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# HOW DO I HELP MY CHILD SUCCEED IN...?

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A GUIDE FOR PARENTS OF  
YEAR 11 STUDENTS

**WINTERTON  
COMMUNITY  
ACADEMY**

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## INTRODUCTION

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These booklets were written after parents told us they would like to know more about how they can help their child succeed. It supplements other advice, on our website and elsewhere, that is available and your child's reports and parents' evening meetings.

### Why do we need these booklets?

There is clear evidence, and we agree, that engaging parents with their child's learning is extremely positive and leads to wide-ranging benefits. One of the best influences on our students is their parents and we know that as we strive to be Outstanding, the students need to strive for that goal and their parents need to be fully involved in this too. After all, as teachers see them for such a small part of each week (15% of a year) the influence of the parents has got to be a major factor in their success.

*Parents have the greatest influence on the achievement of young people through supporting their learning in the home rather than supporting activities in the school.*

*It is their support of learning within the home environment that makes the maximum difference to achievement. (Do Parents Know They Matter, Harris, Andrew-Power&Goodall 2009)*

### What is this booklet for?

This booklet endeavours to give you greater insight into what your child is studying, what you can do to support them and what they can do to take a greater interest in the subjects they take and promote their learning at home - after all, that is where they spend the majority of their lives!

It is not intended to be the definitive guide to every subject they study but an overview of what you may need to know in order to provide any relevant support.

### What else can we do?

In addition to this subject-specific advice, literacy, numeracy and information from the IGLU, I would like to emphasise three other key areas which we believe can be of greatest influence.

#### 1. Encouragement and Praise

*"It's great when my teacher is pleased with me, but your dad's your dad!" Year 7 student*

#### 2. Take greater ownership of their homework - what it is, when it is due and is it complete?



a. See the Homework page on our website for details of our expectations.

#### **Some additional tips that may help:**

- Help them with other organisation - homework completion and organising their bag for the next day
  - We have standard school equipment for sale in the school office.
- Agree a balance between school work, social life and other distractions.
- Provide the best environment for learning as you can. Ideally a quiet place just for their learning.
- Provide the resources they need for revision - folders, highlighters, cue-cards, post-its, paper, pens, memory sticks, etc. Help to plan their revision timetables too.

I hope you find this 'guide' useful and would welcome any thoughts on how we can improve either this booklet for the next Year 11 students or subsequent booklets for other year groups.

Thank you

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## HOW DO I HELP MY CHILD SUCCEED WITH HELP FROM THE IGLU?

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'IGLU' stands for Intervention Group Learning Unit. We offer a range of opportunities for students to boost their performance in English and Mathematics, as well as improving general study skills.

One of the main roles of the IGLU is running the Small Group English & Mathematics Intervention Programme. Those students who could benefit most from these sessions will be put forward by their teacher to join the programme; this usually involves attending small group sessions on a rotating basis.

### Is there anything else I can do to help my child succeed in English & Mathematics?

We have one-to-one (or very small group) sessions available to be booked at lunchtimes or after school. These sessions are run by a learning mentor and can be used by students who would like a boost with any area of English or Mathematics. These sessions can be booked by filling in a slip (available in form rooms) or by coming in to the IGLU, and are available to all KS4 students regardless of whether or not they are already on an IGLU Intervention Programme. Each session will be individually tailored to meet the student's needs.

You could encourage your child to book one of these sessions if one of the following applies to them:

- They are struggling to understand one or more areas of English or Mathematics.
- They would like help to prepare revise for an exam.
- They have missed some work through illness and would like to catch up.

### Is there anything else I can do to help my child succeed in general?

Near to exam time, the IGLU will run a series of Revision Seminars. These interactive workshops will be hosted by an outside professional and will be open to all Year 11 students. This is an excellent opportunity for students to build up their revision skills in the run up to the GCSEs. They will take place after school; dates and sign-up sheets will be made available nearer to the time.

We also offer help with scheduling and prioritising for students who are feeling stressed or 'snowed under' with homework or revision. This can be arranged simply by talking to one of the IGLU learning mentors.

### What are the key websites that my child could use?

English:

[www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize)

[www.sparknotes.com](http://www.sparknotes.com)

[www.bbc.co.uk/skillswise](http://www.bbc.co.uk/skillswise)

Maths:

[www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize)

<http://mathsapp.pixl.org.uk>

### How do you celebrate success in the IGLU?

There is a 'Hall of Fame' wall at the back of the IGLU, filled with examples of outstanding work. Having work added to this wall shows students that they have exceeded our expectations, serves as inspiration to others, and provides a confidence boost to the student, raising their own self-esteem.

### If I need to speak to someone about study support from the IGLU, who should I contact and how?

Miss B Bartlett (English) [bartlett.b@wintertoncommunityacademy.co.uk](mailto:bartlett.b@wintertoncommunityacademy.co.uk)

## LITERACY ACROSS THE CURRICULUM

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As a school, we are endeavouring to improve students' literacy across the curriculum in order to ensure further attainment in all subject areas.

### Home Reading

Encourage your child to read to develop their reading skills and their vocabulary. Between the ages of 5 - 8, 30% of children will read every day - this falls by almost half by the time they are 15-17 where only 17% will read every day. Support your child by providing opportunities for them to read on a daily basis ask them about what they are reading, what predictions can they make about what will happen next? They should be reading a range of genres and experiencing the work of various authors. The range should include both fiction and non-fiction texts. This will help them to develop their skills which can then be incorporated into their own work. Remember, any home reading is better than none at all. Please try to encourage reading in your child by providing them with access to reading materials. Reading in tutorial time and English lessons is common and therefore it helps if your child has access to their own reading material, in addition to the material we provide at school.

### Why Literacy across the curriculum?

Not only are the skills of reading and writing fundamental to fully functioning in life, they are also important skills that are examined at G.C.S.E. level. The assessment of spelling, punctuation and grammar is also an integral part of the grading for many other subjects in both Controlled Assessments and examination questions. It is vital then, that students apply their literacy skills in all subject areas if they are to maximise their potential. It is also important that students realise that their literacy skills are transferrable and should be applied in each subject area. We have a common Literacy Marking Key that is used by all teachers of all subjects to try and support Literacy development across the curriculum.

### How do I help with Extended Writing?

Throughout the year, students will be given the opportunity to do extended writing tasks in which they can practise and develop their literacy skills. You can support your child by discussing the tasks certainly in the developmental section where you can help them to focus their ideas.

Please check the website below to help your child develop their writing styles:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/ks3bitesize/english/writing/>

### How do I help with Reading?

Students will read a range of fiction/non-fiction texts across all subject areas. You can support your child by discussing why particular words or phrases have been chosen. Students often find non-fiction texts hard to analyse so further analysis of these can only be of benefit.

The website below will help you to support your child to develop their reading skills:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/ks3bitesize/english/reading/>

### How do I help with Speaking and Listening?

Students will also need to practise their Speaking and Listening skills across the curriculum. This can be in the form of: presenting information; creating and sustaining roles; group discussion work. When students are asked to present information, the best presentations are those that have been practised to ensure students speak clearly and fluently. Your support in listening to presentations before they speak in class will help students to achieve the best possible grade.

The website below for help to support your child to develop their speaking and listening skills:

[http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/ks3bitesize/english/speaking\\_listening/](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/ks3bitesize/english/speaking_listening/)

## Half-Termly Literacy Focus - your role as a parent

During each half term, all teaching staff, when assessing a piece of work, will also mark the work with this particular focus in mind. Please take this opportunity to develop your child's literacy skills by checking through their homework for literacy, e.g. have capital letters been used accurately, has punctuation been used at the end of each sentence?

### Literacy Focus 2018-2019

Term	Focus	Example
Autumn 1	Spelling.	Key subject vocabulary to be deployed and focused on at your discretion.
Autumn 2	Homophones: there, their, they're.	Look over there! The boys put their football boots on. They're receiving lots of support in school.
Spring 1	Punctuation at the end of sentences.	Encourage the accurate use of a range of punctuation at the end of a sentence, including : Full stop. Exclamation mark! Question mark? Ellipses...
Spring 2	Homophones: where, wear, were, we're.	Where is my pencil case? What shall I wear today? If only it were a hot, sunny day. We're having a fantastic time at the show.
Summer 1	Accurate use of capitalisation (Writing a word with its first <u>letter</u> as a <u>capital letter</u> and the remaining letters in <u>lower case</u> ).	Ensuring all sentences and proper nouns begin with a capital letter. Ensure that capital letters are not used inappropriately when writing.
Summer 2	Use of varied and ambitious vocabulary.	Subject areas to develop the use of subject specific ambitious vocabulary and promote the word of the week. (Whilst supporting accurate spelling).

## NUMERACY ACROSS THE CURRICULUM

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Numeracy skills used can vary vastly from subject to subject.

