

Year 11 Key Information for Parents/Carers



We would like to provide you with an overview of key information for the year ahead. Within this document you will find a list of important dates for your diary, an overview of assessment in the core subjects (Maths, English, Science and RE) as well as list of useful revision websites for all GCSE subjects.

Half-Term homework: will be set for every half-term. Tasks will always be revision based to consolidate learning. Tasks will be uploaded to Teams, and we ask you to help us to ensure your child completes them.

Year 11 Key Dates:

Date	Event
Tuesday 17 th September	Year 11 Parents' Information Evening (5:30-6:15pm)
Thursday 10 th October	Sixth Form Open Evening
Friday 11 th October	Sixth form Taster Day 1
Friday 25 th October	Half- Term revision homework set
Tuesday 6 th November	Year 11 November mock exams begin (all subjects, finish 15 th Nov)
Friday 20 th December	End of Term revision homework set
Thursday 9 th January	November mock results sent home
Thursday 16 th January	Year 11 Parents' Evening (3:45-6:15pm)
Tuesday 4 th February	Year 11 Parent Revision Workshop
Friday 7 th February	Sixth Form Taster Day 2
Wed 19 th February	Year 11 Spring mocks begin (all subjects, finish 7 th March)
Friday 21 st February	Half-Term revision homework set
Monday 10 th March	Speaking exams (Languages) take place this week
Thursday 3 rd April	Spring mock results sent home
Friday 11 th April	End of term revision homework set
Tuesday 6 th May	External exams begin
Friday 23 rd May	Half-Term revision homework set
Monday 16 th June	Year 11 Celebration Evening; parents/carers invited (NEW)
Thursday 19 th June	Year 11 Final Day in School
Thursday 21 st August	GCSE results day and Sixth Form enrolment

***We are awaiting cricket fixtures to confirm date of the July 2025 Prom**

GCSE Maths

End of Year 11 Examinations

Exam board: OCR

Pupils will complete three exam papers (1 hour 30 minutes each)

Paper 1 – Calculator

Paper 2 – Non-Calculator

Paper 3 – Calculator

Equipment required for mocks/final exams:

Scientific calculator, pen, pencil, ruler, compass and protractor.

Tiering

Foundation Tier – Awarded grades 5 to 1

Higher Tier – Awarded grades 9 to 4

11S1 - H	Mrs Pine	11B1 - H	Miss Morpeth
11S2 - H	Miss Emmerson	11B2 - H	Mrs Elliot
11S3 - H	Mrs Elliot	11B3 - H	Mr Cheong
11S4 - F	Miss Jackson	11B4 - F	Mr Hughes
11S5 - F	Miss Kinnell	11B5 - F	Mr Beighton

Data from November and March mocks inform any tiering changes.

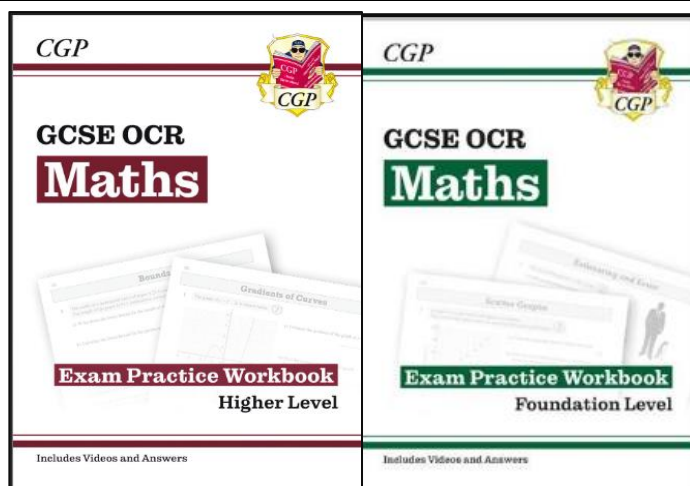
Support for your child:

- Retrieval starters at the beginning of every lesson to secure key topics.
- Compulsory weekly Sparx homework with support videos to revise key topics.
- After school revision sessions in the run up to mock exams where teachers will guide pupils through past exam papers, modelling exam technique.
- Individual question by question analysis of mock papers to identify and close gaps in knowledge.
- All pupils will be provided with a copy of our bespoke 'revision and methods guide', full of familiar methods taught in class.
- Intervention sessions for selected students in the run up to exams.

To achieve their full potential:

- Pupils bring their calculator to all lessons.
- Pupils complete Sparx homework each week aiming for 100%
- Pupils complete their half termly homework using methods guide for support.
- Prior to their mocks, pupils attend after school revision each week and complete set past exam papers.
- Pupils utilise their topic lists, Sparx website and Exam Practice workbooks to revise independently.
- After mocks pupils use their question-by-question analysis to focus their independent revision and close their gaps.

