This is really important!
- Ensure that students bring full equipment (including a calculator, pencil, ruler, compasses, protractor), to both their lessons and their examinations.



GCSE Combined Science

How is this qualification assessed?

Exam Board OCR - Gateway

Paper 1(F)/7(H) (Biology) - 1 hour 10 mins - 16.7% of GCSE (Assesses content from topics B1-B3)

Paper 2(F)/8(H) (Biology) - 1 hour 10 mins - 16.7% of GCSE (Assesses content from topics B4-B6)

Paper 3(F)/9(H) (Chemistry) - 1 hour 10 mins - 16.7% of GCSE (Assesses content from topics C1-C3)

Paper 4(F)/10(H) (Chemistry) - 1 hour 10 mins - 16.7% of GCSE (Assesses content from topics C4-C6)

Paper 5(F)/11(H) (Physics) - 1 hour 10 mins - 16.7% of GCSE (Assesses content from topics P1-P3)

Paper 6(F)/12(H) (Physics) - 1 hour 10 mins - 16.7% of GCSE (Assesses content from topics P4-P6)

Key Practical skills (CS7) will be assessed throughout each of these papers.

What support is in place for students?

The content of the course will be completed shortly after the Easter break. Their teacher will revise key content with them and then follow this with past paper questions which they will then self / peer mark to further develop their exam technique.

All students have been provided with a revision guide and extensive resources, including all lesson PowerPoints used for content revision, additional questions, a revision guide and copy of the textbook are available on the VLE.

Students have access to a digital copy of all textbooks via 'Kerboodle'. This package also offers plenty of other resources that can be used in support of their revision.

Key practicals (PAGS) will also be covered in revision sessions but there are extensive resources provided on the VLE.

Some teachers may put on ad hoc revision sessions, at lunchtime, based on student needs. These will be advertised to students to allow them to 'drop in'.

How can you best support your child in Combined Science?

Ensure that revision is active – reading notes and making new shorter, condensed notes or cards.

Encourage them to:

- Use mind maps and topic summaries to highlight the main content and practical skills for each subject.
- Testing them on key words and the content of the above.
- Review assessments completed throughout the course, paying particular attention to the comments provided on areas that they could improve upon.
- Help them locate / print past paper questions on the VLE or via the exam board website.



GCSE Religious Studies

How is this qualification assessed?

Three examinations: -

1. Thematic Paper – 4 questions chosen from 6. All parts of each question should be tackled. The paper is worth 50% of the total GCSE. It includes using Christian and Hindu beliefs in relation to moral topical issues. The topics the students have been taught are:- Relationships and Families, Religion and Life, Peace and Conflict, Crime and Punishment.
2. Hinduism Paper – 2 compulsory questions. One set on Beliefs and one on Practices. All questions must be answered. The paper is worth 25% and is taken during the same session as the Christianity paper.
3. Christian Paper – 2 compulsory questions. One set on Beliefs and one on Practices. All questions must be answered. The paper is worth 25% and is taken during the same session as the Hinduism paper.

What support is in place for students?

- Revision sessions take place every Friday lunch time at 1pm where resources are provided for students.
- Students are all revising during their lesson time and have taken an extra mock examination in Hinduism. We hope to share the Christian paper with them in class before formal study leave.
- Resources are available on the VLE for students including materials, past papers and belief sheets.
- Students can also collect a textbook from H11 to support with all the papers.

How can you best support your child in Religious Studies?

For the Thematic Paper we have condensed the learning into an A4 sheet. If students learn the 10 Hindu and 10 Christian beliefs and then apply to the given topic this will enable them to perform well in this paper. We would encourage you to quiz your child on these beliefs. We have spare copies of these sheets available on demand. All students have been provided with them and they are available on the VLE.

Chapters 1 and 2 in the Christianity and Hinduism AQA textbooks are useful for the Hindu and Christian papers. We have also provided handouts to support this learning. We would encourage students to read through these, make their own revision notes and practise exam techniques using the resources on the VLE or the AQA website, syllabus A. Any questions completed can be handed to either their class teacher or Head of Department for marking.



GCSE Triple Science (Biology, Chemistry & Physics)

How is this qualification assessed?

Exam Board OCR – Gateway

Biology

Paper 1(F)/3(H) - 1 hour 45 mins - 50% of GCSE (Assesses content from topics B1-B3 and B7)

Paper 2(F)/4(H) - 1 hour 45 mins - 50% of GCSE (Assesses content from topics B4–B6 and B7)

Chemistry

Paper 1(F)/3(H) - 1 hour 45 mins - 50% of GCSE (Assesses content from topics C1-C3 and C7)

Paper 2(F)/4(H) - 1 hour 45 mins - 50% of GCSE (Assesses content from topics C4–C6 and C7)

Physics

Paper 1(F)/3(H) - 1 hour 45 mins - 50% of GCSE (Assesses content from topics P1-P4 and P9)

Paper 2(F)/4(H) - 1 hour 45 mins - 50% of GCSE (Assesses content from topics P5–P8 and P9)

What support is in place for students?