Each subject area in the school is being supported by a member of the Mathematics team. Work is being developed to support students with aspects of each subject.

One key area you can emphasise is the importance of Mathswatch (see Mathematics section) and using this **over and above** the homework that may have been set will help further develop students' Mathematics skills.

As a school, we are endeavouring to improve students' numeracy across the curriculum in order to ensure further attainment in all subject areas.

## HOW DO I HELP MY CHILD SUCCEED IN MATHEMATICS?

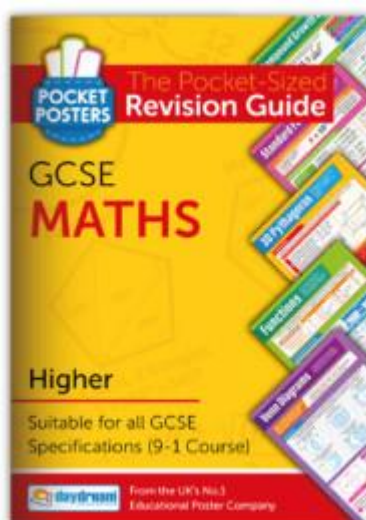
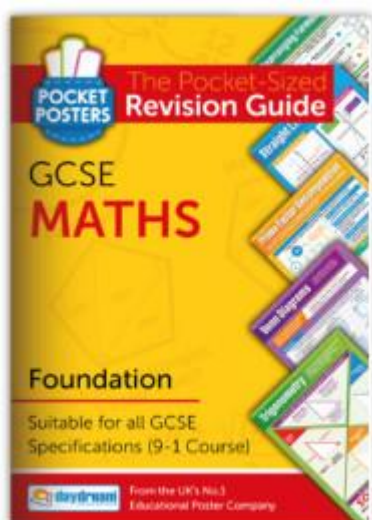
Throughout Year 11, students will be consolidating and extending their knowledge of the following topics. This is a continuation of our 5 year GCSE course from Year 7 to Year 11.

Higher GCSE (Grades 4 - 9)	Foundation GCSE (Grades 1 – 5)
1 Number, indices, standard form and surds	1 Integers and decimals
2 Algebra and equations	2 Algebra and formulae
3 Statistics and representing data	3 Graphs and data handling
4 Fractions, percentages and ratios	4 Fractions, decimals and percentages
5 Pythagoras' theorem and trigonometry	5 Statistics and averages
6 Graphs of equations	6 Angles and polygons
7 Perimeter, area, 3D shapes and accuracy	7 Equations, inequalities and sequences
8 Transformations and constructions	8 Perimeter, area and volume
9 Quadratic and simultaneous equations	9 Real life graphs
10 Probability	10 Transformations
11 Rates of change and compound measures	11 Ratio and proportion
12 Similarity in 2D and 3D	12 Pythagoras' theorem and trigonometry
13 Advanced trigonometry	13 Probability
14 Cumulative frequency and histograms	14 Rates of change and compound measures
15 Graphs of complex equations	15 Constructions, bearings and 3D shapes
16 Circle theorems	16 Quadratic equations
17 Re-arranging formula and rationalising	17 Circles, cones, cylinders and spheres
18 Vectors	18 Indices and standard form
19 Direct and inverse proportion	19 Similarity and vectors
	20 Graphs of complex equations

### What resources could I buy or borrow that will help my child?

Daydream revision guides:

These pocket sized, very colourful and easy to read revision guides are available periodically from the Mathematics Department.





## What are the key websites that my child could use?

Websites that are used depend on the topics that are being delivered and these include:

<https://.vle.mathswatch.co.uk>

<http://mathsapp.pixl.org.uk>

[www.gcsebitesize.co.uk](http://www.gcsebitesize.co.uk)

There are two main websites that the Mathematics Department uses. The PiXL Mathematics application is a brilliant way for students to choose their own topic to study and it tracks usage to build up an overview of progress over time. Mathswatch is exactly as it says on the tin. It is a website with videos of Mathematics topics being delivered by Mathematics specialists. There are also worksheets that students can print out to either consolidate or extend their understanding of any topic of their choice alongside many interactive questions. Students are encouraged to bring completed worksheets to discuss with their teachers (to either get further help or simply some recognition of their hard work and progress).

The PiXL application is available as a free download from all app stores and Mathswatch is usable on all internet browsers (including PCs, iPads, Android tablets, Smartphones).

## What can I do to encourage my child to take further interest in Mathematics?

One great motivational booster is to research the qualifications required for your child's intended future career and potential college courses. A better Mathematics grade usually means a college course can be started on a higher level or entry. Poor Mathematics grades will block entry to many professions. Working on the Mathswatch website or PiXL application can help independent learning of topics highlighted in your child's latest Mathematics Personal Learning Checklist (PLC).

## What type of homework will my child have and how long should they spend on homework?

Homework tasks will vary throughout the year. Homework may be in many forms: revision for an assessment (either the next STEP test or Mock Exam); exam style questions or consolidation/extension questions. The homework will vary on time and how long a student has to complete it. Teachers will set homework which will require internet access, but alternative ways of completing homework are always offered as students will always be given a week to complete these assignments and the Mathematics room with the ICT suite is open lunchtimes for homework.

## When will my child be doing coursework, Controlled Assessments, assignments or other important assessments and how long will these take?

There is no coursework or Controlled Assessment in GCSE Mathematics. The entire GCSE is based on three examinations at the end of Year 11 (worth an equal amount each). Paper two is a non-calculator paper and Paper one and Paper three are calculator papers.

## Is there anything else I can do to help my child succeed in Mathematics?

It is important that you encourage your child to try and work independently yet when they seek advice assist them where possible. Also allow your child to take responsibility for their work and show you examples of work that they are proud of.

Encouraging your child to revise their work on a regular basis will help them prepare for exams.

A calculator is needed for two of the examinations. If the Higher paper is taken, this needs to be a scientific calculator - which is the type we would recommend for both tiers of entry. The type of scientific calculator used by the Mathematics Department is the Casio FX-83GTPLUS which is usually available for under £10 (although they can often be found cheaper at the start of a new academic year).

## What after school or other extracurricular activities are available in Mathematics and when are they?

After each assessment students are provided with a detailed Personalised Learning Checklist (PLC) which is colour coded. Green indicates your child is secure at the topic, Yellow indicates that your child requires some consolidation of the topic, and Red indicates that your child needs to address their knowledge and understanding of the topic. Students are encouraged to refer to their PLC after each assessment to look for areas to develop and see members of the Mathematics team if they need support or assistance of any kind.

Mrs Bishop will be working with many students over the year with small groups of 1 to 4 students and she is able to help with many aspects of study support including revision skills.

## If I need to speak to someone about my child's progress in Mathematics, who should I contact and how?

Please contact:

Mr S Musgrave (Head of Department) - [Musgrave.s@wintertoncommunityacademy.co.uk](mailto:Musgrave.s@wintertoncommunityacademy.co.uk)

Miss C Lovell (Mathematics Teacher) - [Lovell.c@wintertoncommunityacademy.co.uk](mailto:Lovell.c@wintertoncommunityacademy.co.uk)

Mr E Wraith (Mathematics Teacher) - [Wraith.e@wintertoncommunityacademy.co.uk](mailto:Wraith.e@wintertoncommunityacademy.co.uk)

Mr M Broadbent (Mathematics Teacher) - [Broadbent.m@wintertoncommunityacademy.co.uk](mailto:Broadbent.m@wintertoncommunityacademy.co.uk)

Mr A Foley (Mathematics Teacher) - [Foley.a@wintertoncommunityacademy.co.uk](mailto:Foley.a@wintertoncommunityacademy.co.uk)

Mrs D Bishop (Learning Mentor) - [Bishop.d@wintertoncommunityacademy.co.uk](mailto:Bishop.d@wintertoncommunityacademy.co.uk)

## HOW DO I HELP MY CHILD SUCCEED IN ENGLISH?

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### What topics are you covering and when, so I can encourage my child to take a greater interest?

Throughout the course of Year 10 and Y11 all students will follow a programme of study that will enable students of all abilities to develop the skills they need to read, understand and analyse a wide range of different texts covering the 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century time periods as well as to write clearly, coherently and accurately. Students will also revisit a Shakespeare play and a 19<sup>th</sup> century novel. The choice of text will vary according to each teacher, however, the texts they may study are:

Shakespeare: Macbeth or Romeo and Juliet

19<sup>th</sup> Century Novel: Great Expectations, A Christmas Carol, Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde, Jane Eyre

### What resources could I buy or borrow that will help my child?

The class texts that we use and that may be of benefit to students at home are:

AQA G.C.S.E. English and English Language Basic Skills, Peter Buckroyd, ISBN: 978-0-435151-30-0

AQA G.C.S.E. English and English Language Achieve a C, Peter Buckroyd, ISBN: 978-0-435118-14-3

AQA G.C.S.E. English and English Language Achieve a C, Peter Buckroyd, ISBN: 978-0-435118-12-9

Up Grade - How to achieve a C and above in G.C.S.E. AQA English, Peter Buckroyd, ISBN: 978-0-435118-58-7

Collins Revision Guide New GCSE English/ English Language Higher/Foundation ISBN:978-0-00-734100-9

In addition, there is a range of CGP revision books - these are affordable revision guides that focus on specific examination techniques and skills.

