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**Year 11 Guide to
GCSE Exams
2020-2021**

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September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Your involvement as a parent during the crucial exam years can make all the difference between success and failure.

Parental support can be up to eight times more important in determining a child's academic success than anything else.

You do not have to be an expert in the GCSE subjects that your child has chosen to be able to make a real difference. You just need to know how best to spend your time at each stage of the GCSE process to support their learning.

The hardest demand on our Year 10 and 11 students is that of understanding the long term importance of achieving the best they possibly can. Some short term sacrifices may need to be made to ensure they are truly successful.

The aim of this booklet is to provide you the parents with key points to support the GCSE process, alongside a timetable of events for each GCSE subject offered in the school to aid planning and revision.

If you have any other questions regarding specific subjects which are not outlined in the booklet please contact the school for further information.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Druce', written in a cursive style.

Mr Matthew Druce
Assistant Headteacher

GOOD EXAM RESULTS....

Good exam results are not based on what happens on the day of the exam. Many feelings will go through the minds of yourselves and the student alike. Are they in the right frame of mind? Will they remember what they have revised? Will they get the right question?

The results of your child's exams are generally determined before they sit the final exam. There are 3 broad stages in the process of achieving good exam results. Exam success is about getting things right at each stage of the process and remembering what can go wrong!

STAGE 1: LEARNING THE SUBJECT CONTENT FIRST TIME ROUND

- The process of revision (looking at something again) makes the assumption that the learning of each subject has taken place already – every lesson does count!

STAGE 2: REVISION

- Even a student who has attended every lesson of the course and paid attention needs to revise to achieve their full potential. Everyone needs to complete revision using techniques that are effective for them.

STAGE 3: THE EXAM

- Even if a student has learnt the subject content and revised thoroughly things can still go wrong on the day of the exam. There are several skills that need to be used during the exam...
 - Knowing the subject matter
 - Organisational Skills
 - Exam technique
 - Time management

WHAT CAN YOU DO AS A PARENT....?

- Encourage and praise your child. Show an interest by talking to them about what they have been learning in their different subjects and the homework/coursework they have been set.
- Ensure that your child attends school every day if possible. Even one lesson missed means that key information could be missed that may appear in an exam. For the majority of subjects, lesson content can only be covered once within the new GCSE structure due to the volume of work needing to be covered.
- Help your child plan a revision timetable and support them in sticking to it. It needs to be realistic!
- Encourage your child to see the big picture! A two year course will seem like a lifetime away for a teenager, but help them to put the time into context for the desired end result.
- Provide a suitable work area for study ensuring that all the materials that they require are there.
- Display key dates and deadlines in the house so that you can support before any panic can set in.
- Let your child's subject teacher or form tutor know if you feel your child is experiencing difficulties with any element of their personal life or school life. The school is here to help and support and will be as flexible as possible if difficulties arise.
- Agree a balance between school work and social life and talk about any issues if you feel your child is struggling in anyway. You will often come up with solutions together and remember the school is here to help.

THE 9-1 GCSES

In all GCSE subjects Year 11 students are studying the 9-1 GCSE qualifications.

The move to the 9-1 GCSE qualifications included changes in the type and volume of course content – with more content in some subjects and more challenging content also introduced. They also involved a move from the previous grade scale (based on A*-G or U) to a numerical scale based on 9-1 (9 is the highest grade).

HOW DOES THIS NEW GRADE SCALE COMPARE WITH THE OLD ONE?

The table below shows how the 9-1 grade scale compares with the old one (based on A*-G):

Previous GCSE grades	New GCSE grades
A*	9
A	8
	7
B	6
	5
C	4
	3
D	2
E	
F	
G	1

The government's benchmark for achievement for students in English and Maths also moved upwards. While the previous 'good' grade was seen to be a C grade or above, a student achieving a Grade 4 in these subjects (equivalent to a C grade) is now said to have achieved a 'standard pass'. A Grade 5 or above is deemed a 'strong pass'. A Grade 4 or above will remain the level that students must achieve in order not to be required to re-sit English and Maths post-16. The government have also stated that 20% of students who would, in the past, have achieved grades A or A* are awarded the top grade (Grade 9).

YEAR 11 MOCK EXAMS

The introduction of the 9-1 GCSE qualifications involved a significant amount of change. This was in terms of the amount of content to be covered; the level of challenge and the style of the examinations. One of the changes we made in response to these new GCSEs has been to run two sets of mock exams in English and maths.

The aim of putting on these additional mock exams is to provide our students with more practice in answering questions under exam conditions in these two key subjects. They also help to familiarise the students with the length and style of the final exam papers as well providing further information on how well they are progressing.

The key mock periods for the current academic year are shown in the table below:

Dates	Subjects
Monday 16 November – Friday 20 November 2020	English and maths – 1 st set of mocks
Wednesday 2 December- & Thursday 3 December 2020	Art & Design
Wednesday 6 January- Friday 22 January 2021 (Final end date to be confirmed)	Main mock period for all subjects except Art & Design, English and maths
Monday 22 February –Friday 26 February 2021	English and maths – 2 nd set of mocks

English and Maths – 1st set of mocks The table below shows the exam timetable for the 1st set of mocks in English and maths.