The content of the course will be completed shortly after the Easter break. Their teacher will revise key content with them and then follow this with past paper questions which they will then self / peer mark to further develop their exam technique.

All students have been provided with a revision guide and extensive resources, including all lesson PowerPoints used for content revision, additional questions, a revision guide and copy of the textbook are available on the VLE.

Students have access to a digital copy of all textbooks via 'Kerboodle'. This package also offers plenty of other resources that can be used in support of their revision.

Key practicals (PAGS) will also be covered in revision sessions but there are extensive resources provided on the VLE.

Some teachers may put on ad hoc revision sessions, at lunchtime, based on student needs. These will be advertised to students to allow them to 'drop in'.

How can you best support your child in Triple Science (Biology, Chemistry & Physics)?

Ensure that revision is active – reading notes and making new shorter, condensed notes or cards.

Encourage them to:

- Use mind maps and topic summaries to highlight the main content and practical skills for each subject. Testing them on key words and the content of the above.
- Review assessments completed throughout the course, paying particular attention to the comments provided on areas that they could improve upon. Help them locate / print past paper questions on the VLE or via the exam board website.



GCSE Geography

How is this qualification assessed?

Exam board AQA

Paper 1: Living with the Physical Environment - 1h 30 mins - 35% of GCSE

Paper 2: Challenges in the Human Environment - 1h 30 mins - 35% of GCSE

Paper 3: Geographical Applications – 1h 15mins - 30% of GCSE

Paper 1 topics: Living World, The challenge of Natural Hazards, UK Physical Landscapes (rivers and coasts)

Paper 2 topics: Urban issues and challenges, The changing economic world, The challenge of resource management

Paper 3 topics: Questions on the pre-release booklet, fieldwork in general, their own fieldwork (Welton and Hornsea)

What support is in place for students?

The content of the course has been completed. All students have been given a timetable of the remaining lessons until study leave which details which topic they will be revising and when. Their teacher will revise key content with them one lesson and then follow this with a timed past paper question which they will then self / peer mark to further develop their exam technique. The week before Easter we will start a series of lessons to help them understand the content of the pre-release booklet, including possible questions. These lessons will also revise their fieldwork.

Extensive resources, including all the PowerPoints used for content revision, additional questions, a revision guide and copy of the textbook are available on the VLE. Students have also been issued with a revision guide since the start of the course.

There will be no requirement for lunchtime or after school revision as revision has been planned as part of the course.

How can you best support your child in Geography?

The main thing is to ensure that revision is active reading notes rarely adds anything to a student, whereas making new shorter, condensed notes or cards does.

Encourage them to:

- Use mind maps and topic summaries to highlight the main content and the required case studies for each topic.
- Cue cards to cover details of case studies. (Many purchased useful revision cards earlier in the year when we organised this for them)
- Testing them on key words and the content of the above.
- Review assessments and tests done during the course and perhaps attempt them again to see if they can improve.
- Help them locate / print past paper questions on the VLE / exam board website.



GCSE History

How is this qualification assessed?

Paper 1: Medicine in Britain, c1250–present and The British sector of the Western Front, 1914–18: injuries, treatment and the trenches.

Written exam: 1 hour and 15 minutes.

30% of the qualification. 52 marks.

Paper 2: Period Study and British depth study:

Written examination: 1 hour and 45 minutes.

40% of the qualification. 64 marks (32 for the Period Study and 32 for the British Depth Study).

B1 British Paper: Anglo -Saxon and Norman England c1060-88.

P3 Period Study: The American West, c 1835 -c 1895

Paper 3: Modern Depth Study - Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918-1939.

Written examination: 1 hour and 20 minutes.

30% of the qualification. 52 marks.

What support is in place for students?

Pupils are given practice questions at the end of every Unit and full mock exam at the end of the Paper.

Pupil resources, including power points used for content revision, revision guides and extra questions are available on the VLE.

Pupils have been shown different revision techniques.

After school revision lessons and extra lunch time revision sessions.

How can you best support your child in History?

All our pupils have been given a breakdown of the exam board specification and revision guides.

The most important thing is that your child's revision is active. Simply rewriting notes is of limited value. They must do something with the information to help them with retention and retrieval.

Ensure that your child has a revision timetable and is doing revision regularly. Make revision part of their routine.