Recommended resources: We strongly advocate that the best way to revise maths is to do maths therefore we highly recommended the 'OCR Exam Practice Workbook'. There are two versions depending on tier, containing OCR exam questions on every topic, plus worked solutions and video solutions so that pupils can check their progress. These will be available to purchase via Arbor soon at a school-discounted price.



GCSE English

<u>End of Year 11 Examinations: English Language</u>	<u>End of Year 11 Examinations: English Literature:</u>
<p>Exam board: AQA</p> <p>Pupils will complete two exams for GCSE English Language:</p> <p><u>English Language Paper 1: Explorations in creative reading and writing:</u></p> <p>In Section A, students respond to an unseen source and explore a writer's choices with language/structure. They also explore the methods a writer uses to convey meaning. In Section B, students receive a prompt to springboard them into some creative writing.</p> <p><u>English Language Paper 2: Writers' viewpoints and perspectives:</u></p> <p>In Section A, students respond to two unseen sources to compare and contrast writers' ideas and methods. In Section B, students receive a prompt to springboard them into a 'real-world' creative writing task; most often in the form of a letter, article or speech.</p>	<p>Exam board: AQA</p> <p>Pupils will complete two exams for GCSE English Literature:</p> <p><u>English Literature Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th-century novel:</u></p> <p>In Section A, students will receive a short extract from <i>Romeo and Juliet</i>. They must analyse the extract and make links to the wider play to answer the question. In Section B, students will receive a short extract from <i>A Christmas Carol</i> and do the same: analyse the extract and link it to the wider novel to answer the question.</p> <p><u>English Literature Paper 2: Modern texts and poetry:</u></p> <p>In Section A, students respond to JB Priestley's <i>An Inspector Calls</i>. In Section B, students compare two poems from an anthology of 'taught poetry', and in Section C, students respond to two unseen poems.</p>
<p>Students will also complete a 'Spoken Language' assessment: a speaking and listening task held in lessons which provides them with a third qualification. This qualification is reported separately from Language and Literature and successful students either achieve a pass, merit or distinction.</p>	
<p><u>Support for your child:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A focus on teacher-modelling in lessons and after assessments so that students have lots of material to revise from.• Use of Seneca learning for homework.• Intervention sessions for selected students in the run-up to exams.• Poetry lectures delivered by the English department in the run up to exams.• MS Teams lectures on literature texts delivered by English teachers across our Trust and 'in-house' revision packs.	<p><u>To achieve their full potential:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• For English Literature, students should make notes on how each literary text opens, where its key turning points are and how it closes. This might involve tracking a character's journey or a key theme or idea the writer develops throughout.• For English Language, students should practise responding to unseen texts using the modelled writing as a guide and aim to read a range of fiction and non-fiction texts.
<p><u>Recommended resources:</u></p> <p>The English Department will create a bespoke 'in-house' revision pack for students and set focused 'holiday homework' for each break from school. CGP revision guides on each literature text are available to purchase and can be a useful resource to supplement whole-text knowledge. That said, students' exercise books provide the best revision resource with lots of modelled writing!</p>	

GCSE Science

End of Year 11 Examinations

Exam board: AQA

Pupils sit 6 summer exams. For combined Science (Trilogy), these are 75min long. For Separate Sciences, these are 105min long.

- Biology paper 1 - Cell Biology; Organisation; Infection and response; and Bioenergetics.
- Biology paper 2 - Homeostasis and response; Inheritance, variation and evolution; and Ecology.
- Chemistry paper 1 - Atomic structure and the periodic table; Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter; Quantitative chemistry; Chemical changes; and Energy changes.
- Chemistry paper 2 - The rate and extent of chemical change; Organic chemistry; Chemical analysis; Chemistry of the atmosphere; and Using resources.
- Physics paper 1 - Energy; Electricity; Particle model of matter; and Atomic structure.
- Physics paper 2 - Forces; Waves; and Magnetism and electromagnetism.

Equipment required for mocks/final exams:

Scientific calculator, pen, pencil, rubber and ruler.

Tiering

Mock paper performance is used to decide the most appropriate tier of entry. When working below level 5, pupils sit the foundation tier. When working above level 5, pupil sit the higher tier.

A secure working level 5-5 is required to access the higher tier; pupils working below this level are more likely to achieve level 5 on the foundation paper. We may move pupils into different teaching sets to focus on a particular tier following mock exams. This will always be communicated with pupils and parents.