Week A	Monday 16 th November	Tuesday 17 th November	Wednesday 18 th November	Thursday 19 th November	Friday 20 th November
8.45am start	English Language Paper 1 (1hr 45 min)	Mathematics Paper 1 (1hr 30 min)	Mathematics Paper 2 (1hr 30min)	English Literature Paper 1 (1hr 45min)	Mathematics Paper 3 (1hr 30min)
1.30pm start	BTEC Child Care Exam (1hr)				

CHANGES TO GCSE CONTENT AND ASSESSMENT - FOR THE CURRENT YEAR 11 ONLY (2020-21)

Subject	Details of changes
Art & Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Students will be assessed on Unit 1 only, meaning coursework is worth 100% of the final grade. ● No changes to Unit 1 requirements, students still need to produce at least one substantial project and a selection of other work. ● No Unit 2 paper will be issued in January, and therefore students will not sit the 10 hour exam. ● Work will still be assessed on the 4 Assessment Objectives, each worth 25%. ● Moderation may be digital, exam board will confirm in January.
Dance	<p>Practical Changes (60% of course)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Students to perform 1 set phrase solo (choreographed by AQA - 30 secs) instead of 2. ● Students perform a solo performance lasting 1 minute or a duet/trio performance lasting 1.30 mins, choreographed with collaboration from their teacher. This has changed from just a duet/trio performance lasting 3-3.5 mins. ● Students create a solo (1.30-2.30 mins) or group choreography (2.30 - 3.30 mins) using one of the AQA Stimuli. This can be performed by the student or someone else. <p>Written Paper (40% of the course)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The three six mark questions in section B of the students paper will relate directly to the performances above (performance and choreography).
Drama	<p>Component 1: Devising Theatre (NEA) 40%</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The minimum time for group performances has been reduced ● Learners can choose to perform a monologue of between 1.5 – 5 minutes in length. ● The timings for the 2021 series only will be: <p>1 actor: 1.5-5 minutes</p>

Group of two actors: 2-10 minutes

Group of three actors: 3-12 minutes

Group of four actors: 4-14 minutes

Group of five actors: 5-16 minutes.

- In line with the reduction in time for performance candidates the minimum number of cues expected from lighting and sound candidates has been reduced from 5 to 4. The minimum requirements for costume design candidates have been reduced from 2 full costumes, hair and make-up for 2 different characters to 1 full costume, hair and make-up for one character. Set design cannot be reduced as they are only required to complete one design.
- The requirement for the evaluation to be completed under supervised conditions has been removed. A suggested word count of 900 words will be included rather than the time constraint of 1 hour 30 minutes. We do not intend to introduce a penalty for learners that exceed the word count. Learners are not required to submit the A4 bullet point notes with their evaluation.

Component 2: Performing from a Text (NEA) 20%

- The minimum time for group performances has been reduced.
- Learners can choose to perform a monologue of between 1.5 – 5 minutes in length.
- The timings for the 2021 series only will be:
1 actor: 1.5-5 minutes

Group of two actors: 2-10 minutes

Group of three actors: 3-12 minutes

Group of four actors: 4-14 minutes

Group of five actors: 5-16 minutes.

- In line with the reduction in time for performance candidates the minimum number of cues expected from lighting and sound candidates has been reduced from 4 to 3. Costume design and set design cannot be reduced as they are currently only required to complete one design within this component.
- Learners will only be required to study one 10-minute extract (instead of two) from a performance text of

	<p>their own choice. The performance text chosen must still contrast with the text chosen for Component 3.</p> <p>This component will continue to be marked by WJEC Eduqas. However, centres will not be visited by an examiner. For 2021 only examiners will mark the work from audio-visual recordings</p> <p>As there will be no examiner visits in 2021, centres are permitted to record Component 2 performances at any point during the year. Centres will be provided with a deadline for upload to our e-submission platform (most likely May 5th 2021)</p> <p>Component 3: Interpreting Theatre (Written Examination) 40%</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● There are no changes within this component. ● However, centres are reminded that live recordings/streams of productions may be used as live theatre for the Live Theatre Review within Section B.
Design Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The GCSE DT NEA Component 2 task remains 50% of the qualification ● Students can produce a 'proof of concept model' instead of a 'high-quality final prototype' ● Students are now permitted to complete all GCSE DT NEA work (portfolio and proof of concept models) remotely from home, given that they are not expected to require access to any specialist spaces, tools, equipment and machines. ● It is very important however, that students are not encouraged to make any type of higher quality prototype that would normally take place in a specialist space such as a school workshop. ● Marks for Quality and accuracy (AO2 12 marks) will be removed from Component 2. ● Students can demonstrate using machinery/tools/processes that are not directly linked to the product they intended to make, in order that they will be able to access the requirements stated in the marking of Manufacture. They can provide written, photographic or video evidence. ● Students can demonstrate the requirements of Testing and evaluation, using a proof of concept model instead of a final working prototype.

English Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Video evidence of Spoken English is not required. ● The exam structure remains unchanged.
English Literature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● There will not be any questions about the Power and Conflict Poems. ● All other sections, including unseen poetry, remain. ● The exam board have yet to finalise the new weighting for Paper 2
Food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● NEA 1 Food Investigation Task (15%) is no longer required. ● NEA 2 Food Preparation Task (50%) will remain part of the assessment with the following change. ● The requirement for NEA2 is now two dishes to be completed within 3 hours.
Geography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Fieldwork is not required. ● There will not be any questions about students' own fieldwork experiences (which are normally covered by Paper 3, Question 5 - this question will be removed from the paper which will be shorter/ worth fewer marks). ● The Exam Board have yet to finalise the new weighting for Paper 3.
History	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Edexcel have announced that we are to remove a unit from the 2020/21 examination. ● We will not deliver the following paper this year: Paper 1, Medicine in Britain, c1250–present and The British sector of the Western Front, 1914–18: injuries, treatment and the trenches.
MFL (French, German and Spanish - all the same changes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Speaking will not be included in the 9-1 grade. ● This means listening, reading and writing will each comprise 33.3% of your 9-1 grade. ● You will still be assessed on speaking but as a separate component and not through a formal exam. Your speaking endorsement will be through teacher assessment of classwork and homework tasks. You will be graded at pass, merit or distinction for speaking. ● The writing papers will provide three rather than two questions to choose from for the 90-word task (foundation and higher tiers) and for the 150-word task (higher tier only). This increases the chances of getting a topic you are confident with. You will be given an extra 5 minutes on the writing paper. ● You will no longer be expected to deal with vocabulary beyond that which is published in the GCSE specification.
Music	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Component 1: Performance - Students to perform one or more pieces of music with a combined duration of at least 1.5 minutes (if all solo performance) or 2 minutes (if including performance as part of an ensemble). No requirement to perform as part of an ensemble.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Component 2: Composition - Students to compose one or more pieces of music with a combined duration of at least 2 minutes. ● Component 3: Appraising - No changes to the content or format of the exam
PE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Two activities rather than three will be assessed for moderation. These activities can be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Two individual activities - Two team activities - Or one individual activity and one team ● There will be no moderation day - therefore filmed evidence will be used to conduct a remote moderation ● All students will need to provide filmed evidence for both their sports
Science - Biology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No changes to content to be examined on. ● Practical requirements relaxed so students do not need to have physically carried out required practicals, instead seeing a demo, simulation or online video will allow sufficient coverage of equipment used and techniques,
Science - Chemistry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No changes to content to be examined on. ● Practical requirements relaxed so students do not need to have physically carried out required practicals, instead seeing a demo, simulation or online video will allow sufficient coverage of equipment used and techniques,
Science - Physics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No changes to content to be examined on. ● Practical requirements relaxed so students do not need to have physically carried out required practicals, instead seeing a demo, simulation or online video will allow sufficient coverage of equipment used and techniques,
Science - Combined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No changes to content to be examined on. ● Practical requirements relaxed so students do not need to have physically carried out required practicals, instead seeing a demo, simulation or online video will allow sufficient coverage of equipment used and techniques,

A Parent/Carer's guide to surviving exams

HOW CAN YOU HELP NOW?

- Encourage your son/daughter to complete coursework on time.
- Check he/she is doing her homework and sign planner.
- Make sure he/she is at school every day and on time.
- Ensure the balance of work and play is right.

REVISION

- Devise a revision timetable.
- Keep his/her books and notes organised.
- Keep sessions to no longer than half an hour or an hour at most, and then a short break before starting another subject.
- Revise specific topics in each subject, not everything at once.
- Start each session by tackling the most difficult bits first.
- Revisit each subject several times.
- Use different revision methods such as mind maps, notes, pictures and spider diagrams.
- Work with a friend on occasion to allow them to test each other and talk about the work.
- Use revision guides from school or bookshops. Some are available online, and there are websites such as BBC Bitesize at www.bbc.co.uk/education/revision
- Study no more than two subjects a night.
- Listen to quiet background music if it helps.

PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOUR SON/DAUGHTER

- Has somewhere to study.
- Eats properly and drinks plenty of water.
- Doesn't listen to television and loud music when revising.
- Is supported by parents/carers who are positive and reassuring to build confidence.
- Is not distracted by mobile phones, Facebook, emails etc.

WHEN THE ACTUAL EXAMS ARRIVE

- Make sure your son/daughter continues to attend lessons up to the examination in each subject.
- Give your son/daughter time, space and peace while he/she works before and between exams.
- Emphasise the need for plenty of sleep, especially the night before an exam.
- Don't let him/her work herself into a state of exhaustion – encourage him/her to take regular breaks.

ON THE DAY OF AN EXAM

- Ensure he/she gets up on time and is in school at least 15 minutes before the exam is due to start.
- Ask if he/she has everything he/she needs.
- Tell him/her to switch off mobile phone and leave it off until after the exam, or better still, leave it at home.
- Wish him/her good luck as he/she leaves!

WHAT WE DO

In addition to the teaching in lessons, which continues up to the day of the exam, we

- Run structured revision programmes. Departments will usually organise these, often at lunchtimes and after school.
- Run revision and Study Skills sessions through our tutor programme to help your son/daughter revise effectively.
- Target students who have been identified as having particular needs.
- Ask subject staff to be available to discuss problems with individuals.
- Offer exam stress sessions and support to cope with the demands of the GCSE studies.

