

*An ambitious and inclusive learning environment, where excellence becomes habit and success is experienced by all.*

# YEAR 10 EXAM INFORMATION BOOKLET



This booklet provides details of the exams that will take place in June and contains the following information:

- The purpose of the exams
- The timetable for the exams
- Guidance on how we will support you in the build up
- How the exams help us to assess your performance
- Subject revision guides

This information is timed specifically so that you can prepare yourself thoroughly so that you are in a position to perform to the best of your abilities.

### **Purpose:**

These exams have several purposes. Firstly, the exams provide you with the opportunity to undertake a structured revision process. This is something that teachers are helping you to manage by setting appropriate home learning. Secondly, it ensures you have completed exams in the same conditions expected of you in Year 11. This means that we will have precise standards in terms of you needing to be in correct, full uniform and on time to each exam. Not doing so will mean you will not sit the exam and it will, instead, be rearranged at a later date. Thirdly, it will provide a fair and accurate assessment of your work under controlled conditions.

### **Timetable:**

Exams will start at two main times during the day; 9:00am and 13:00pm and you must be on the courts 10 minutes before the start time. Most exams will take place in the gym. Students who have access arrangements will be allocated a room in our Aspire building and will be informed of this beforehand.

Students who are entitled to examination concessions will be allowed them during the exams.

**Please Note: Your individual exam timetable will be added to your calender on Arbor**

### **Supporting Students**

It will be vital for you to prepare thoroughly for these exams. Giving you the appropriate support and guidance in the build-up will be important. The support for you will include:

- A structured programme of home learning that includes preparation activities, as this will be the most effective way of providing appropriate build up. Individual teachers will be able to lead with that process.
- Guidance on how to revise effectively.

## **How we will use the exams to assess student performance?**

As mentioned previously these exams are important in terms of assessing your performance. They are important because we need to know how you have progressed during your first year of GCSEs. It is also the case that we may need to use this as the basis for a Centre Assessed Grade (if we are still required to do so).

These exams along with your Year 11 mock exams will form part of your predicted grades for college and other forms of further education. We are always aspirational as a school in terms of our predicted grades. This aspiration has always served our students well. The predictions are based on you working hard and providing the highest standards of effort throughout Year 10 and 11. We will not change this view that positive but realistic predictions help to ensure that students believe that they can be highly successful. However, you need to recognise that if you are not working consistently hard in school and in your exam preparations then you are far less likely to reach these predictions.

I hope this information is useful. We will continue to support you and update your parents/carers on this process as needed. If you have any questions, then please speak to your tutors and subject teachers.



## **Important information about the exams**

The exams run in 2 sessions each day. The start times are as follows, unless indicated differently on the timetable:

- Session 1 starts at 9:00am so you must be on the courts ready at 8:50am
- Session 2 starts at 13:00pm so you must be on the courts ready at 12:50pm

**Do not be late to any exams.**

All exams will be supervised by external exam invigilators in order for best practice in preparation for their real GCSEs next year.

### **Absence:**

If a student is absent for any reason they should also see Miss Wilson who may be able to rearrange an exam. ***It is important to note that an absence in the official GCSE exams, cannot lead to a re-sit.***

### **Uniform**

Full and correct uniform must be worn at all times during trial exams, both in exams and when students are in school.

### **Mobile phones/Music players/Internet watches**

All electronic devices of this nature should be left outside the gym. Watches of any kind are no longer permitted in the exam room. Phones can be handed in if they are taken into the exam room but must not be kept in pockets or bags. If we have concerns here, then we may have to enforce no bags in the gym.

### **Exam Concessions**

If a student has an examination concession, they should have been spoken to about individual arrangements. If any student has a concern about the exams, they should see Mrs Sheedy (SENCO).

### **JCQ Examination standards:**

All exam standards and requirements are set out by the organisation **JCQ** and therefore we have no control over these exam regulations. Exam posters which students will see during exams or prior to entering an examination area can be found near the back of this booklet. It will be beneficial for students to familiarise themselves beforehand.

**The next section of this booklet contains useful information that your subject teachers have provided for revision guidance. This will provide you with:**

- What topics you need to revise
- What revision materials or sites are recommended for you to revise with.
- Where to find the revision materials.