### What are the key websites that my child could use?

The G.C.S.E. Bitesize website has up-to-date revision and independent study material. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/english/>

<http://www.therevisionbutton.co.uk/peq/Security/login> your child will need to get the login details from their class teacher to access these revision materials.

The AQA English resource zone is also an invaluable means to find out more about the specifications and suggests further support links. [www.aqa.org.uk/resource-zone/english/english-language](http://www.aqa.org.uk/resource-zone/english/english-language)

SAM learning <https://englishapp.pixl.org.uk>

### What can I do to encourage my child to take further interest in English?

A major contributing factor to success and enjoyment in English is to encourage students to become active readers. Therefore, providing your son / daughter with a wide range of interesting and engaging reading material is a really good starting point. In addition, there are various points in the year where students are required to watch and write about various moving images such as films. Again, providing opportunities to support your son / daughter with this and discuss what you have viewed could provide them with further encouragement. Furthermore, I would encourage you to talk to your son / daughter about their learning and the work they are undertaking in lessons.

### What type of homework will my child have and how long should they spend on homework?

Homework tasks will vary between teaching groups, dependent on the time of year and the unit of work that the students are working on. Homework could take one of many forms: revision for an exam; learning quotes; research for a piece of writing or a poem; or perhaps an extension of the classwork completed. Homework is usually designed to last twenty to thirty minutes, although some students may wish to spend longer on particular pieces.

## When will my child be doing coursework, Controlled Assessments, assignments or other important assessments and how long will these take?

There is no longer any coursework or controlled assessments to complete in English. Students will sit exams at the end of Y11 which will be 100% of their GCSE for either English Language (if re-sitting) or English Literature. They will however, complete assessments throughout the course of Y10 that will mirror questions that they will get asked in their final exam.

## What after school or other extra-curricular activities are available in English and when are they?

There is an extensive range of intervention and extra-curricular opportunities planned and available to all Year 11 students. In addition, all staff operate very informal 'drop in' sessions whereby students who feel they need extra support or time with their teacher can 'drop in' at breaks or lunchtimes.

## Is there anything else I can do to help my child succeed in English?

Students are routinely assessed for their ability to spell, punctuate and paragraph accurately. Therefore, having access to a good dictionary at home and a thesaurus will provide your son/daughter with opportunities to check and correct spellings or to search for more varied and ambitious vocabulary. Encourage them to ensure all work is neatly presented with accurate use of capital letters and punctuation.

## How do you celebrate success in English?

Staff within the department are keen to speak to parents of students that are making good progress and to celebrate that success with students and parents. Postcards to recognise achievement are also sent home to parents. In addition, subject prizes are awarded in the school's annual prize giving ceremony.

## If I need to speak to someone about my child's progress in English who should I contact and how?

The English Department at Winterton encourages parental contact and therefore all subject teachers are happy to speak with parents about a student's progress. If parents would like to speak directly to the Subject Leader, Mrs B Martin (Head of Department) can be contacted via the school office.

## HOW DO I HELP MY CHILD SUCCEED IN SCIENCE?

Throughout Year 10 and 11, students will have been studying the following topics. Some of these are still to be covered and they all need to be revisited for revision purposes.

THEORY (Topics) (100%)
<p><b>Biology will include:</b>            Evolution            Cells and cell processes            Genetics            Homeostasis            The environment</p> <p><b>Physics will include:</b>            Forces            Electricity            Radioactivity            Space</p> <p><b>Chemistry will include:</b>            Atoms and bonds            Rates of reaction            Crude oil and its compounds            Materials from the earth            Atmosphere            Separating techniques            Electrolysis</p>

### What resources could I buy or borrow that will help my child?

To support your child's learning you could purchase a number of different textbooks as resources are gathered together from a number of different sources.

There are numerous resources that are produced by CGP to assist with final revision. Choose the guides that are specific to AQA. There are also text books produced by Collins that can be purchased from Amazon, Waterstones or W H Smith. Ensure that your child has the correct course (separate Science books or Trilogy). Please speak to Miss Hough or Mr Hagerup if you would like further advice.

### What are the key websites that my child could use?

Websites that are used depend on the topics that are being delivered. However, main websites that will be used include:

[www.aqa.org.uk](http://www.aqa.org.uk)

[www.sep.org.uk](http://www.sep.org.uk)

[www.gcsescience.com](http://www.gcsescience.com)

[www.docbrown.info](http://www.docbrown.info)

[www.chemactive.com](http://www.chemactive.com)

[www.passmyexams.co.uk](http://www.passmyexams.co.uk)

[www.darvill.clara.net](http://www.darvill.clara.net)

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

YouTube has some great demonstrations which fire enthusiasm; try looking at thermite reaction, hot ice, or screaming jelly baby! There are also some good GCSE science revision clips; search for the topic, and follow the search with the letters AQA.

## What can I do to encourage my child to take further interest in Science?

Take an interest in what your child is learning currently. Ask questions about what they have found out, and you could look out for TV programmes related to topics (there are usually lots of good programmes on adaptation and the environment for example).

It is important that you encourage your child to try and work independently yet when they seek advice assist them where possible. Also allow your child to take responsibility for their work and show you examples of work that they are proud of. The department gives extensive feedback on how to improve, so encourage your son or daughter to read the comments and make the adjustments suggested.

Encouraging your child to revise their theory work on a regular basis will help students prepare for exams.

## What type of homework will my child have and how long should they spend on homework?

Students' homework could vary in length from twenty minutes to two hours (this will be unlikely to be completed for the following day). Tasks could be to research around a topic and report findings; complete past paper questions; plan an experiment; write a report; evaluate a method.

Students should not under any circumstances be copying and pasting directly from websites.

## When will my child be doing coursework, Controlled Assessments, assignments or other important assessments and how long will these take?

Coursework ISA's are no longer a requirement in any Science GCSE course. Instead students must complete a number of 'required practicals' set by the exam board. It is essential that students' attendance is excellent in order that they attend these practical sessions during lesson time. The exam board will test knowledge and application of these practicals in the student's final exams.

## What after school or other extracurricular activities are available in Science and when are they?

Students are encouraged to discuss their work with teachers and seek help as often as they like on how to improve. "Booster" lessons are part of the Year 11 Science course for students on the C/D borderline by invitation only. However, all Science staff run extra HITT sessions including those on exam technique as and when required. There may be instances when a student is underperforming and with some small groups support, or individual help we can improve your child's grade. The intention is to provide them with the best opportunities we can so that your child can choose the courses/ apprenticeships/ training they wish to undertake post-16. We then request that your child attends intervention sessions. Attendance is mandatory and should be viewed not as punishment but as a way to help your child improve so that we give the best possible opportunities for future careers.

## Is there anything else I can do to help my child succeed in Science?

Use the AQA website to download specifications and also to access past paper questions. Mark schemes can also be downloaded. Science staff can help students when papers are completed and assist in improving weaker areas of learning.

The syllabi can be downloaded from the AQA website and the specification numbers are as follows:

Biology 8461 separate Science only

Chemistry 8462 separate Science only

Physics 8463 separate Science only

Combined Science trilogy (the majority of students study these) 8464

## How do you celebrate success in Science?

Science colleagues can use journals in which to write positive comments.

## If I need to speak to someone about my child's progress in Science, who should I contact and how?

Please contact the Science department.

## HOW DO I HELP MY CHILD SUCCEED IN ART & DESIGN AND PHOTOGRAPHY?

What topics are you covering and when, so I can encourage my child to take a greater interest?

In Art and Design, you will work on topics that will develop your skills with different media, for example paint, pencil, coffee, newspaper etc. Students are encouraged to do as much independent research and work to develop their portfolio and broaden their knowledge for the subject.

Year 10	<u>GCSE Art/ GCSE Textiles</u>	<u>GCSE photography</u>
Autumn	Natural Forms	Natural Forms
Spring	Self-Directed- Theme of their choosing.	In My World
Summer		Self- Directed- Theme of their choosing

Year 11	<u>GCSE Art /GCSE Textiles</u>	<u>GCSE photography</u>
Autumn 1	Self-Directed- Theme of their choosing	YR 11 Mock
Spring	External Set Assessment- AQA	External Set Assessment- AQA

### What Resources should I buy or borrow that will help my child?

**Art and Design:** Soft drawing pencils (2B, 3B, etc.), good quality colouring pencils and watercolours are very useful. Students may wish to purchase sketchbooks however they will be provided with various papers by the Art department as needed. If your child wishes to take their work home an A2 or A1 folder will help keep their work dry and in good condition.