- Mind maps are useful.
- Timelines help with chronology.
- Practicing past questions helps pupils focus on the question and retrieve factual detail.
- Testing your child for the '5 killer facts' helps them memorise key dates.
- They can use Seneca online to help them revise.
- YouTube has some excellent videos on each of the topics we study, as well as master classes on how to approach each of the questions.



GCSE French

How is this qualification assessed?

Paper 1: Listening – 35 minutes Foundation; 45 minutes Higher - 25% of GCSE

Paper 2: Speaking – 12 minutes preparation time. 2 minute role play, picture card (Fn 2 minutes, Hr 3 minutes), conversation (Fn 3-5 minutes, Hr 5-7 minutes)– 25% of GCSE

Paper 3: Reading and translation French into English– 45 minutes Foundation; 1 hour Higher – 25% of GCSE

Paper 4: Writing and translation English into French – 1 hour Foundation; 1 hour 15 Higher – 25% of GCSE

Themes:

1. Identity and culture: T1 – Me, my family and friends. T2- Technology in everyday life. T3- Free time activities. T4- Customs and festivals in French speaking cultures/communities.
2. Local, National, International and Global areas of Interest: T1 – Home, town, neighbourhood and region. T2 – Social issues. T3 – Global issues. T4 – Travel and tourism.
3. Current and future study and employment: T1 – My studies. T2 – Life at school/college. T3 – Education post-16. T4- Jobs, careers and ambitions.

What support is in place for students?

We will be running revision sessions in French after half term and letters have been sent home with the relevant booking sheet. Each session targets a skill set and paper, developing examination technique and themes.

Whilst students are still working through the course content, they should start revision now by revisiting vocabulary learning from Year 10 as well as earlier in Year 11. Quizlet has much of the vocabulary in an easy to use format that students can access, and they have all the vocabulary from their revision guides which they purchased at the start of Year 10.

Grammar and translation practice is available in their revision guides, as well as sessions being run by Mrs Pailing every Thursday.

Reading and listening past papers are available on the VLE in the Modern Languages section, with mark schemes, listening files and transcripts for students to work through. This will help their understanding as well as their examination technique.

Speaking skills are being practised in lessons with our Language Assistant. Students should continue this by practising their answers to the conversation questions at home. Mind maps, answer preparation and recording their answers to hear how they sound and improve, is essential for their success in this paper.

How can you best support your child in French?

Active learning, using the language in context will help Students confidence and ability. You can encourage them to:

Use mind maps and topic summaries to prepare for their speaking and listen to their answers. Do they sound fluid?

Check their vocabulary and tense understanding. This can be from the revision guide or class book.

Allow them access to the VLE revision resources and past papers.



GCSE Spanish

How is this qualification assessed?

Paper 1: Listening – 35 minutes Foundation; 45 minutes Higher - 25% of GCSE

Paper 2: Speaking – 12 minutes preparation time. 2 minute role play, 12 minutes preparation time. 2 minute role play, picture card (Fn 2 minutes, Hr 3 minutes), conversation (Fn 3-5 minutes, Hr 5-7 minutes)– 25% of GCSE

Paper 3: Reading and translation Spanish into English– 45 minutes Foundation; 1 hour Higher – 25% of GCSE

Paper 4: Writing and translation English into Spanish – 1 hour Foundation; 1 hour 15 Higher – 25% of GCSE

Themes:

1. Identity and culture: T1 – Me, my family and friends. T2- Technology in everyday life. T3- Free time activities. T4- Customs and festivals in Spanish speaking cultures/communities.
2. Local, National, International and Global areas of Interest: T1 – Home, town, neighbourhood and region. T2 – Social issues. T3 – Global issues. T4 – Travel and tourism.
3. Current and future study and employment: T1 – My studies. T2 – Life at school/college. T3 – Education post-16. T4- Jobs, careers and ambitions.

What support is in place for students?

We are running revision sessions in Spanish over lunchtimes and letters were sent home with the relevant dates. Each session targets a skill set and paper, developing examination technique and themes.

Whilst students are still working through the course content, students should start revision now by revisiting vocabulary from Year 10 as well as earlier in Year 11. Quizlet has much of the vocabulary in an easy to use format that students can access, and they have all the vocabulary from their revision guides which they purchased at the start of Year 10.

Grammar and translation practice are available in their revision guides.

Reading and listening past papers are available on the VLE in the Modern Languages section, with mark schemes, listening files and transcripts for students to work through. This will help their understanding as well as their examination technique.

Speaking skills are being practised in lessons with our Language Assistant. Students should continue this by practising their answers to the conversation questions at home. Mind maps, answer preparation and recording their answers to hear how they sound and improve, is essential for their success in this paper.