## Subject: Biology

What to revise:

Paper 1 topics –

1 – Cell Biology

- Cell structure, cell division, specialised cells, stem cells, cell transport, microscopy, microorganisms, aseptic technique
- Required Practicals – Microscopy & Growing microorganisms

2 – Organisation

- Organ systems, digestive system, enzymes, circulatory system, respiratory system, heart structure & function, health & non-communicable disease (CHD, cancer)
- Required Practicals – Food tests & Investigating enzymes

3 – Infection and response

- Pathogens, transmission of disease, body defence systems, vaccinations, drug discovery and development
- Required Practicals – N/A

4 – Bioenergetics

- Photosynthesis, limiting factors, uses of glucose, aerobic respiration, anaerobic respiration, fermentation, metabolism
- Required Practicals – Investigating photosynthesis in aquatic plants



## Subject: Chemistry

What to revise:

Paper 1 topics –

1 – Atoms and the periodic table

- Atomic structure & development of the atomic model, Development of the periodic table, groups on the periodic table
- Required Practicals – N/A

2 – Bonding, structure and the properties of matter

- Ionic, covalent and metallic bonding, properties of small covalent molecules and giant structures, allotropes of carbon, polymers, nanoparticles
- Required practicals – N/A

3 – Quantitative chemistry

- Conservation of mass, relative formula mass, moles, calculating masses in reactions, limiting reactants, concentration, percentage yield, atom economy, pressure in gases
- Required Practicals – N/A

4 – Chemical changes

- Reactions of metals, reactivity series, acids and bases, REDOX reactions, extracting metals, electrolysis
- Required Practicals – Making soluble salts, Electrolysis & Titrations

5 – Energy changes

- Exo- and Endothermic reactions, reaction profiles, bond energies
- Required Practicals – Investigating energy change in reactions



## Subject: Physics

What to revise:

Paper 1 topics –

1 – Energy

- Energy stores and transfers, work, power, efficiency, energy transfer by heating, energy resources
- Required Practicals – Specific heat capacity & Investigating insulation

2 – Electricity

- Electrical circuits, current, potential difference, resistance, mains electricity and the national grid
- Required practicals – Resistance of a wire and I/V characteristics of circuit components

3 – Particle model of matter

- Particle model, states of matter and state changes, particle motion in gases, density
- Required Practicals – Density

4 – Atomic structure

- Atoms, isotopes and ions, radioactive decay & half-lives, uses and dangers of radiation, background radiation, nuclear fission and fusion.
- Required Practicals – N/A

Resources to use & where to find them:

**Resources:**

For quizzing –

- Educake - [Educake - Online Formative Assessment for Homework and Classwork](#)
- BBC Bitesize - [GCSE Science - BBC Bitesize](#)
- Education quizzes - [GCSE Science - 70 Enjoyable Quizzes for Fast Revision \(educationquizzes.com\)](#)

Best revision videos –

- [Freesciencelessons - YouTube](#)
- [Science and Maths by Primrose Kitten - YouTube](#)
- [Cognito - YouTube](#)
- [CeerazzleDazzle Physics - YouTube](#)

Practise questions –

- [AQA | Subjects | Science | GCSE](#) (best for access to full papers)
- [GCSE AQA Combined Science Revision - Revisely](#) (best for access to individual questions)

Checklists –

- [GCSESCIENCEVISION.com](#)

## Subject: English Language and English Literature

What to revise:

English Language:

### Language Techniques – revise word and definition

- Simile
- Metaphor
- Alliteration
- Sibilance
- Personification
- Oxymoron
- Juxtaposition
- Hyperbole
- Repetition
- Semantic field
- Lexical field

### Structural Techniques – revise word and definition

- Exposition
- Drop-in
- Medias Res
- Analepsis
- Prolepsis
- Zoom-in
- Shift in perspective/mood
- Temporal Lexis
- Cyclical narrative
- Linear Narrative
- Cliff hanger

### English Literature Paper 1:

**Macbeth:** Key words from vocab list, learn key quotations from Act 1 using flashcards

Create a mind map for the following themes: Supernatural, ambition, gender

**A Christmas Carol:** Key words from vocab list, learn key quotations from novella using flashcards

Create a mind map for the following themes: Supernatural, poverty and family

Resources to use & where to find them:

[Macbeth - GCSE English Literature - BBC Bitesize](#)

[GCSE Literature flashcards - quotes from A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens - BBC Bitesize](#)



**Subject: Maths (Two paper 1.5 hours each paper)**

**Paper 1 (Non Calculator) & Paper 2 (Calculator)**

**What to revise:**

Topic Area	Key Topics
Number	Fractions, decimals, percentages; Ratio; Standard form (Higher); Surds (Higher); Bounds; Prime factors, LCM, HCF
Algebra	Expressions; Expanding & factorising; Solving equations; Simultaneous equations; Inequalities; Sequences; Algebraic fractions (Higher)
Graphs & Functions	Linear graphs; Gradient; Real-life graphs; Quadratics (Higher); Cubic & reciprocal graphs (Higher)
Geometry & Measure	Angles; Area & perimeter; Volume; Pythagoras; Trigonometry; Bearings; Transformations; Circle theorems (Higher); Sine & cosine rule (Higher)
Statistics	Averages; Range; Charts; Histograms (Higher); Cumulative frequency (Higher); Box plots (Higher)
Probability	Basic probability; Tree diagrams; Venn diagrams (Higher); Conditional probability (Higher)