Support for your child:

- Retrieval of previous learning in every lesson and before each new topic begins.
- Assigned revision for home learning bespoke to each class and tailored to recent mock exam performance.
- Seneca online revision assignments to suit each set of mock assessments.
- Intervention offered to students
- Drop-in sessions for revision and home learning help, for each Science subject, every week.
- Revision resources provided on Teams.

To achieve their full potential:

- Pupils bring their calculator and full equipment to all lessons.
- Use Seneca to revise Y9 and Y10 learning.
- Begin revising in the first half term of year 11.
- Use the mock revision information prior to each exam to revise all topics.
- Use the weekly drop-in sessions to get help with topics they are finding difficult.
- Practice exam technique: Past paper materials and revision resources provided on Teams.

Recommended resources:

Parents/guardians will receive letters (via email) soon, offering another chance to purchase the appropriate CGP GCSE revision guides at school-discounted prices, via Arbor. We will follow up later in Y11 with matching workbook and flashcard resources.

BBC Bitesize is an excellent resource for all GCSE courses:

AQA Combined Science (Trilogy): <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/z8r997h>

Separate Sciences (all subjects): <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/levels/z98jmp3>

GCSE RE

End of Year 11 Examinations

Exam board: Eduqas Route B

Students will sit three exams

C1 Foundational Catholic Theology (90 mins)

C2 Applied Catholic Theology (90 mins)

C3 Judaism Beliefs & Practices (60 mins)

Students will receive one grade, and it will be an average of the three papers. Students will be assessed on both their knowledge covered over the course and their application of key skills in their writing. These skills are defining, description, explanation and evaluation.

Support for your child:

- Students will complete regular GCSE exam style questions in every lesson.
- Every fortnight students will complete a D Style question for homework to refine their skills.
- Students will work through a GCSE skills booklet which will ensure they are confident in how to maximise marks.
- Past papers and mark schemes will be made available to students via teams. As well as other key revision materials.
- Intervention sessions for selected students in the run-up to exams.

To achieve their full potential:

- Practice exam technique: Past paper materials and revision resources provided on Teams.
- Ensure that independent revision is something that becomes a key part of their weekly routine as early in this year as possible.
- Attend optional revision sessions in the lead up to mocks before school or at lunch time.
- Master the GCSE Key terms these are essential for a successful GCSE candidate.
- If possible, invest in the RE GCSE Eduqas Route B Revision guide. If this is not possible, students should speak with their RE teacher, and we may be able to support with this.

Recommended resources:

<https://www.youtube.com/@rebeck9420> (YouTube Revision Videos)

https://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/religious-studies-gcse/#tab_pastpapers (Past Papers)

https://www.stbedes.durham.sch.uk/_files/ugd/512753_1ddcb55580c44a5da68fd1c3550bcd8c.pdf (All of the GCSE Key Terms)

Useful Revision Websites for Year 11 Courses:

BBC Bitesize site for GCSE: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/levels/z98jmp3>

Study Rocket: <https://studyrocket.co.uk/>

Revisely (this site also has past exam papers to practice with):

<https://www.revisely.com/gcse>

Get Revising (one thing this site will do is provide an AI tutor, amongst other resources):

<https://getrevising.co.uk/>

Subject	Website
Art	GCSE Art and Design - AQA - BBC Bitesize
Business	https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/z98snbk
Computer Science	https://www.csnewbs.com/ocr-gcse
Construction	WJEC Educational Resources Website
Product Design	ENGINEERING - DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY (technologystudent.com)
Textiles	https://app.senecalearning.com/
Creative iMedia	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GdRbDnSeQXg&list=PL3KFKOfml1eChW_uH89bZRleQyOWh7ONn
English	GCSE English Language - AQA - BBC Bitesize GCSE English Literature - AQA - BBC Bitesize
Food Prep & Nutrition	14 - 16 Years - Food A Fact Of Life
French	Free Homework & Revision for A Level, GCSE, KS3 & KS2 (senecalearning.com)
Geography	https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/
History	GCSE History - Edexcel - BBC Bitesize
Hospitality & Catering	WJEC Educational Resources Website
Maths	https://corbettmaths.com/contents/ (In addition to Sparx maths)
Music	Focus on Sound Focus on Sound
GCSE PE	https://www.theeverlearner.com
RE	https://www.youtube.com/@rebeck9420/playlists
Science: Biology	https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/
Science: Chemistry	https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/
Science: Physics	https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/
Spanish	Free Homework & Revision for A Level, GCSE, KS3 & KS2 (senecalearning.com)