How can you best support your child in Spanish?

Active learning, using the language in context will help Students confidence and ability. You can encourage them to:

Use mind maps and topic summaries to prepare for their speaking and listen to their answers. Do they sound fluid?

Check their vocabulary and tense understanding. This can be from the revision guide or class book.

Allow them access to the VLE revision resources and past papers.



Edexcel GCSE Computer Science (1CP2)

How is this qualification assessed?

Paper 1: Principles of Computer Science – Written Paper (75 marks) – 1h 30 mins – 50% of GCSE

- **Topic 1: Computational Thinking** – understanding of what algorithms are, what they are used for and how they work; ability to follow, amend and write algorithms; ability to construct truth tables.
- **Topic 2: Data** – understanding of binary, data representation, data storage and compression.
- **Topic 3: Computers** – understanding of hardware and software components of computer systems and characteristics of programming languages.
- **Topic 4: Networks** – understanding of computer networks and network security.
- **Topic 5: Issues and Impact** – awareness of emerging trends in computing technologies, and the impact of computing on individuals, society and the environment, including ethical, legal and ownership issues.

Paper 2: Application of Computational Thinking – Onscreen Exam (75 marks) – 2hrs – 50% of GCSE

- This practical paper requires students to design, write, test and refine programs in order to solve problems.
- 6 Python files are supplied with the exam, which students need to edit, correct, and add code to.

What support is in place for students?

All the theory has been taught for course and students are currently going back over Y10 topics.

Python skills are continually being reviewed, with the addition of practice exam questions.

All Lesson PowerPoints (theory and Python skills) are on the VLE, along with worksheets and homework worksheets, that can be accessed and recapped at any time.

Online Python tutorials are available:

- w3schools
- learnpython.org

Students have had the opportunity to purchase revision guides. They have a textbook, ClearRevise Revision Book, Zig Zag Revision Guide, with topic questions and access to a Python Challenge Book. They have access to Seneca Learning and Isaac Computer Science – which both have a variety of revision materials and questions for students to access. They can also use the Teach-ICT website (https://www.teach-ict.com/v/GCSE_Computing/Edexcel/edexcel_home.html) with the username: **In23jb** and password: **binary5** for access to additional resources on the course.

How can you best support your child in Computer Science?

Encourage them to:

- Use mind maps and topic summaries to highlight the main content and the required case studies for each topic.
- Cue cards to cover details of each topic
- Testing them on key words and the content of the above.
- Review assessments and tests done during the course and perhaps attempt them again to see if they can improve.
- Help them locate / print past paper questions on the VLE / exam board website.



OCR Cambridge Nationals Creative iMedia (J834)

How is this qualification assessed?

- R093 Exam – this was taken in Jan '24, with the option to re-sit in May '24 if necessary.
- R094 Digital Graphics Coursework – completed and moderated in Y10.
- R097 Interactive Digital Media Product Coursework – completed and moderated in Jan '24, with the option to improve in May '24.

What support is in place for students?

Results for the R093 exam and R097 coursework will be available mid-March.

Any further improvements for the R097 coursework unit needs to be completed by **Easter** – lunch time sessions are available.

Re-sits will be available for R093 exam in May/June '24 if necessary.

How can you best support your child in Creative iMedia?

Encourage them to:

- Check their coursework grades, to see how many marks they need to improve by to achieve their MTG.
- Use lunch time sessions to improve their coursework.
- Continue to revisit R093 exam content, in the case of needing to re-sit.



AQA GCSE Business

How is this qualification assessed?

Two exam papers

Paper 1 - Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes (90 marks) • 50% of GCSE

Covering the following topics:

- Business in the real world • Influences on business • Business operations • Human resources

Exam content:

- Section A has multiple choice questions and short answer questions worth 20 marks. • Section B has one case study/data response stimuli with questions worth approximately 34 marks. • Section C has one case study/data response stimuli with questions worth approximately 36 marks.

Paper 2 - Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes (90 marks) • 50% of GCSE

Covering the following topics:

- Business in the real world • Influences on business • Marketing • Finance

Exam content:

- Section A has multiple choice questions and short answer questions worth 20 marks.
- Section B has one case study/data response stimuli with questions worth approximately 34 marks.
- Section C has one case study/data response stimuli with questions worth approximately 36 marks.

What support is in place for students?

- All taught content has now been delivered.
- Students have been instructed to be revising topics studied.
- Students have purchased revision guides, practice books or cue cards. If students do not have access to this, we have a small quantity students can borrow.
- Students can access a range of questions and resources via the 'U-drive'.
- Students can speak with any member of the business department at lunchtime to discuss content, questions, or general queries.
- Teachers are happy to mark any additional questions students wish to attempt.