**Textiles:** Basic sewing equipment, sewing machine- does not need to be an expensive one. Basic fabrics for example, cotton, calico etc. students can purchase sketchbooks if desired. A folder like the art students to transport work home.

**Photography:** A digital camera - this does not need to be an expensive one but you will need a memory stick to store photos. Software for manipulating/enhancing images; the school has Serif Photo Plus and access to Pixlr.com another good internet based programme. It is very important that students back up this work regularly by keeping copies on their home PC. If the student uses their mobile phones to take picture they will need to make sure these images are back up regular on PC. Photoshop is a commercially used software amongst professional photographers this would be recommended however it is expensive, but student packages can be purchased.

### What are the key website that my child could use?

Archive.com is a good website to use for researching artist.

Pinterest.com is good to look for inspiration and experiments.

Pixlr.com is the editing software we will be using throughout the course.

### What can I do to encourage my child to take further interest in art?

Student should be encouraged to look at original artwork whenever the opportunity arises, e.g. visiting galleries, locally 20:21, Ferens, Ropewalk etc. or national Tate modern, Baltic centre for contemporary arts etc.



## What type of homework will my child have and how long should they spend on it?

Students will be set homework dependent on their progress in lesson and on a project:

**Art and Design:** this can include observational studies, contextual studies- researching artist, designer and craftspeople, photo taking to aid observation studies, Pinterest to help with ideas and inspiration.

**Photography:** this can include photo shoots- both planning and taking of said shoots, contextual studies, edits using the Pixlr software, Pinterest to help with ideas and inspiration.

**Textiles:** This can be continuation of classwork to finish samples, it could be research techniques, photo taking to aid observational studies. Contextual studies, Pinterest to help with ideas and inspiration.

## When Will my child be doing coursework, controlled assessment, assignment or other important assessments and how long do they take?

During the year 10 and 11 students from all the art disciplines will be working on two components.

**Component 1:** portfolio- this needs to show the students has covered all four of the assessment objectives. It must include one sustained project that evidences the journey from initial engagement to the realisation of intentions and a selection of further work undertaken during the student's course of study. This will be marked out of a total of 96 and will be worth 60% of the overall mark.

**Component 2:** Externally Set Assessment - ESA to be conducted in year 11: Students respond to their chosen starting point from an externally set assignment paper relating to their subject title, evidencing coverage of all four assessment objectives. This project will have a preparatory period in which they can complete work with the aid of staff followed by 10 hours of supervised time under exam conditions, unaided by staff. This will also be marked out of 96 but will be worth 40% of the overall marks.

## What after school activities are available in Art & Design?

They will be after school HITT sessions, that will be offered to those you need the extra support and those you wish to further they studies. These will run on a weekly basis in ART 2.

## Is there anything I can do to help my child succeed in Art & Design and Photography?

Encourage your child to be open minded and have discussions based on different aspects of art. Ask your child questions about their work for example how did you achieve that effect? Or what do you like most about this piece? Etc.

Support your child with homework and encourage them to be independent and take pride in their work. Be aware of deadline that your child has, to aid them in meeting them.

## How do you celebrate success in Art & Design and Photography?

We run a student of the week for both KS3 and KS4 students and their work will be displayed on the wall of Art 2, for all students to see. In addition, subject prizes for achievement and progress are awarded in the school's annual prize giving ceremony.

## If you need to speak to someone about my child's progress in Art & design, who should I contact and how?

Please contact Mrs S Blackburn or Mrs A Purdon via the school office.



## HOW DO I HELP MY CHILD SUCCEED IN BTEC BUSINESS?

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**What topics are you covering and when, so I can encourage my child to take a greater interest?**

Enterprise in the Business World (Year 10)

Financial Forecasting (Year 10)

Promoting a Brand (Year 11)

Recruitment, Selection and Employment (Year 11)

**What resources could I buy or borrow that will help my child?**

**BTEC First in Business - Student Textbook**

- Pearson - ISBN 9781446901366

**What are the key websites that my child could use?**

[www.bbcbitessize.co.uk](http://www.bbcbitessize.co.uk)   [www.brianmac.co.uk](http://www.brianmac.co.uk)   [www.edexcel.com](http://www.edexcel.com)

[www.businessstudiesonline.co.uk](http://www.businessstudiesonline.co.uk)   [www.thestudentroom.co.uk](http://www.thestudentroom.co.uk)

**What can I do to encourage my child to take further interest in Business?**

Watching programs including Dragons Den and The Apprentice will give students an understanding of both Business fundamentals and develop more advanced Business situations.

**What type of homework will my child have and how long should they spend on homework?**

Homework will come in many forms, including research tasks, assignment work, revision and sometimes practically based situations. Durations will differ dependent on task and type of homework.

**When will my child be doing coursework, Controlled Assessments, assignments or other important assessments and how long will these take?**

Unit 2 (Financial Forecasting) is an externally assessed unit via an on screen test. This can be repeated if needed, but will be completed under exam conditions. The first attempt will take place in July.

All other unit assignments are available on the school Shared Area and contain deadlines for each assessed piece of work for the year.

All assessments are due to be completed before Easter. This allows time for students to then return to previous work to improve their existing grade before final submission.

There is an optional "coursework clinic" on Mondays 3.30pm - 4.30pm where assignments can be completed, with help from Mr N Hodge.

**What after school or other extracurricular activities are available in Business Studies and when are they?**

In addition to coursework clinic there is also an opportunity for students to be selected to represent school in Enterprise competitions and other in and out of school Business led programs.

**Is there anything else I can do to help my child succeed in BTEC Business?**

Ensure that students are up to date with assignments and that note books contain appropriate notes to enable students to complete assessed work to the best of their ability.

**How do you celebrate success in BTEC Business?**

Comments are recorded in the student`s journal to celebrate success. In addition, subject prizes for achievement and progress are awarded in the school`s annual prize-giving ceremony.

**If I need to speak to someone about my child`s progress in BTEC Business, who should I contact and how?**

Mr N Hodge. Contact via the School office.

## HOW DO I HELP MY CHILD SUCCEED IN GCSE DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY, V CERT ENGINEERING, RESISTANT MATERIALS & PRODUCT DESIGN

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What topics are you covering and when, so I can encourage my child to take a greater interest?

**Engineering:** An engineered L.E.D light

**Resistant Materials:** Small storage units inspired by a design era from the last 100 years

**Product Design:** Creative and original LED lighting

What resources could I buy or borrow that will help my child?

Letts and Lonsdale revision guides:

- AQA GCSE Engineering: Student's Book
- Essentials GCSE Product Design Technology Revision
- Essentials GCSE Resistant Materials Technology Revision

Other resources are dependent upon the chosen material area.

### Design and Technology

#### (Product Design and Resistant Materials)

Students will use the skills and knowledge learnt whilst producing their year 10 assignments and will spend 35 hours producing their Design and Technology Product Design controlled assessment. Pupils will work in wood, metal or plastics - these will be supplied by school in producing this piece of work which will be worth 50 percent of students GCSE grades. Students are expected to contribute towards the cost of these when they take their work home. Students will need to provide any items that are specific to their individual designs as needed.

### V Cert Engineering

Skills are developed in Year 10 through a number of small projects. These focus on the world of engineering, health and safety, quality control and developing graphics skills through focused tasks in metal and plastics. Basic metal working skills are developed through the making small engineered metal products. Students will use the skills and knowledge learnt whilst producing their year 10 assignments and will spend 45 hours producing their Design and Technology Engineering controlled assessment. Pupils will also develop an understanding of modern production techniques and quality control through planning the production of a product as well as developing and producing working drawings.

What are the key websites that my child could use?

<http://www.technologystudent.com/index.htm> -is a really useful website for Resistant Materials and Product Design.

[www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize](http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize)

AQA website for past papers.

What can I do to encourage my child to take further interest in Design and Technology?

Opportunities are given for students to do extra work and catch up missed work at lunchtime with after school sessions towards the end of the year to further improve grades in controlled assessment work.

What type of homework will my child have and how long should they spend on homework?

Students will be working on their Controlled Assessment until March 2017. Homework will be to work further on the design problem being covered by completing work started in class or conducting independent research; completing design work, planning the making of the product being made or evaluating the product when complete.

## When will my child be doing coursework, Controlled Assessments, assignments or other important assessments and how long will these take?

Students will be completing their Controlled Assessment until March 2013. This assessment is a 40 hour project and will largely be completed as classwork. This contributes 60% towards the final grade.

- 27<sup>th</sup> February for the practical work
- 27<sup>th</sup> March for the design folder

When the Controlled Assessment is completed students will start the preparation for their examination in June. The Exam contributes 40% towards the final grade.