There are a team of people who are here to help your son/daughter through the year.

- The Form Tutor
(Please contact via the House base number for ease of communication. We encourage email correspondence between parents and tutors to ensure we can support each other).
- The Head of House
- Examinations Officer: Mrs Farman on 01491 636843
- Assistant Headteacher Student Progress: Mr Matthew Druce.
- Deputy Headteacher of Curriculum: Dr Newbold.

POST 16 EDUCATION, TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT

RAISING THE PARTICIPATION AGE (RPA)

All students are required to continue in education or training until at least the end of the academic year in which they turn 18.

- Full-time education, such as a school with a Sixth Form or college.
- An Apprenticeship.
- Full-time employment or volunteering with part-time education or training alongside.

WHAT TO STUDY?

These links are an excellent starting point to research courses offered at colleges/universities. If you have a specific interest you can then back track what you require at degree level and in some cases what A levels subjects and grades you will need to get on that course. Again, this might influence what you do as a post 16 course.

<https://www.ucas.com/further-education/post-16-qualifications/what-qualifications-are-there-16-18-year-olds>

<https://www.ucas.com/what-are-my-options/thinking-about-uni>

TRANSITION BETWEEN GCSE AND POST 16

THINGS TO CONSIDER

1. A Level, Vocational or Apprenticeship?
2. Sixth Form College or School with Sixth Form?
3. Apprenticeship through a college or through a company with training?

NEXT STEPS

1. Check out all websites for entry requirements and get your son/daughter to complete the 'Preparing for making choices after Gillotts School worksheet'. It has been emailed to all students, but can also be accessed via the Careers page on the school website.
2. Adviza Careers Appointments <https://www.adviza.org.uk/>
 - a. If you require another meeting with our careers adviser from Adviza, please see Mr Bull to book an appointment.
 - b. If you would like to attend the meeting with your son/daughter, please contact Mr Bull. He will then liaise with Adviza and make a suitable time.
3. Attend college/sixth form providers open days and evenings – some do require booking so please continually check websites. Additional dates might also be added.
4. Support your son/daughter when completing application forms and writing a personal statement (if required)

GUIDELINES FOR WRITING A PERSONAL STATEMENT

You have a good set of GCSE grades, but so do all the other students applying for post 16 courses. What gives you the edge?

1. Why have you chosen these subjects?
 - Has there been a specific topic of interest you have studied at GCSE?
 - Have you read a book relating to a subject/topic?
 - Is it for a specific career?
 - If you are picking a new subject you need to describe what you know about it

2. Talk about yourselves (Always link to competences/skills eg communication, resilience, leadership)
 - Part time work, work experience, hobbies, volunteer work etc.
 - Responsibilities held e.g. House captain
 - Examinations/Qualifications e.g. Music grade V Clarinet or Dance

3. Why are you applying tosixth form school/college?
 - Siblings attend there.
 - Transport.
 - Enrichment activities etc.

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

Good attendance and punctuality are key because:

When you are late for lessons you miss the teacher's instructions and the induction to the lesson. You may feel embarrassed at having to enter the classroom late but that won't be half as embarrassing as not getting the grades you wanted on results day because you didn't turn up.

Minutes lost per day during the school year.	Equals day's worth of teaching lost in a year
5 minutes	3.4 days
10 minutes	6.9 days
15 minutes	10.3 days
20 minutes	13.8 days
25 minutes	20.7 days

Students are required to attend school for 190 days per year. Students who miss a lot of school achieve less.

Attendance during one school year	Equals days absent	Which is approx.. weeks absent	Which means this no. of lessons missed
95%	9 days	2 weeks	50 lessons
90%	19 days	4 weeks	100 lessons
85%	29 days	6 weeks	150 lessons
80%	38 days	8 weeks	200 lessons
75%	48 days	10 weeks	250 lessons
70%	57 days	11.5 weeks	288 lessons
65%	67 days	13.5 weeks	338 lessons

If attendance and punctuality are poor, this could affect your son/daughter getting on the course of his/her choice.

REVISION GUIDES AND RESOURCES

S-Cool – www.s-cool.co.uk

GCSE.COM – www.gcse.com

Lumosity – www.lumosity.com

Revision Centre – www.revisioncentre.co.uk

Revision World – www.revisionworld.co.uk

Mind Explosion – <http://www.mindexplosionbook.com>

SUBJECT	INFORMATION	RESOURCE
ART	<p>The nature of the artwork produced during the course is varied, including a range of media; ideas and images taken from a broad spectrum of art, craft and design.</p> <p>For 2020, Art will be assessed on Unit 1 only, making it worth 100% of the marks. No Unit 2 paper will be issued in January and students will not sit the 10 hour exam. Moderation may be by visiting moderator, or via digital portfolio, but will be confirmed by the exam board in January.</p> <p><i>Component 1: Portfolio:</i> Students must complete at least one substantial project, meeting all of the Assessment Criteria, and a selection of other work. We anticipate the majority of students will have two completed projects to submit as part of their portfolio, but will review the impact of Covid on an individual basis to determine the best approach for each student.</p>	<p>Exam Board -AQA</p> <p>https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/art-and-design/gcse/art-and-design-8201-8206/specification-at-a-glance</p> <p>Useful for inspiration and research</p> <p>http://uk.pinterest.com/ http://www.artchive.com/ http://www.artcyclopedia.com/ https://artsy.net/ http://www.besthistorysites.net/index.php/art-history</p> <p><i>Students are able to receive work back from the end of October. Work must be retained by the school until this point as an exam board requirement. An email will be sent out to all parents via schoolcomms with details of when students can collect work (with a January deadline).</i></p> <p><i>In exceptional cases (where students need portfolios for interview) they can collect work then return it to the school until the end of Oct.</i></p> <p><i>If the deadline of January is not met and students have not collected their work by this time then we are at no obligation to retain it.</i></p>

