

Core Information Evening

29th November 2017



GCSE Grading

- All GCSEs are graded 9-1, with the exception of:
 - Business Studies, Resistant Materials (A*-G)
 - All BTECs (Distinction*, Distinction, Merit, Pass)
- Grade 9 is the highest grade – only allocated to approximately the top 4% of students in the country
- Grade 5 is considered a ‘Strong Pass’, a grade 4 is considered a ‘Good Pass’
- Colleges have their own entry requirements for courses - some are now looking at grade 5s in English and Maths as a minimum entry requirement for some courses
- All pupils who do not achieve a grade 4 in Maths and either English Literature or English Language will be required to resit it until they pass or reach 18



Key Dates

4th July - Year 11 Prom

22nd June - Year 11 Leavers' Celebration

June - GCSE Exams Continue

May half term - Revision sessions

14th May - GCSE exams start

Easter Holiday - Revision sessions

March - Eng/Maths/Sci mock exams

Feb half term - CA catch up sessions

23rd January - Mock Exams (all subjects)

Christmas - Aim to have college applications in

wb 18th September - Eng/Maths/Sci Mocks



Helping Pupils Revise

- All pupils have been put into revision intervention groups
- We will be running targeted interventions to help them with their revision over the coming months
- This starts on Monday 4th December with revision timetables
- All sessions will be communicated home to allow parents to support with revision at home



English



English – how will pupils be assessed?

Two GCSEs – English Language and Literature.

English Language 100% exam

Paper 1: Explorations in creative reading and writing

Paper 2: Writer's viewpoints and perspectives

English Literature 100% exam

Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th Century Novel

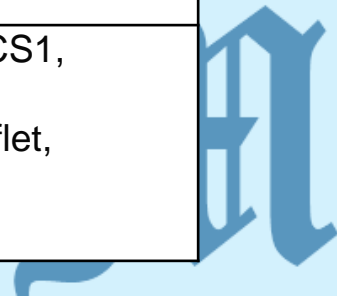
Paper 2: Modern Texts and Poetry



English Language – what topics do pupils need to revise?

English Language is a skills based qualification. The following will be tested:

Paper 1	Paper 2
Reading an unseen novel extract	Reading 2 texts: modern non-fiction and 19 th century non-fiction
Finding implicit and explicit information (Question 1)	Finding implicit and explicit information (Question 1)
Analysing language (Question 2)	Summarising similarities and differences (Question 2)
Analysing structure – NESTS (Questions 3 and 4)	Analysing language (Question 3)
	Comparing writers' perspectives (Question 4)
Writing to describe – SPAMROD, SCS1, TiPToP Either describe an image or write a story (Question 5)	Writing to persuade – AFOREST, SCS1, TiPToP Forms: newspaper article, letter, leaflet, speech, essay (Question 5)



English Literature– what topics do pupils need to revise?

English Literature is content based.

Paper 1: Shakespeare + Novel	Paper 2: Modern Texts + Poetry
Shakespeare play – either <i>Macbeth</i> or <i>Romeo and Juliet</i>	A modern play – either <i>An Inspector Calls</i> or <i>Blood Brothers</i>
Novel – either <i>A Christmas Carol</i> , <i>The Sign of the Four</i> or <i>Jekyll and Hyde</i>	Poetry anthology (15 poems) – either <i>Love and Relationships</i> or <i>Power and Conflict</i>
	Unseen poetry - TWIST

Pupils need to revise: Characters, Narrative;, Themes;, Context; Key quotations.

Extracts are provided for Shakespeare, the novel and one of the poems is printed from the anthology. There is no extract for the modern play.



English – what will be in the January mocks?

All GCSE English Language (both papers).

GCSE English Literature:

1. Question on Shakespeare;
2. Question on poetry anthology;
3. Question on unseen poetry.



English – General tips for success

- Re-read the Lit texts;
- Watch film adaptations;
- Read widely and often;
- Learn key mnemonics;
- Know structure of papers (start with question 5 for language);
- Proof-read work carefully for errors;
- Plan.



Maths



Maths – how will pupils be assessed?

3 Exams

Each is 1 hour 30 minutes

80 marks on each

Paper 1 – Non Calculator

Paper 2 – Calculator

Paper 3 – Calculator



Maths – what topics do pupils need to revise?

In the Summer Exams (as well as the mocks in January) pupils will need to revise:

- Number
- Algebra
- Ratio, Proportion and Rates of Change
- Geometry and Measures
- Probability
- Statistics



Maths – General tips for success

Maths Watch – www.mathswatchvle.co.uk

Login: “school user name”@Mayfield

Password: mathswatch1

Higher Tier need to focus on grades 5-9

Foundation Tier need to focus on Grades 1-5

My Maths – www.mymaths.co.uk

Login: mayfield

Password: primenumber



Science



Science – how will pupils be assessed?

Pupils will be assessed through 6 exams – 2 for Biology, 2 for Chemistry and 2 for Physics.

Paper 1: Units 1 – 4 for each science discipline

Paper 2 : Units 5 – 10 for each science discipline.

GCSE Combined Science (sets 2 – 6) – Each exam is 1hour 15 mins.

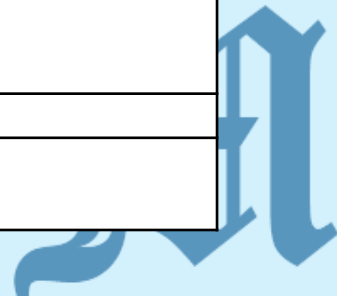
GCSE separate sciences (Biology, Chemistry and Physics – set 1 only) - each exam is 1hour 45 mins.

Science is now a terminal exam, and therefore all content covered over the course will be assessed in May/June.



Science – what topics do pupils need to revise?

Chemistry Topics	Biology Topics	Physics Topics
C1 Atomic structure and the periodic table	B1 Cell biology	P1 Energy
C2 Bonding, structure and the properties of matter	B2 Organisation	P2 Electricity
C3 Quantative chemistry	B3 Infection and response	P3 Particle model of matter
C4 Chemical changes	B4 Bioenergetics	P4 Atomic structure
C5 Energy changes		
C6 The rate and extent of chemical changes	B5 Homeostasis and response	P5 Forces
C7 Organic chemistry	B6 Inheritance, variation and evolution	P6 Waves
C8 Chemical analysis	B7 Ecology	P7 Magnetism and electromagnetism
C9 Chemistry in the atmosphere		P8 Space (Triple only)
C10 Using resources		



Science – January mocks

In January pupils will sit two papers for each science.

Paper 1: Units 1 – 4

Paper 2: Units 5 and 6 only.



Science – General tips for success

Use a range of revision resources to help you prepare including; your books, revision guides, BBC Bitesize, mygcsescience.com videos, Docbrown.info, AQA specimen papers (from the AQA website)

Remember that only a few of the more complex equations will be given in the exam, all others have to be memorised.

You will be given a periodic table in the exam

Make sure you know how to use the function on a scientific calculator.



Finally...

- Revision booklet
- Revision guide order form
- Exam timetable
- Feedback form
- Notes from today