Recommended online resources:

- BBC Bitesize AQA Business
- Seneca Learning
- Bizconsesh YouTube Channel
- Past papers / Specification: aqa.org.uk/subjects/business/gcse/business-8132

How can you best support your child in Business Studies?

- Review the AQA Business specification (aqa.org.uk/subjects/business/gcse/business-8132/specification-at-a-glance)
- Discuss current affairs with your child such as the current economic climate, factors affecting businesses and globalisation. All of this content is very apparent in the real world and your discussions with your child will further cement their understanding in addition to content we discuss in school.
- Encourage your child to complete structured, targeted revision focusing on areas of weakness initially.

See possible revision ideas below:

- Cue cards on specific topics (Title on one side, full explanation on the other – flip over to test knowledge)
- Creating their own mind maps (everything they remember on a certain topic)
- Completing supplied topic maps (completing in a green pen to indicate knowledge remembered, then a red pen to indicate knowledge the student had to look up)
- Testing key terms and completing multiple choice questions to test knowledge.
- Revisiting past exam questions and taking steps to improve previous answers.
- Completing any past papers and questions available on the AQA Business website.



Cambridge Nationals Enterprise and Marketing

How is this qualification assessed?

Exam board OCR

- R067 Enterprise and marketing concepts (Exam) – Retake in May (40% of overall mark)
- R068 Design a business proposal (Coursework) – completed in Year 10 (30% of overall mark)
- R069 Market and pitch a business (Coursework)– Completed at the end of Year 10. (30% of overall mark)

What support is in place for students?

Results for the R067 and R069 should be available mid-March.

Any further improvements for the R069 coursework unit need to be completed by **Easter** – lunch time sessions are available.

Can talk to members of staff at any time about concerns with their coursework.

Recommended online resources:

- BBC Bitesize Business
- View and attempt past papers – teachers are happy to mark any additional practice questions
<https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/cambridge-nationals/enterprise-and-marketing-level-1-and-2-certificate-j819/assessment/>

How can you best support your child in Enterprise and Marketing?

Encourage them to:

- Check their coursework grades, to see how many marks they need to improve by in order to achieve their minimum target grade.
- Discuss current affairs to help embed subject knowledge.
- Use lunch time sessions to improve their coursework for resubmission.
- Make the best use of their lesson time over the next few weeks.



GCSE Physical Education

How is this qualification assessed?

Exam board - AQA

Paper 1: The human body and movement in physical activity and sport, written Paper- 1h 15 mins – **30 % of GCSE - 78 marks**. Combination of multiple choice, short answer and extended writing questions - Applied anatomy and physiology, movement analysis, physical training and use of data

Paper 2: - Socio-cultural influences and well-being in physical activity and sport, written Paper 1h 15 mins – **30 % of GCSE - 78 marks**. Combination of multiple choice, short answer and extended writing questions. Sports psychology, socio-cultural influences, health, fitness and well-being and use of data

NEA (Non-Examined Assessment) Practical performance in physical activity and sport – **40% of GCSE - 100 marks**, Internal assessment, external moderation (25 marks for a written piece of coursework)

What support is in place for students?

The content of the course will be completed shortly. Their teacher will revise key content with them after the Easter break where we will focus on how to further develop their exam technique. The deadline for coursework is February 9th. Mr Hamilton is also available after school on Mondays for students to attend a coursework club as well as Wednesday lunchtimes for catch up club in D13. The deadline for practical video evidence is the same date. We have several pupils who will have to submit video evidence for this as we can't facilitate those sports within school. The practical moderation will take place after the Easter break. If a pupil is chosen by AQA they will have to be moderated but we will also ask other students to facilitate the moderation timetable. Students may be asked to practice during lunch/afterschool sessions, and this is imperative to a successful practical exam.

Extensive resources, including all the PowerPoints used for content revision, additional questions are available on the VLE. Students have also been told that there are revision guides for sale in the school shop.

Students can access the textbook from home on Kerboodle as well as videos, lessons and extra questions on the EverLearner. All students have been given their log in details at the beginning of Year 10.

How can you best support your child in Physical Education?

The main thing is to ensure that revision is active reading notes rarely adds anything to a student, whereas making new shorter, condensed notes or cards does.

Encourage them to:

Use mind maps and topic summaries to highlight the main content and the required case studies for each topic.

Cue cards to cover details of case studies. Testing them on key words and the content of the above.

Help them locate / print past paper questions on the VLE / exam board website. Ensure they access the online book and additional resources using Kerboodle and the EverLearner.