	<p>Students will need to spend time out of lessons working on their personal projects and would benefit from having basic drawing and painting materials at home. They should make use of the after school sessions every Wednesday 3-4pm in A2.</p>	
ENGLISH	<p>In Year 11, students have begun preparation for their examinations:</p> <p>English Language:</p> <p>Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Writing and Reading</p> <p>Paper 2: Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives</p> <p>English Literature:</p> <p>Paper 1: Shakespeare and the Nineteenth Century Novel</p> <p>Paper 2: Modern Texts and Unseen Poetry</p>	<p>Students can gain access to specimen papers, mark schemes and examiner reports on the AQA English Language and English Literature websites.</p> <p>Students should make use of revision guides:</p> <p>York Notes: An Inspector Calls, Romeo and Juliet, Jekyll and Hyde - AQA Specification</p> <p>Philip Allan Literature Guides – Romeo and Juliet</p> <p>Spark Notes - online revision sight</p> <p>Youtube revision tutorials</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/user/mrbruff</p> <p>Students can use the following sites to help them improve spelling, punctuation and grammar:</p> <p>http://www.grammar-monster.com/</p>
Dance	<p>Throughout Year 11 there will be end of topic tests/assessments during the year ensuring your child is aware of their current grade and also of target topics. This also allows for both staff and students to evaluate how well they have grasped/understood a topic and what needs to be done to improve on this. There will also be a mock in January - after which a breakdown of how well your child did will be handed out. All students have access to a revision folder on google drive from year 10 this includes past papers/practice papers, quizzes, links to videos</p>	<p>Students can gain access to specimen papers, mark schemes and examiner reports on the AQA.</p> <p>https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/dance/gcse/dance-8236</p> <p>A dance revision folder has been shared with each student on google drive which contains links to specific videos and interviews with choreographers etc. and some revision resources from Artspool.</p> <p>Students will be practising Exam questions in an online assessment booklet which they are also encouraged to use for revision purposes.</p> <p>The students will also be given a booklet on exemplar material for answering 12 mark questions.</p>

	<p>and interviews of professional dance works. Past papers are available in this revision folder too - as well as from the staff teaching the subject.</p> <p>All students will have a copy of the topics studied and they can use this as a checklist when revising for exams.</p> <p>Revision/catch up/student support sessions are also be available to your child every Monday 3-4pm after school, please encourage them to attend these on a regular basis.</p>	
<p>DRAMA</p>	<p>In Year 11 the students will begin the year with a devising project. This project is internally assessed but externally moderated. The culmination of this project will result in a submission of a portfolio and a written one and half hour exam. Each student will be marked according to their own contributions and standard of written work submitted. Students should be encouraged to collect as much information as possible such as poems, photographs, newspaper articles to help with their devising and portfolio.</p> <p>The students will then go on to their performing component in the Spring term. The students are assessed by an external examiner who solely grades the students on their final performance of a scripted piece of work. Support students with their line learning at</p>	<p>Exam Board Eduqas</p> <p>Set Text - Hard to Swallow by Mark Wheeler</p> <p>Students should use a wide variety of sources, such as the internet, libraries, museums, newspapers to help research for their devised project and help with character development for scripted work.</p>

	<p>home and character development.</p> <p>The final term in Year 11 will be focusing on the written paper. This is based on a set text and an evaluation of a live theatre performance. Students will be given a variety of questions to write practice essays on and will also have to learn a wide range of drama terminology from the booklet they will be given in class.</p> <p>It is encouraged that students see as much live theatre as possible throughout this year to provide them with inspiration for their practical and written exams.</p>	
GEOGRAPHY	<p>We are following the GCSE Geography AQA specification</p> <p>http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/geography/gcse/geography-8035</p> <p>Revision Booklets Students have all been given a copy of a revision booklet for each of the three exam papers They have been using their notes during the course to complete these booklets. This has helped them to develop a set of structured revision notes.</p> <p>Revision Flashcards Students have all been given a set of flashcards for each topic. These cover the key knowledge</p>	<p>GCSE Pod https://www.gcsepod.com</p> <p>BBC Bitesize https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/examspecs/zy3ptyc</p> <p>GCSE Revision Guide (available in Student Services for £5) https://www.amazon.co.uk/GCSE-9-1-Geography-Revision-Guide/dp/0198423462/ref=sr_1_4?ie=UTF8&qid=1541600598&sr=8-4&keywords=aqa+gcse+revision+guide+geography</p> <p>GCSE Textbook https://www.amazon.co.uk/GCSE-Geography-AQA-Student-Book/dp/0198366612/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1541600637&sr=8-1&keywords=aqa+gcse+geography</p> <p>Exam Practice Workbook https://www.amazon.co.uk/Grade-Geography-Practice-Workbook-Revision/dp/178294611X/ref=sr_1_6?ie=UTF8&qid</p>