## What after school or other extracurricular activities are available in Design and Technology and when are they?

Opportunities are given for students to do extra work and catch up missed work at lunchtime with regular after school sessions towards the end of the year to further improve assessment work grades in all material areas.

## Is there anything else I can do to help my child succeed in Design and Technology? How do you celebrate success in design and technology?

Student successes are celebrated through subject prizes for progress and attainment in the school's annual prize-giving ceremony. They are given a sticker or a stamp for producing good work. High quality work is used for display on school and classroom notice boards.

## If I need to speak to someone about my child's progress in Design and Technology who should I contact and how?

Your child's teacher is the person who knows how he / she is progressing in detail and will be able to answer any questions about the progress and details about the course you may have. They can be contacted through the school 01724 732777

## HOW DO I HELP MY CHILD SUCCEED IN GEOGRAPHY?

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### What topics are you covering and when, so I can encourage my child to take a greater interest?

In Year 11 students cover the following key geographical themes.

#### **What makes a landscape distinctive?**

What is a landscape?

Where are the physical landscapes of the UK?

#### **What influences the river landscapes of the UK?**

What physical processes shape river landscape?

What are the characteristics of the landscape of the River Tay in Scotland?

#### **Why are natural ecosystems important?**

What are ecosystems?

#### **Why should tropical rainforests matter to us?**

What biodiversity exists in tropical rainforests?

Why are tropical rainforests being 'exploited'?

How can tropical rainforests be managed sustainably?

#### **Is there more to polar environments than ice?**

What is it like in Antarctica and the Arctic?

How are humans seeking a sustainable solution for polar environments?

#### **Will we run out of natural resources?**

How has increasing demand for resources affected our planet?

#### **Can we feed nine billion people by 2050?**

What does it mean to be food secure?

How can countries ensure their food security?

How sustainable are these strategies?

#### **How is the UK changing in the 21st century?**

What does the UK look like in the 21st century?

How is the UK's population changing?

How is the UK's economy changing?

#### **Is the UK losing its global significance?**

What is the UK's political role in the world?

How is the UK's cultural influence changing?

### What resources could I buy or borrow that will help my child?

An atlas, a globe, compass, weather station, wall map of world/UK for bedroom and a local OS map.

The CGP revision guide "OCR B: Geography for Enquiring Minds" and the accompanying "Exam Practice Workbook" will be needed for homework and revision through to the final Year 11 exams. A letter will be sent out in the Autumn offering a reduction in price from the school's suppliers

### What are the key websites that my child could use?

The BBC website for current affairs and Bitesize revision. YouTube has many clips explaining Geographical processes.

## When will my child be doing coursework, Controlled Assessments, assignments or other important assessments and how long will these take?

End of topic tests will take place throughout the course. Practice exams will take place in the Autumn Term. There is no controlled Assessment in the new GCSE specification.

In the Summer exam period the students will sit three examination papers.

Paper one: 1 hour 15 minutes, 35% of the GCSE. Questions will be on all individual topic areas (Global Hazards, Changing Climate, Distinctive Landscapes and Sustaining Ecosystems) and Physical Geography fieldwork.

Paper two: 1 hour 15 minutes, 35% of the GCSE. Questions will be on all individual topic areas (Urban Futures, Dynamic Developments, UK in the 21st Century and Resource Reliance) and Human Geography fieldwork.

Paper three: 1 hour 30 minutes, 30% of the GCSE. Questions will focus on a range of topics across both Our Natural World and People and Society and will feature a decision-making exercise.

## What after school or other extracurricular activities are available in Geography and when are they?

There will be Geography intervention sessions on most Wednesdays at lunchtime and after school from October.

## What can I do to encourage my child to take further interest in Geography?

BBC travel, nature and current affairs documentaries, all current affairs programming including The News, world fact books, maps and atlases, local walks, local events and activities, holidays, debating and discussion of people's opinions all help develop relevant skills and understanding.

## What type of homework will my child have and how long should they spend on homework?

Homework in Year 11 will include practice GCSE style questions and revision, mostly set from the CGP "Exam Practice Workbook", and will take up to around 30 minutes. A variety of revision resources will be used during the weeks leading up to the final exams. Intervention sessions will also be available on most Wednesdays at lunchtime and after school.

## How do you celebrate success in Geography?

Postcards are sent home if students complete an exceptional piece of work, make outstanding progress or are outstanding learners in lessons on a consistent basis.

## If I need to speak to someone about my child's progress in Geography who should I contact and how?

Mrs Miller and Mr Wharton are available through the school office.

## HOW DO I HELP MY CHILD SUCCEED IN HISTORY?

### What topics are you covering and when, so I can encourage my child to take a greater interest?

During Year 11 students will study two main units in preparation for their GCSE examinations. The topics are as follows:

#### Topic 1: Britain: Health and the people, c1000 to the present day

This thematic study will enable students to gain an understanding of how medicine and public health developed in Britain over a long period of time. It considers the causes, scale, nature and consequences of short and long term developments, their impact on British society and how they were related to the key features and characteristics of the periods during which they took place. Although the focus of this study is the development of medicine and public health in Britain, it will draw on wider world developments that impacted on the core themes. Students will have the opportunity to see how some ideas and events in the wider world affected Britain and will promote the idea that key themes did not develop in isolation, but these ideas and events should be referenced in terms of their effects on the core theme for Britain and British people.

#### Part one: Medicine stands still

- Medieval medicine: approaches including natural, supernatural, ideas of Hippocratic and Galenic methods and treatments; the medieval doctor; training, beliefs about cause of illness.
- Medical progress: the contribution of Christianity to medical progress and treatment; hospitals; the nature and importance of Islamic medicine and surgery; surgery in medieval times, ideas and techniques.
- Public health in the Middle Ages: towns and monasteries; the Black Death in Britain, beliefs about its causes, treatment and prevention.

#### Part two: The beginnings of change

- The impact of the Renaissance on Britain: challenge to medical authority in anatomy, physiology and surgery; the work of Vesalius, Paré, William Harvey; opposition to change.
- Dealing with disease: traditional and new methods of treatments; quackery; methods of treating disease; plague; the growth of hospitals; changes to the training and status of surgeons and physicians; the work of John Hunter.
- Prevention of disease: inoculation; Edward Jenner, vaccination and opposition to change.

#### Part three: A revolution in medicine

- The development of Germ Theory and its impact on the treatment of disease in Britain: the importance of Pasteur, Robert Koch and microbe hunting; Pasteur and vaccination; Paul Ehrlich and magic bullets; everyday medical treatments and remedies.
- A revolution in surgery: anaesthetics, including Simpson and chloroform; antiseptics, including Lister and carbolic acid; surgical procedures; aseptic surgery.
- Improvements in public health: public health problems in industrial Britain; cholera epidemics; the role of public health reformers; local and national government involvement in public health improvement, including the 1848 and 1875 Public Health Acts.

#### Part four: Modern medicine

- Modern treatment of disease: the development of the pharmaceutical industry; penicillin, its discovery by Fleming, its development; new diseases and treatments, antibiotic resistance; alternative treatments.
- The impact of war and technology on surgery: plastic surgery; blood transfusions; X-rays; transplant surgery; modern surgical methods, including lasers, radiation therapy and keyhole surgery.
- Modern public health: the importance of Booth, Rowntree, and the Boer War; the Liberal social reforms; the impact of two world wars on public health, poverty and housing; the Beveridge Report and

the Welfare State; creation and development of the National Health Service; costs, choices and the issues of healthcare in the 21st century.

### **Topic 2: Elizabethan England, c1568-1603**

This option allows students to study in depth a specified period, the last 35 years of Elizabeth I's reign. The study will focus on major events of Elizabeth I's reign considered from economic, religious, political, social and cultural standpoints, and arising contemporary and historical controversies.

#### **Part one: Elizabeth's court and Parliament**

- Elizabeth I and her court: background and character of Elizabeth I; court life, including patronage; key ministers.
- The difficulties of a female ruler: relations with Parliament; the problem of marriage and the succession; the strength of Elizabeth's authority at the end of her reign, including Essex's rebellion in 1601.

#### **Part two: Life in Elizabethan times**

- A 'Golden Age': living standards and fashions; growing prosperity and the rise of the gentry; the Elizabethan theatre and its achievements; attitudes to the theatre.
- The poor: reasons for the increase in poverty; attitudes and responses to poverty; the reasons for government action and the seriousness of the problem.
- English sailors: Hawkins and Drake; circumnavigation 1577-1580, voyages and trade; the role of Raleigh.

#### **Part three: Troubles at home and abroad**

- Religious matters: the question of religion, English Catholicism and Protestantism; the Northern Rebellion; Elizabeth's excommunication; the missionaries; Catholic plots and the threat to the Elizabethan settlement; the nature and ideas of the Puritans and Puritanism; Elizabeth and her government's responses and policies towards religious matters.
- Mary Queen of Scots: background; Elizabeth and Parliament's treatment of Mary; the challenge posed by Mary; plots; execution and its impact.
- Conflict with Spain: reasons; events; naval warfare, including tactics and technology; the defeat of the Spanish Armada.