Physical Education: Cambridge National Certificate in sports studies J829(OCR)

How is this qualification assessed?

- **R184 Contemporary issues in sport (Max 80)**
A mixture of multiple choice, short answer and one extended answer question.
TA1. Issues which affect participation in sport
TA2. The role of sport in promoting values
TA3. The implications of hosting a major sporting event
TA4. The role of NGB's in the development of sport
TA5. Use of technology in sport
40% weighting of overall course
 - **R185 Developing sports skills. (Max 80)**
TA1. Key components of performance (two sports)- Supported by a participation logbook and teacher written observation record (*Completed*)
TA2. Applying practice methods to support improvement in a sporting activity (*ongoing*)
TA3. Organising and planning a sports activity session (*completed*)
TA4. Leading a sports activity session (*Ongoing*)
TA5. Reviewing your own performance in planning and leading a sports activity session (*ongoing*)
40% weighting of overall course
 - **R186 Sport and the media (Max 40)**
Fully complete unit. Submitted October 2023.
Results issued January 2024
20% weighting of overall course.
- } One exam.
13.05.24

What support is in place for students?

The majority of the course is now complete. As all work is completed on Microsoft teams, work is 'live' which gives the teacher a constant overview of work. Feedback is written in yellow and this highlights the work for students to act upon. Students are all invited to attend a catch-up-club on Wednesday lunch times, or alternatively coursework support is available on a Monday after school with Mr Hamilton, Head of Department.

All students have been purchased a 'Sports studies' simplified book to support their revision for R184.

How can you best support your child in CNAT Sports Studies?

Encourage the meeting of deadlines, a positive work ethic and the use of feedback from Mrs Starbuck for R185. The final deadline for all written work is **28 March 2024** to allow staff time to moderate and mark.

Encourage active revision for the exam unit, R184. Students can use www.theeverlearner.com to revise topics, as well as accessing any materials shared on the Microsoft teams group.



GCSE Drama

How is this qualification assessed?

Exam board AQA

Component 1: Understanding drama

Knowledge and understanding of drama and theatre

Study of one set play: *Blood Brothers*

Analysis and evaluation of the work of live theatre makers

Written exam: 1 hour and 45 minutes

This exam takes place on the afternoon of Thursday 9th May 2024.

80 Marks

40%

Open book.

Component 2: Devising drama (practical)

Process of creating devised drama

Performance of devised drama (students may contribute as performer or designer)

Analysis and evaluation of own work

Devising log (60 marks)

Devised performance (20 marks)

This component is marked by teachers and moderated by AQA.

The practical exam for Component 2 has been completed. The deadline for the NEA is Thursday February 8th 2024.

80 Marks

40%

Component 3: Texts in practice (practical)

Performance of two extracts from one play (students may contribute as performer or designer)

Performance of Extract 1 (20 marks) and Extract 2 (20 marks)

This component is marked by AQA.

This exam will take place on Friday 1st March 2024

40 Marks

20% GCSE

What support is in place for students?

Component 1 sections A and B were taught in year 10 and revised before the mock. Section C, the Live Theatre Review has now been introduced following our trip last November to see *The Woman in Black*. Extensive resources, including internally produced student support packs and flashcards for both the set text *Blood Brothers* and the Live Theatre Review in addition to model answers, writing frames and past paper questions are all available via the VLE. In addition, students had the option to purchase a CGP GCSE revision guide, these were provided for pupil premium students. As part of the revision programme the students will also have access to Annie Fox's Play Guide for *Blood Brothers*.

After March 1st when Components 2 and 3 are complete all 3 lessons each week will revise key content and focus on timed past paper practice question which will be assessed using a combination of teacher, peer, and self-marking to further develop their exam technique.

There will be no requirement for lunchtime or after school revision as revision has been planned as part of the course.

How can you best support your child in Drama?

For Component 1 please encourage your child to regularly re read their copy of *Blood Brothers* and use the revision material provided. In class we aim to make revision interactive. At home they should attempt practice questions in timed conditions and ensure they use the structures provided. The Component 3 practical exam takes place on Friday March 1st. Your child should know their lines by the end of January, please practise with them at home and encourage them to make use of the drama spaces to rehearse at lunch and after school. Encourage the design students to discuss their designs with you and justify how the decisions they have made achieve their aims and intentions.



GCSE Music

How is this qualification assessed?

Exam board Edexcel

Component 1: Performance – 1 solo and 1 ensemble, 4 minutes in length - 30% of GCSE

This component is marked by teachers and moderated by Edexcel.

Component 2: Composition – 1 composition based on a brief and 1 free composition - 3 minutes in length - 30% of GCSE

This component is marked by teachers and moderated by Edexcel.