	<p>and concepts which they need to know and understand for each of the three papers. They should use these to test themselves - and also get a parent or friend to test them too on a regular basis.</p> <p>Revision Guides A revision guide written specifically for this course is available to buy (for £5) in Student Services. This is a really good starting point for revision particularly for students who may be struggling with the volume of material to learn. If they learn and understand everything in here they should be well on the way to a Grade 5 or 6 - although they will need to supplement it with their own notes and other revision resources (particularly if they are aiming for a Grade 7 or above.)</p> <p>Exam Practice The saying 'practice makes perfect' really does apply to approaching revision in GCSE Geography. While it is important to learn the key knowledge for each topic and to understand the key concepts, it is really important to practise answering exam questions on a regular basis as part of revision. We have provided the students with many exam questions and papers and they will receive more in the run up to the final exams. We will also provide them with the opportunity to buy packs</p>	<p>=1541600662&sr=8-6&keywords=aqa+gcse+geography</p> <p>GCSE pod for video clips</p> <p>Textbook - AQA GCSE Geography A - Simon Ross, Nicholas Rowles, David Holmes and Bob Digby - Oxford University Press</p> <p>CGP New grade 9-1 GCSE Geography AQA Revision Guide and Exam Practice workbook</p>
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	of exam papers (charge to cover photocopying costs) after the mock exams.	
HISTORY	<p>There is a great deal of historical information to absorb. Revise throughout the course and ask your peers and parents to test you regularly. Practice papers and a range of revision resources are available to students on Google Classroom.</p> <p>The GCSE history units of study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The USA, 1954–75: conflict at home and abroad • Superpower relations and the Cold War, 1941–91 • Anglo-Saxon and Norman England, c1060–88 <p>Edexcel have announced that we are to remove a unit from the 2020/21 examination. We will <u>not</u> deliver the following paper this year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medicine in Britain, c1250–present and The British sector of the Western Front, 1914–18: injuries, treatment and the trenches 	<p>Edexcel GCSE History https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcse/history-2016.html</p> <p>All necessary materials are produced by us and put on Google classroom for students to download.</p> <p>Additional textbooks and revision guides should not be required, but we can pass on details if requested.</p>
MATHS	<p>There will be frequent assessments during the year ensuring your child is aware of their current grade and also of target topics. There will be a mock in November and also in March to the same end. To improve their</p>	<p>Key Websites https://vle.mathswatch.co.uk/vle (video clips and worksheets with answers) www.keshmaths.com (GCSE questions divided into topics, model answers and videos explaining the topic) www.mrbartonmaths.com (GCSE papers, model answers and video solutions)</p>

	<p>grade, students need to get plenty of active practice of questions to do well in maths. Past papers will be made available, but are readily available on the www. Papers should be completed one at a time and target topics worked on before another paper is attempted.</p> <p>Encourage students to use web resources as these facilitate independent learning.</p> <p>We recommend the Edexcel Target revision guides and these will be available from student services at a reduced rate. It is important to buy the correct target grade so please ask your son/daughter to talk to their teacher before they order one.</p> <p>To support us please ensure that your son/daughter is aware of the topics they do not understand at all (which they need to RE-LEARN with input) and those which they are not 100% secure on (which they therefore need to PRACTISE) and formulae they do not know (which they therefore, need to learn off by heart). Once an area of weakness has been identified encourage them to seek help as soon as possible – teachers are always available, but far more effective are learning partners from their year, who are working on the same topics, so please support them by encouraging such</p>	<p>www.corbettmaths.com (GCSE questions divided into topics, 5-a-day test yourself questions) https://mathsbot.com (GGSE exam style questions)</p> <p>Other Websites www.bbc.co.uk www.counton.org www.easymaths.com www.learn.co.uk www.sosmath.com www.schoolsnet.com www.projectgcse.co.uk www.s-cool.co.uk www.revise.it www.gcsemaths.fsnet.co.uk</p>
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	<p>collaborative learning. As well as peers and teachers, the internet has a huge amount of information. The best sites use videos which explain how to do questions and which go through past paper questions step by step. Contact your child's teacher if you have concerns.</p>	
<p>MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES</p>	<p>Building a bank of vocabulary is essential for success in the listening and reading exams (66% of the marks this year) and for these exams all the students have to do is be able to recognise words and deduce meaning. All Ks4 students are now subscribed to an online tool called Vocab Express. This has proved very successful in increasing the range of vocabulary that students are able to recognise. All students have individual logins that were given to them in Year 10 (the login is the same as the login for the school computer network). If they have forgotten their password they should see their languages teacher as soon as possible in order that it can be reset. The website can be found at www.vocabexpress.com and there is also an App available to download. Students are expected to practise vocabulary for at least 10 minutes every day. As for the writing examinations (33% of the marks this year), preparation is key. Students should be encouraged to spend time building up a bank of</p>	<p>www.bbc.co.uk/revision www.bbc.co.uk/languages www.languagesonline.org.uk www.wildfrench.co.uk (French) www.klar.co.uk (German) + any French / German or Spanish website is excellent for reading (and potentially) speaking skills! The Smartphone app www.vocabexpress.com</p> <p>FRENCH Revision Guide - 978-1782945376 Exam Practice Workbook - 978-1782945383</p> <p>GERMAN Revision Guide - 978-1782945529 Exam Practice Workbook - 978-1782945536</p> <p>SPANISH Revision Guide - 978-1782945468 Exam Practice Workbook - 978-1782945475</p>