#### **Part four: The historic environment of Elizabethan England**

Students will be examined on a specific site in depth. This site will be as specified and will be changed annually. The site will relate to the content of the rest of this depth study. It is intended that study of different historic environments will enrich students' understanding of Elizabethan England.

### **What resources could I buy or borrow that will help my child?**

Please ask your child to speak to their teacher before purchasing resources. The teacher will be best placed to decide which resource(s) are best suited to your child's learning needs.

- Revision guides produced by the Dept.
- Students can download audio revision notes and songs in order to sing their way to exam success!
- A memory stick.

### **What are the key websites that my child could use?**

<http://www.johndclare.net/>  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/bitesize/>  
<http://www.historygcse.org/>  
<http://www.schoolhistory.co.uk/>  
<https://historyapp.pixl.org.uk>

Plus lots of clips/compilations of historical events can be found on You Tube



### What can I do to encourage my child to take further interest in History?

Historical films, visits to sites of interests, historical books, local history groups and general discussion.

### What type of homework will my child have and how long should they spend on homework?

Homework may involve critically analysing and evaluating a source, researching into a particular event or person, reading about an event or person, assessing a piece of classwork and improving it or producing a written account/essay about an event.

### What after school or other extracurricular activities are available in History and when are they?

Lunchtime drop-ins to receive additional help with classwork and afterschool revision sessions leading up to the main exams will begin in February.

### Is there anything else I can do to help my child succeed in History?

Routinely check that your child is revising. They should be producing revision notes, diagrams, mind maps etc. Note: simply passive reading as research has proven that this is ineffective by itself.

### How do you celebrate success in History?

Congratulatory letters are sent to inform parents when students make outstanding progress. In addition, subject prizes for achievement and progress are awarded in the school's annual prize-giving ceremony.

### If I need to speak to someone about my child's progress in History, who should I contact and how?

Please contact: Mrs Cantrell or Mr R Featherstone via the school office.



## HOW DO I HELP MY CHILD SUCCEED IN COMPUTER SCIENCE?

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*All parents will be given a User Name and Password to login to the Learning Platform, where material will be freely available to cover all the sections below.*

**What topics are you covering and when, so I can encourage my child to take a greater interest?**

GCSE Computer Science is all about computer systems and programming. Computing is of enormous importance to the economy and the world around us and Computer Science is often seen as an ‘underpinning’ subject across Science and Engineering.

The growth in the use of mobile devices and web-related technologies has exploded, resulting in new challenges for employers and employees. For example, businesses today require an ever-increasing number of technologically-aware individuals. This is even more so in the **gaming, mobile and web related industries** and this specification has been designed with this in mind.

Learn how to create simple computer games. Gives students a chance to design apps and software for technologies they use - **mobile phones, games consoles and the internet**

Gain an understanding of the fundamental concepts around creating software applications. The tasks will be set in engaging and relevant contexts - **e.g. gaming, web or mobile phone applications.**

**The Course consists of 2 Units:**

### **Unit 1 Practical Programming**

In this section you will need to complete 2 tasks out of a choice of 4 in 50 hours (25 hours each). You will be required to work under controlled conditions and independently.

### **Unit 2 Computing Fundamentals**

In this section you will learn about the computer system and the principles of programming. You will cover:

- How a computer functions - it’s hardware, the processor (CPU), memory and storage requirements.
- Networking and the use of web applications
- The software development life cycle and prototyping
- Database concepts
- Programming concepts - structures, program controls, testing, error handling, algorithms and use of external source codes

### **What resources could I buy or borrow that will help my child?**

To support your child’s learning you could purchase a number of different textbooks as resources:

**THREE TEXTBOOKS** supporting our GCSE Computer Science qualification are now available:

- GCSE Computer Science for the AQA Specification  
Author: Susan Robson  
Publisher: Susan Robson on lulu.com
- AQA GCSE Computer Science Student's Book  
Author: Steve Cushing  
Publisher: Hodder  
ISBN: 978-1-4441-8226-2
- AQA GCSE Computer Science  
Author: Alison Page  
Publisher: Oxford University Press  
ISBN: 978-1408521618

## USEFUL RESOURCES: WEBSITES

You may find these websites valuable for further resources (this is not an exhaustive list): „ BYOB (Build Your Own Blocks), a visual programming language primarily for children, <http://byob.berkeley.edu/> „ Codecademy, a web-based learning environment currently supporting JavaScript and web programming, Ruby and Python, <http://www.codecademy.com/> „ Computer Science For Fun, shows how computer science is also about people, solving puzzles, creativity, changing the future and having fun, <http://www.cs4fn.org/> „ „ Scratch, a programming language that makes it easy to create interactive stories, animations, games, music, and art, <http://scratch.mit.edu/> „ W3Schools, a reference and tutorial for HTML, CSS and JavaScript and other languages for the web, <http://www.w3schools.com/> „ Young Rewired State, offers support to under 18s who are learning how to program, <http://youngrewiredstate.org/>

### What can I do to encourage my child to take further interest in Computer Science?

To develop a greater interest within the subject, encourage your child to watch a variety of different ICT programmes on TV (e.g. Click). This will help students gain a greater knowledge of the ICT including the latest devices. It will also mean these activities will enable them to be up to date with current affairs within the ICT world. In order to take further interests in other topics within Computer Science, talk to them about the lessons in detail and encourage them to talk you through the learning process that they have experienced.

### What type of homework will my child have and how long should they spend on homework?

Homework tasks will vary throughout the year. Homework may be in many forms: revision for an assessment (either an end of unit test or Mock Exam); exam style questions; consolidation questions; preparing a presentation; producing a personalised revision guide; researching new technology and explaining it. The homework will vary on time and how long a student has to complete it, but may vary between 20 minutes to a couple of hours.

Teachers may set homework which could require internet access, but alternative ways of completing homework are always offered e.g. school ICT club/ teacher support/ library.

### When will my child be doing coursework, Controlled Assessments, assignments or other important assessments and how long will these take?

Internal assessment of the e-portfolio is undertaken by the teacher delivering the units.

- Assessment takes place in the classroom
- Judgments are made against a clear standard, which sets out the expected level of performance
- Overall judgments of candidates' progress is continually updated as he/she completes more of his/her programme
- Candidates can track their own progress under clear guidance.

### What after school or other extracurricular activities are available in Computer Science and when are they?

Students are encouraged to see members of staff if they need to ask for support or assistance at any stage; suitable notice will need to be given if a child requires intensive support.

After any assessment, students are always invited to attend intervention/ support sessions; they are expected to attend these sessions so that they can understand how to improve their grades.

Individual revision and support lessons take place on a needs basis.

### Is there anything else I can do to help my child succeed in Computer Science?

It is important that you encourage your child to try and work independently yet when they seek advice assist them where possible. Also allow your child to take responsibility for their work and show you examples of work that they are proud of.

Encouraging your child to revise their theory work on a regular basis will help students prepare of exams.

### How do you celebrate success in Computer Science?

Comments in the journal can also be used in order to warrant a quick response. Teachers may also use stickers on good pieces of work.

### If I need to speak to someone about my Child's progress in Computer Science who should I contact and how?

Please contact Mr M Sidell Head of Computer Science.

## HOW DO I HELP MY CHILD SUCCEED IN MUSIC?

What topics are you covering and when, so I can encourage my child to take a greater interest? The exam board and course students follow is AQA GCSE Music

Areas of Study	Development of Skills
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Western Classical tradition 1650-1910</li> <li>• Popular Music of the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries</li> <li>• Traditional Music</li> <li>• The Western Classical Tradition since 1910</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Performing</li> <li>• Composing</li> <li>• Listening &amp; Appraising (including contextual analysis)</li> </ul>

### What resources could I buy or borrow that will help my child?

The following books provide thorough coverage and a solid knowledge base for all aspects of the specification:

GCSE AQA Music for the 9-1 Exams (CGP Publication) ISBN: 978-1-78294-614-4

### What are the key websites that my child could use?

[www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/music](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/music)

[www.soundjunction.org](http://www.soundjunction.org)

### What can I do to encourage my child to take further interest in Music?

Any opportunity you can provide for your son/daughter to listen to live music (amateur or professional) will be beneficial. I would also encourage you to talk to your son/daughter about their learning and the work they are undertaking in lessons. Students will build up a portfolio of compositional ideas and performances during Year 10 & Year 11 and so you will be able to listen to examples of their creativity and development of performance skills.

### What type of homework will my child have and how long should they spend on homework?

Homework can take one of many forms: revision for unit tests; research into a specific style or genre; preparation for course work; preparation for a solo/ensemble performance; extension of classwork; theory questions; notation of musical ideas. The amount of time to be spent on homework will vary according to the nature of the task.