Component 3: Appraising – 1 hour 45 minutes - 40% of GCSE

This component is marked by Edexcel.

What support is in place for students?

The content of the course has been completed. Their teacher will revise key content with them one lesson and then follow this with timed past paper questions which they will then self / peer mark to further develop their exam technique.

Extensive resources, including all the PowerPoints used for content revision, additional quizzes, a revision guide for each work and copy of the highlighted set work are available on the VLE. Students have also been completing revision notes for each set work since the start of the course.

The department is offering after-school composition sessions on Tuesday and Wednesday to help pupils revise and complete their composition coursework before the Easter deadline.

How can you best support your child in Music?

Help them follow a practice schedule for the performance assessments.

Encourage them to make revision active:

- Use mind maps and summaries to highlight the main content and the required vocabulary for each set work.
- Listen to the set works with their revision notes.
- Test themselves on key words and the content of each set work.
- Revisit the key features of each genre and listen to other pieces of music in these genres.
- Think about the purpose of particular musical features.
- Review assessments and tests done during the course and perhaps attempt them again to see if they can improve.
- Help them locate / print past paper questions on exam board website.
- Add to their revision notes having looked at the mark schemes.



GCSE Art and GCSE Photography

How is this qualification assessed?

- 60% Coursework. Deadline for submission: **Monday 25th March 2024**
- 40% Exam. Externally set paper. Students were given their exam paper in January 2024.

There are 4 assessment objects, each worth 25%. Each AO is marked out of 24, with a total maximum score of 96.

AO1: Develop ideas through investigations, demonstrating critical understanding of sources.	AO2: Refine work by exploring ideas, selecting and experimenting with appropriate media, materials, techniques and processes.	AO3: Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions as work progresses.	AO4: Present a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and demonstrates understanding of visual language.
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What support is in place for students?

- Art and Photography students were given course booklets at the beginning year 10 with examples of projects and explanations of the assessment objectives. Students can access PowerPoints and resources in class materials in Teams, for Photography.
- Students can use E11 during lunchtimes to work on their projects for Art, and E12/ E14 for Photography. Students can stay after school on Wednesdays until 5pm. There are lots of previous example projects, for students to look at in Art and Photography.

How can you best support your child in Art/ Photography?

- Ensure that students are spending at least three hours a week, independently working on their projects- matching homework time with classwork time, as a minimum.
- Students have until **Monday 25th March** to improve and add to their coursework. All exam work needs to be complete by the end of the controlled assessment time.
- Primary sources are important- students should be using their own photographs in Art and Photography.
- Students complete sheets in Art, with a sketchbook. Students complete projects on PowerPoints in Photography. All PowerPoints need to be saved on the One Drive and updated on Teams too.
- Discuss ideas at home, to build confidence and motivation, as students work towards their final pieces. (10 hours controlled assessment, over two days.)
- If possible, encourage students to visit galleries (most of which are free) or look at galleries online.



GCSE Design and Technology (Systems / Textiles / Timbers)

How is this qualification assessed?

Exam board: Pearson Edexcel

Component 1: Written Paper (50%) 100 marks / 1hr 45min

Component 2: Non-Examined Assessment (50%) 100 marks / 1st June (Year 10) to 20th March (Year 11)

What support is in place for students?

Students have been taught the full content of the course for the written paper from September to May of Year 10 and is due to be revisited in the revision period following the Non-Examined Assessment. PowerPoints for every topic are available on the VLE and includes content with questions and answers for self-assessment. We have bought Textbooks and although they are lacking in detail they can be used as a starting point.

Now the NEA has been completed, which counts for 50% of their grade we turn our attention to the written exam and with it, revision of the content we covered in Year 10. The teacher will revise key content from the different topics with questions and answers, including some opportunities for self-assessment and peer assessment to consolidate learning. The exam is broken down into a Core section which covers New and Emerging Technologies, Energy, Smart and Modern Materials, Composites and Technical Textiles, Designers, Communication Techniques as well as Metals, Papers, Polymers, Systems, Textiles and Timbers and counts for 40 marks. The Specialist section covers the specialist materials area: Systems, Textiles or Timbers.

Students have already had extensive support on their GCSE Design and Technology NEA projects with NEA Guides, PowerPoints for each page and feedback from their teacher, which places the students in a really strong position going into the exam. Our exam board do not produce a revision guide, however details of another revision guide for a different exam board, REVISE AQA GCSE Design and Technology Revision Guide, ISBN: 9781292191577, is a recommendation, as content is common. There is no requirement for lunchtime or after school revision as revision has been planned as part of the course.