	<p>phrases in different tenses (Past, Present, Future) as well as regularly going through the questions provided by the class teacher. Speaking will be endorsed as a separate element this year. It will not count towards the 9-1 grade, but will instead be given its own certification: pass, merit or distinction. This will be decided through teacher assessment based on classwork and homework speaking tasks.</p> <p>The AQA Revision guides and Revision work books will be essential in providing students with practise in all skill areas.</p>	
PE	<p>Students must revise throughout the course and ask your peers and parents to test you regularly. Practice papers and a range of revision resources are available on Google classroom.</p> <p>To support us please ensure that your son/daughter is aware of the topics they do not understand at all (using the learning outcomes on Google classroom and in exercise books) (which they need to RE-LEARN with input) and those which they are not 100% secure on (which they therefore need to PRACTISE) and key terms they do not know (which they therefore, need to learn off by heart).</p> <p>Students should be attending all extra curricular practices on a</p>	<p>Past paper questions can be found at www.ocr.org.uk</p> <p>GCSE PE Revision Guide</p> <p>https://www.theeverlearner.com/dashboard</p> <p>The above site is called everlearner - each student in GCSE PE has their own individual log in to this</p>

	regular basis to support their practical grades.	
RS	<p>If possible, support pupils with practising exam questions. The criteria for answering questions, is at the front of pupils exercise books. Additional questions/resources can be emailed by subject staff, upon request.</p> <p>Revision booklets will be supplied to students from their teachers - which they need to use to revise from. These also have practice exam questions, which should be completed.</p>	<p>www.reonline.org.uk www.bbc.co.uk/religion</p> <p>Useful Revision guide: https://www.amazon.co.uk/AQA-GCSE-Religious-Studies-Christianity/dp/0198422830/ref=pd_lpo_sbs_14_img_1?_encoding=UTF8&psc=1&refRID=W4K4DQ94KR5EBDQ3GXX7</p>
SCIENCE Combined and Triple Science	<p>GILLOTT'S SCIENCE RESOURCE WEBSITE https://sites.google.com/gillotts.org.uk/gillottsscience</p> <p>Revision Guides The recommended revision guides for both combined and separate science courses can be bought through the school (Mrs Michael will arrange this) or off the internet. Students should have these resources already. We recommend the CGP revision guides (links are shown opposite).</p> <p>Students have, and will continue to be, assessed after each unit is completed and should revise for these tests using their exercise books, revision guides and online resources.</p> <p>Effective Revision Methods</p>	<p>CGP Combined Science revision guide https://www.amazon.co.uk/d/Books/New-Grade-9-1-GCSE-Combined-Science-Revision/1782945644/ref=pd_sim_14_3?_encoding=UTF8&psc=1&refRID=7RH3MFKZXH6ZQHNM45B8</p> <p>CGP Biology revision guide https://www.amazon.co.uk/New-Grade-9-1-GCSE-Biology/dp/178294561X/ref=pd_sim_14_4?_encoding=UTF8&psc=1&refRID=GT5R66KGZ8S18CTWVR3Q</p> <p>CGP Chemistry revision guide https://www.amazon.co.uk/New-Grade-9-1-GCSE-Chemistry/dp/1782945628/ref=pd_bxgy_14_img_2?_encoding=UTF8&psc=1&refRID=48NSXX0R0M6KVQCH9DN5</p> <p>CGP Physics revision guide https://www.amazon.co.uk/New-Grade-9-1-GCSE-Physics/dp/1782945636/ref=pd_bxgy_14_img_2?_encoding=UTF8&psc=1&refRID=FHFV9K2C59V3VHP4MWQ7</p> <p>Additional revision resources</p> <p>Combined Specification https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1GF1urj7P7HVFEAN8No1-KB3z5LQnwTBM?usp=sharing</p> <p>Biology Specification</p>