## When will my child be doing coursework, Controlled Assessments, assignments or other important assessments and how long will these take?

Composing		Performing		Listening	
Form of assessment	When?	Form of assessment	When?	Form of assessment	When?
Coursework Composition 1 (15%)	Autumn term Deadline: Oct 2018 (includes recording)	Solo performance (15%)	Spring term Deadline: Dec 2018	Mock exam	Dec 2018
Coursework Composition 2 (15%)	Spring term Deadline: March 2019 (includes recording)				
		Ensemble performance (15%)	Spring term Deadline: March 2019	Listening exam (40%)	May 2019

## What after school or other extracurricular activities are available in Music and when are they?

There is a wide range of lunchtime activities which students are encouraged to support. Performance accounts for 40% of the GCSE and so it is essential that your son/daughter attends either the vocal or instrumental groups as this undoubtedly provides valuable experience with regard to sight-reading, aural perception and the development of ensemble skills. A list of activities is displayed on the Music Department notice board. Extra revision sessions are arranged throughout Year 10 and 11. In addition, any student who needs extra support is welcome to 'drop in' at breaks or lunchtimes.

## Is there anything else I can do to help my child succeed in Music?

GCSE Music covers a wide range of musical styles and genres from The Western Classical Tradition, Popular Music and World Music. It would be beneficial if students could be encouraged to broaden their listening habits at home (to include listening to Classic FM occasionally!). In addition, encouraging your child to practise regularly should guarantee success in the performance component.

Recording sessions for students' compositions and performances are scheduled at lunchtimes. Students can also attend coursework 'catch-up' sessions after school. Booster classes devoted to the listening component will be available throughout March and April. You could encourage your child to attend these sessions.

## How do you celebrate success in Music?

Subject prizes and Music Merit Certificates are awarded in the school's annual prize-giving ceremony. The Easter Concert is an event where students are able to showcase their compositional and performance skills.

## If I need to speak to someone about my child's progress in Music, who should I contact and how?

Please contact:

Mrs J Watson (Subject Leader - Music and Musical Performance) via the school office.

## HOW DO I HELP MY CHILD SUCCEED IN MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES?

What topics are you covering and when, so I can encourage my child to take a greater interest?

<b>Identity and Culture</b>
Me, my family and friends
Technology in everyday life
Free-time activities
Customs and festivals in French speaking countries
<b>Local, National, International and Global Areas of Interest</b>
Home, town, neighbourhood and region
Social issues
Global issues
Travel and tourism
<b>Current and Future Study and Employment</b>
My studies
Life at school/college
Education Post-16
Jobs, career choices and ambitions

### What resources could I buy or borrow that will help my child?

Students would greatly benefit from having a bi-lingual dictionary and a French revision guide and workbook. These will be available to buy at the start of the year.

### What are the key websites that my child could use?

- [www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize) Click on the French/German sections. A useful revision site for practising GCSE style reading and listening skills. There are also games to practise vocabulary skills
- [www.languagesonline.org.uk](http://www.languagesonline.org.uk) A very helpful website which can help with vocabulary building, grammar practice and comprehension skills.
- [www.gcsemg.pbworks.com](http://www.gcsemg.pbworks.com) A useful website with a guide to the GCSE course and interactive revision activities on the key areas.
- [www.samlearning.com](http://www.samlearning.com) All pupils have their own username and password for this website (ask their teacher or tutor for help if they do not know theirs). Teachers often use this website to set specific homework tasks, but pupils can also browse and revise topics freely. Centre ID is DN15WC.
- [quizlet.com](http://quizlet.com) An excellent website (app also available to download) to help practise vocab. Any language available - just search "GCSE ..... exam vocab" (or by topic).

Listening to live radio, watching television and reading online magazines and newspapers are also great ways of improving listening and reading skills.

- For French radio, go to: [www.comfm.com/radio/](http://www.comfm.com/radio/)
- For German radio, go to: [www.einslive.de/musik](http://www.einslive.de/musik)
- Reading authentic French /German articles from newspapers online: [www.lemonde.fr/](http://www.lemonde.fr/)  
[www.liberation.fr/](http://www.liberation.fr/) [www.spiegel.de](http://www.spiegel.de) [www.welt.de](http://www.welt.de)
- Reading authentic French articles from magazines online: [www.ados.fr/](http://www.ados.fr/) [www.lesclesjunior.com/](http://www.lesclesjunior.com/)  
[www.vogue.fr/](http://www.vogue.fr/) [www.starflash.de](http://www.starflash.de)
- Watching television online: all major European TV channels can be watched via the Internet.
- The current top 40 charts for France & Germany (and many more) can be accessed on [top40-charts.com](http://top40-charts.com) . Here you can listen to and watch current music videos in both English from stars you know and in the target language of stars you may not know so well!

## What can I do to encourage my child to take further interest in Modern Foreign Languages?

Listening and reading languages in different contexts can help boost students' skills, so watching a film or reading a newspaper/magazine will provide some relief from the monotony of exam revision. Playing games or completing puzzles is more interesting and stimulating than learning vocabulary from a book or a sheet. The list of websites mentioned above is a good starting point.

## What type of homework will my child have and how long should they spend on homework?

Students are expected to complete all specific homework tasks as and when set by their class teacher. However, in addition to this, pupils are expected to be proactive in their independent study and revision of vocab and grammar. Students are expected to learn common verbs and be able to form past, present and future tenses accurately. Homework is varied and will come in many different shapes - website revision, samlearning, worksheets, youtube clips, news and magazine articles, reading comprehensions, past papers and extended writing and speaking tasks.

## When will my child be doing coursework, Controlled Assessments, assignments or other important assessments and how long will these take?

Students will be regularly assessed during the course of the year. Classwork is marked and assessed regularly, and your child will receive feedback on progress and guidance on how to further improve their work. It is important that students reflect on these comments and review their work accordingly.

Students will sit their Mock Exam just before Christmas. There will also be a full speaking exam February time.

## What after school or other extracurricular activities are available in Modern Foreign Languages and when are they?

As students work towards examinations, teachers often provide extra revision sessions at lunchtimes and/or after school. Students will be notified by their teacher what days and times session will be happening.

The MFL film club is run on Thursday lunchtimes where pupils can watch authentic films in French and German.

## Is there anything else I can do to help my child succeed in Modern Foreign Languages?

Showing an interest in international film and cinema is another way in which parents can provide extra help and support to their children. There are many authentic foreign films with the choice of optional subtitles. Alternatively, English-speaking films also often have the option of changing the language. Why not watch an old favourite in French or German.

## How do you celebrate success in Modern Foreign Languages?

Teachers may also write a message in their journal or send a praise postcard home.

## If I need to speak to someone about my Child's progress in Modern Foreign Languages who should I contact and how?

Everyone in the Languages department wants students to feel confident about learning languages and to be enthusiastic and keen to speak a language. If you pick up from your child that all is not well and they are unsure of what they are doing, please contact us. Often the problems are small ones which can be easily solved. We may not be able to speak to you immediately if we have a full teaching day, but if you leave a message with the school reception we will get back to you as soon as we can.

People to contact:

- child's language teacher in the first instance
- child's form tutor, who can pass on the message



## HOW DO I HELP MY CHILD SUCCEED IN PHYSICAL EDUCATION?

What topics are you covering and when, so I can encourage my child to take a greater interest?

Throughout Year 11, students will be studying the remaining topics from the table below with a mock exam in Autumn.

THEORY (Topics) (60%)	PRACTICAL (40%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paper 01: Physical factors affecting performance</li> <li>• 1.1 Applied anatomy and physiology</li> <li>• 1.2 Physical training</li> <li>• Paper 02: Socio-cultural issues and sports psychology</li> <li>• 2.1 Socio-cultural influences</li> <li>• 2.2 Sports psychology</li> <li>• 2.3 Health, fitness and well-being</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Performance within Physical Education</li> </ul> <p>Learners will be required to undertake both parts within this component:</p> <p>Part 1: Performance of three sports or activities, one team, one individual and one free choice from either list on DfE list.</p> <p>Part 2: Performance analysis of a sport or activity of their choice.</p>

What resources could I buy or borrow that will help my child?

To support your child's learning you could purchase a textbook in order to assist them with independent learning and homework.



John Honeybourne

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What are the key websites that my child could use?

Websites that are used depend on the topics that are being delivered. However, main websites that will be used include:

[www.bbc.co.uk/education](http://www.bbc.co.uk/education)

[www.brianmac.co.uk](http://www.brianmac.co.uk)

[www.topendsports.com](http://www.topendsports.com)

What can I do to encourage my child to take further interest in Physical Education?