How can you best support your child in Design and Technology?

The way we teach the course in Year 10 is that topics are covered within an hour, with question worksheets for homework and these PowerPoints can be revisited and used as a tool to revise from. Each PowerPoint includes a wide range of questions that students can use in an additional session to work through. While students like re-writing every single word on the PowerPoints or Revision Guides, what is key is to condense and consolidate through simple notes and key words to help trigger broader knowledge.

Students should:

- Use mind maps or topic summaries with bullet points to highlight the main content for each topic.
- Make and use Revision or Flash Cards to consolidate key terms and definitions, vocabulary, properties and characteristics, advantages, disadvantages that you can test them on. Give me three advantages of... What are the properties of... Explain what the term...means.
- Review assessments and tests completed during the course and attempt them again to see if they can improve.
- Locate and print past paper questions on the VLE or download full papers from the exam board website.



GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition

How is this qualification assessed?

Exam board: AQA

Paper 1: Written Paper (50%) 100 marks / 1hr 45min

Non-Examined Assessment Task 1: Food Investigation (15%) 30 marks

Non-Examined Assessment Task 2: Food Preparation Assessment (35%) 70 marks

What support is in place for students?

Students have been taught the full content of the course for the written paper from September of Year 10 with hiatus' for mock NEA tasks and live NEA tasks and is due to be revisited in the revision period following the Non-Examined Assessment Task 2. PowerPoints for every topic are available on the VLE and includes content with questions and answers for self-assessment. We have bought Textbooks which are very detailed and covers the content needed for the examination.

Now the NEA has been completed, which counts for 50% of their grade, we turn our attention to the written exam and with it, revision of the content we covered in Year 10 and Year 11. The teacher will revise key content from the different topics with questions and answers, including some opportunities for self-assessment and peer assessment to consolidate learning. The exam is broken down into: Food, Nutrition and Health, Food Science, Food Safety, Food Choice, Food Provenance.

Students have already had extensive support on their GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition NEA tasks with NEA Guides, PowerPoints for each page and feedback from their teacher, which places the students in a really strong position going into the exam. Details of a suitable revision guide, REVISE AQA GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition Revision Guide, ISBN: 9781471886997, is our recommendation. There is no requirement for lunchtime or after school revision as revision has been planned as part of the course.

How can you best support your child in Food Preparation and Nutrition?

Topics are covered within an hour, with question worksheets for homework and these PowerPoints can be revisited and used as a tool to revise from. Each PowerPoint includes a wide range of questions that students can use in an additional session to work through. What is key is to condense and consolidate through simple notes and key words to help trigger broader knowledge.

Students should:

- Use mind maps or topic summaries with bullet points to highlight the main content for each topic.
- Make and use Revision or Flash Cards to consolidate key terms and definitions, vocabulary, function of ingredients, advantages, disadvantages that you can test them on. Give me three advantages of... What is the function of... Explain what the term...means.
- Review assessments and tests completed during the course and attempt them again to see if they can improve.
- Locate and print past paper questions on the VLE or download full papers from the exam board website.



GCSE Graphic Communication

How is this qualification assessed?

Exam board: AQA

Component 1: Portfolio (Non-Examined Assessment) (60%) 96 marks / Easter (Year 10) to Christmas (Year 11)

Component 2: Externally Set Assignment incl. 10hrs of supervised time (40%) 96 marks / 1st January (Year 11) to May (Year 11)

What support is in place for students?

Students have been taught a broad range of skills and techniques across a range of projects from September of Year 10 to Easter of Year 10 to prepare them for their Portfolio project and Externally Set Assignment. This will allow them to gain the highest marks, not only for high quality graphic art, but also the detail in the project work.

Now the Portfolio has been completed, which counts for 60% of their grade we have turned our attention to the Externally Set Assignment, whereby they have selected a theme set by the exam board and are responding to that theme researching, designing, developing an idea through to a final outcome. Example projects have been shared with the students to show high quality outcomes to raise grades.

Students have already had extensive support on their GCSE Graphic Communication projects with Guides, PowerPoints for each page and feedback from their teacher, which places the students in a really strong position going into the externally set assignment. There is no need to buy or use a revision guide as there is no written element to the course. Students should revisit feedback from previous work and continue to respond to feedback on new work. There is no requirement for lunchtime or after school revision as revision has been planned as part of the course.

How can you best support your child in Graphic Communication?

Students should be responding to feedback from the teacher and checking in with your child will help to encourage them to complete tasks. By asking your child what they have done, what they have been asked to do and seeing the work they have completed, will help to keep them focused.

Students should:

Check back on previous feedback from previous projects and apply these to their new External Set Assignment