	<p>In preparation for their mock exams and final exams- students should practice <i>effective</i> revision techniques (flashcards, revision notes, educake, mind maps and past paper exam questions).</p> <p>Resources can be found on the Gillotts Science Resource website (link at the top of the page).</p> <p>The links opposite will take students to the specification for each course which can be used to track and monitor revision of topics.</p> <p>In School Revision There are lunchtime revision sessions running in science for both triple and combined students of which information has been emailed to parents.</p>	<p>https://drive.google.com/file/d/14P7PZINOJlRnqwb0eA9AF0yCqqZ2kA75/view?usp=sharing</p> <p>Chemistry Specification https://drive.google.com/file/d/1MwgGibqh5O4Fwm7FjqblON0-y58yYSme/view?usp=sharing</p> <p>Physics Specification https://drive.google.com/file/d/1YUPz9vPY_EIygAuo hUBxZTeO5jfS4_Dn/view?usp=sharing</p> <p>GCSE Pod- https://www.gcsepod.com/ Quizlet app- https://quizlet.com/ Gillotts science twitter- @gillotts_sci</p>
<p>SOCIOLOGY</p>	<p>Sociology is assessed by two exams at the end of Year 11, each accounting for 50% of the final grade.</p> <p>Students need to regularly be quizzed by peers and parents on the key concepts for all topics throughout the year.</p> <p>Practice papers and a range of revision resources are available to students on Google Classroom.</p> <p>Students will be examined on the following topics: Component 1: Understanding social processes</p>	<p>Eduqas GCSE Sociology https://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/sociology-gcse/#tab_overview</p> <p>All necessary materials are produced by us and put on Google classroom for students to download.</p> <p>Additional textbooks and revision guides should not be required, but we can pass on details if requested.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key concepts and process of cultural transmission • Family • Education • Sociological research methods <p>Component 2: Understanding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social differentiation and stratification • Crime and deviance • Applied methods of sociological enquiry 	
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INTRODUCING GCSE POD, A NEW ONLINE REVISION TOOL

Gillotts School has recently subscribed to GCSE Pod, an online tool which supports teaching and learning across a wide variety of subjects. The main way it can be used is by accessing online 'pods' which are 4-5 minute films on a range of topics. Teachers can also set questions which students can complete. Where these questions are multiple choice ones, GCSE Pod will mark these automatically and suggest booster playlists, enabling students to further study the areas in which they're less confident. Where questions require longer answers, your teacher will need to mark them.

GCSE Pod can be accessed from PCs, laptops, tablets and mobile phones at www.gcsepod.com Pods can be downloaded onto tablets and phones for viewing offline. Your child should log in with their school email address and the password Gillotts123, which they can change once logged in. Although GCSE Pod does some sorting of each subject, it is important that your child chooses the correct course code for each subject when selecting pods. Unfortunately this matter has been complicated a bit by the fact that the GCSEs have been changing. Your child should have been shown how to do this during an assembly and emailed some instructions by Dr Newbold. Please contact the school if you would like another copy of these.

EQUIPMENT FOR EXAMINATIONS

FOR ALL EXAMS BRING:

RULER, PENS, PENCILS, RUBBER, Calculator – in a see-through plastic bag or container.

SUBJECT	EQUIPMENT
BUSINESS STUDIES	Calculator
DESIGN TECHNOLOGY	Black fine liner pen, pencil, rubber, colouring pencils and ruler Calculator (electronic Products and Systems and Control)
ENGLISH	Highlighters Pencils Pens
GEOGRAPHY	Calculator, protractor, pencil and coloured pens
MATHEMATICS	Protractor/Angle measurer Pair of compasses Scientific Calculator (no phone allowed) - scientific calculators are available from student services Pencil sharpener Highlighter pens x 3 colours
MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES	No dictionary to be used
SCIENCE	Calculator Protractor, compass Pencil, ruler Highlighter pens – at least one

YEAR 11 EXAMINATIONS AND IMPORTANT DATES

Date	Subject
16 November - 20 November	Maths & English Mock Exams - 1st Set
2 & 3 December	Art exam
3 & 4 December	Drama Performance Exam
6 January - 22 January (end date to be confirmed)	Mock Exams (All Subjects except Art, Maths & English)
28 January	Music Solo Exams
8 & 9 February	Final GCSE Food Practical Exams
22 - 26 February	English & Maths Mock Exams - 2nd Set
Mid March	Drama Performance Exam
Mid March	Dance practical Moderation
21 & 22 April	Final GCSE Art Exam
Dates to be Confirmed	GCSE Final Exams

June 2021 Exams – Students will be issued with an individual timetable in February 2021

GCSE INFORMATION

Subject	Exam Board	Course Code	Spec Code
Art & Design	AQA	8202	–
Biology	OCR	J257	B 21st Century
Business	Edexcel	IBS0	
BTEC Children's Play, Learning & Development	Edexcel	ZVG43	–
Chemistry	OCR	J258	B 21st Century
Dance	AQA	8236	–
Design Technology	Edexcel	IDT0	-
Drama	WJEC	3690QS	–
English Language	AQA	8700	–
English Literature	AQA	8702	–
Food Preparation & Nutrition	AQA	8585	–
French	AQA	8658	–
Geography	AQA	8035	–
German	AQA	8668	–
History	Edexcel	IHI0	–
Maths	Edexcel	IMA1	–
Music	Edexcel	IMU0	-
PE	OCR	J587	–
Physics	OCR	J259	B 21st Century
Religious Studies	AQA	8062	A
Combined Science	OCR	J260	B 21st Century
Sociology	Educas	C200QS	–
Spanish	AQA	8698	–

YEAR 11 REVISION TIMETABLE

EXAMPLE

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Tutor Time					
Lunch time					
After school					
Session 1 Revision 30 minutes					
Session 2 Revision 30 minutes					
Session 3 Revision 30 minutes					
Coursework					
Extras					

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