To develop a greater interest within the subject, encourage your child to watch a variety of different sports both live and on TV, also read the sports pages of the newspaper. This will help students gain a greater knowledge of the sport including the rules/regulations of it and tactics. It will also mean these activities will enable them to be up to date with current affairs within the sports world. In order to take further interests in other topics within GCSE PE, talk to them about the lessons in detail and encourage them to talk you through the learning process that they have experienced.



## What type of homework will my child have and how long should they spend on homework?

Homework tasks will vary throughout the year. Homework may be in many forms: revision for an exam (either an end of unit test or Mock Exam); podcasts; exam style questions; preparing a presentation; Controlled Assessment preparation (PEP); research into a particular sport (rules / regulations); or an extension of the classwork to be completed. The homework will vary on time and how long a student has to complete it.

## When will my child be doing coursework, Controlled Assessments, assignments or other important assessments and how long will these take?

Students will have an assessment session on the sixth week of each practical unit they are participating in. This will be graded out on 10 based on the assessment criteria for that sport. This information will build up over the year to give both students and staff a clear idea what the student's top four sports are. Students will have an end of unit theory test which will help identify strengths and weak areas for that unit.

Students will sit their Mock Exam at the end of the first half-term.

## What after school or other extracurricular activities are available in Physical Education and when are they?

Monday lunchtimes are set aside for support, catch up and intervention sessions. This is a classroom / IT based session that can be attended by individuals or as a group. A timetable of revision sessions will be shared with students and these will help prepare students for their theory exam.

Alongside this, extracurricular clubs run on a daily basis in order to engage students in different forms of physical activity and help them improve on their practical grades (students are encouraged to attend these).

## Is there anything else I can do to help my child succeed in Physical Education?

It is important that you encourage your child to try and work independently yet when they seek advice assist them where possible. Also allow your child to take responsibility for their work and show you examples of work that they are proud of.

Encouraging your child to revise their theory work on a regular basis will help students prepare of exams.

## How do you celebrate success in Physical Education?

Praise letters / PE postcards are sent home every half term in order to inform parents about the progress their child is making. Comments in the journal can also be used in order to warrant a quick response.

## If I need to speak to someone about my child's progress in Physical Education, who should I contact and how?

Please contact - Mr M Florence [Florence.m@wintertoncommunityacademy.co.uk](mailto:Florence.m@wintertoncommunityacademy.co.uk) or Mrs A Dalowsky [Dalowsky.a@wintertoncommunityacademy.co.uk](mailto:Dalowsky.a@wintertoncommunityacademy.co.uk)

## HOW DO I HELP MY CHILD SUCCEED IN PSHCE? (PERSONAL, SOCIAL, HEALTH, CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION)

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What topics are you covering and when, so I can encourage my child to take a greater interest?

In year 11 students will be completing three separate units of work. During year 11 there will be a major focus on students next steps to college or apprenticeships. To help students with the important transition period we have organised all of the local colleges to come in and give guest talks. We also have local businesses come in such as HETA to promote their apprenticeship courses.

The units that are covered in Year 11 are:

### PSHE: Real world problems

- Body image
- Dark web
- Fake news
- Independent living/ leaving home
- LGBT
- Selfies
- Tattoos and piercing
- Smoking and vaping

### PSHE: Your mind

- Stress
- Anxiety
- Depression
- Resilience
- Self-esteem
- Suicide

### PSHE: Your future

- Aspirations
- Applying to college and then university
- How to create a CV
- Job interviews
- Rights and responsibilities within the workplace
- Revision techniques
- Revision timetable
- Where can I get help from

What resources could I buy or borrow that will help my child?

Resources are not needed to be purchased, they will be provided in lessons.

What are the key websites that my child could use?

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/>

<https://www.pshe-association.org.uk>

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk>

[www.ceop.police.uk](http://www.ceop.police.uk)

[www.safetynetkids.org.uk/personal-safety/staying-safe-online](http://www.safetynetkids.org.uk/personal-safety/staying-safe-online)

<https://saferinternet.org.uk>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk>

There are many clips of PSHCE related topics available on YouTube.

### What can I do to encourage my child to take further interest in PSHCE?

Encourage your child to think critically about issues and to try and evaluate opinions and reasons for things. This will develop more in-depth and critical approaches to issues, whilst at the same time have an open mind that other people have different opinions and attitudes than their own.

Try to encourage conversations based on current issues in the news or their own lives.

### What type of homework will my child have and how long should they spend on homework?

Students should expect to receive homework in PSHCE. Due to the nature of the subject most of the learning will be covered during lessons. Homework will often consist of researching in to laws and core knowledge around different topics. Homework, will often require students to discuss their learning with parents/carers.

### When will my child be doing assignments or other important assessments?

Your child will not be levelled assessed in PSHCE. Instead we will be using Personal Learning Checklists (PLC's) to monitor the progress your child is making. Students will be self- evaluating themselves at the start of each unit and again at the end to measure the progress they have made. After each rotation their class teacher will mark their work and verify the progress made on their PLC.

### What after school or other extracurricular activities are available in PSHCE and when are they?

All students are aware that lunchtimes are available for them to improve or develop their knowledge. Throughout the year the school has a range of cross curricular days which cover many core topics within PSHCE from experts. These include, the Police, Fire brigade, Big Talk (SRE), road safety specialist, anti-bullying musicians.

### Is there anything else I can do to help my child succeed in PSHCE?

Encourage your child to be open-minded and have discussions based key issues relating to them as an individual and their own life. Allow your child to watch the news once a day to understand modern issues such as discrimination, prejudice, racism and other topical affairs.

### How do you celebrate success in PSHCE?

Students who make exceptional progress will be sent a letter to celebrate their achievement. If students have done a piece of work particularly well during a lesson, then they may receive a post card home. At the end of each year they are also chosen to receive an award for either the most progress made or the highest achieving student.

### If I need to speak to someone about my child's progress in PSHCE, who should I contact and how?

Please contact Mr G Robbins (Subject Leader) via the school office.

## HOW DO I HELP MY CHILD SUCCEED IN HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE?

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What topics are you covering and when, so I can encourage my child to take a greater interest?

There are three units to study during the course:

- Human Lifespan Development (internally assessed)
- Health and Social Care Services and Values (internally assessed)
- Health and Wellbeing (externally assessed)

What resources could I buy or borrow that will help my child?

A revision guide / workbook will be bought for your child.

What are the key websites that my child could use?

Recommended websites include:

- [www.unicef.org.uk](http://www.unicef.org.uk)
- [www.childcarelink.gov.sg/ccls/home/CCLS\\_Home.jsp](http://www.childcarelink.gov.sg/ccls/home/CCLS_Home.jsp)
- [www.earlychildhood.org.uk](http://www.earlychildhood.org.uk)
- [www.pre-school.org.uk](http://www.pre-school.org.uk)
- [www.earlyeducation.org.uk](http://www.earlyeducation.org.uk)

Students will be given a list of recommended websites.

What can I do to encourage my child to take further interest in Health & Social Care?

Throughout the course the students are made aware of their estimated target level (Pass, Merit, Distinction or Distinction Plus). However, each unit has assignment tasks to cover each level and all students are encouraged to challenge themselves with these tasks. This is a qualification that can also be developed further at college. Experience gained through being with young children either within the family or with friends will be very helpful. Alongside this a work experience placement in this area would support the learning.

What type of homework will my child have and how long should they spend on homework?

Students are given deadlines for the handing in of assignments. They are able to work on them in class but will also need to spend time on them for homework. Alongside this they will be given regular homework in different formats in order to enhance their class based work. This might be exam questions, essay writing, video making and personal research.

When will my child be doing coursework, controlled assessments, assignments or other important assessments and how long will these take?

Assignments are on the whole continuous. The student is given a preliminary date for handing in for summative assessment. However, as stated earlier, there will also be an exam at the end of Component 3. Students will be informed of the date well in advance. The exam is a paper based exam that will be sat in year 11.

What after school or other extracurricular activities are available in Health & Social Care and when are they?

There is usually the opportunity to work after school and also during lunchtimes. Students will be made aware of which days are available. Together with this we will be working on Christmas parties for different groups of the community and hopefully getting the opportunity to visit a variety of establishments in order to enhance our subject knowledge. Alongside this there are a number of guest speakers that support the delivery of lessons.

### Is there anything else I can do to help my child succeed in Health & Social Care?

Good organisational skills are essential in this subject. Checking that your child is keeping up-to-date with deadlines will be very helpful and if necessary helping with transport arrangements if he/she stays after school.

### How do you celebrate success in Health & Social Care?

Letters are sent home on a regular basis to celebrate good classwork, alongside this yearly Progress and Attainment prizes are awarded.

### If I need to speak to someone about my child's progress Health & Social Care who should I contact and how?

The teacher in charge of this subject is Miss V Holmes. She can be contacted through the school office or via e mail [Holmes.V@wintertoncommunityacademy.co.uk](mailto:Holmes.V@wintertoncommunityacademy.co.uk)