**Resources to use & where to find them:**

**Website**

**Maths Genie- [Maths Genie- Learn maths for free](#)**

**First Class maths- [1st Class Maths- Free online GCSE Maths Revision](#)**

**On Maths- [onmaths | Maths revision and support](#)**

**Corbett Maths- [Corbettmaths – Videos, worksheets, 5-a-day and much more](#)**



Subject: Geography

What to revise:

Hydrological Cycle

River Processes and landforms

Flooding and river management

Coastal Processes and landforms

Coastal erosion and management

Climate change

Weather and climate

UK Cities

Resources to use & where to find them:

- Your exercise book inc Knowledge organisers
- [GCSE Geography - Eduqas - BBC Bitesize](#)
- [Eduqas Digital Educational Resources](#)
- [Educake](#)



## Subject: History

### What to revise:

Elizabethan government: How successful was the government of Elizabeth I?

The coronation and popularity of Elizabeth; Royal Court, Privy Council and councillors; local government; the role of Parliament; taxation and freedom of speech

Lifestyles of rich and poor: How did life differ for the rich and poor in Elizabethan times?

Contrasting lifestyles of rich and poor; homes and fashion; causes of poverty; issue of unemployment and vagrancy; government legislation including the 1601 Poor Law

Popular entertainment: What were the most popular types of entertainment in Elizabethan times?

The importance of popular entertainment; cruel sports; entertainment enjoyed by the rich; the Elizabethan theatre; design, plays; attitudes towards the theatre

The problem of religion How successfully did Elizabeth deal with the problem of religion?

Religious problems in 1559; aims of the Religious Settlement; the 'Middle Way', Acts of Supremacy and Uniformity; reactions to the Settlement

The Catholic threat Why were the Catholics such a serious threat to Elizabeth?

Early toleration; excommunication in 1570; recusancy ; rebellion of Northern Earls; Catholic Plots – Ridolfi, Throckmorton, Babington; role of Mary, Queen of Scots

The Spanish Armada How much of a threat was the Spanish Armada?

Reasons for the Armada; war in the Netherlands; course of the Armada – events in the Channel, Calais, 'fireships' and return to Spain; results of the Armada

The Puritan threat Why did the Puritans become an increasing threat during Elizabeth's reign?

Puritanism; challenge to the Settlement; Puritan opposition in Parliament and Privy Council; measures taken to deal with the Puritan challenge

### Resources to use & where to find them:

#### Revision Guide

[key question review Elizabeth.pptx](#)

[Revise through documentary.pptx](#)

[Elizabeth I- GCSE History- BBC Bitesize](#)



**Subject: RE**

**What to revise:**

**Christianity beliefs and teachings**

- The nature of God
- The Holy trinity
- Beliefs about creation
- The incarnation of Jesus
- Crucifixion, resurrection and ascension
- Afterlife and judgement
- Heaven and hell
- Sin and salvation

**Christianity practices**

- Worship
- Prayer
- Sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion
- Pilgrimage
- Festivals of easter and Christmas
- Role of the church in local communities
- Mission and evangelism
- Church growth and the worldwide church
- Christian persecution
- Church response to world poverty

**Resources to use & where to find them:**

[Christianity - GCSE Religious Studies - BBC Bitesize](#)



## Subject: French and German

What to revise:

All topics from the AQA syllabus.

**Theme 1:**

Identity & Relationships with others

Healthy Living & Lifestyle

Education & Work

**Theme 2:**

Free-time activities

Customs, festivals & celebrations

Celebrity Culture

**Theme 3:**

Travel & Tourism including places of interest

Media & Technology

The environment and where people live

**Resources to use & where to find them:** *in addition to your class notes*

CGP GCSE AQA French / German Vocabulary book

BBC Bitesize

Revision guides – specific to AQA GCSE from 2025

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

Blooket

Quizlet – search for AQA GCSE 2025

Social media- tiktok: Frenchwithloki / kidi\_fun\_ / easygerman



**Subject: Hospitality and Catering**

What to revise:

Written Exam – 1hr 20 mins

- 1.1 Hospitality and Catering Provision
- 1.2 How Hospitality and Catering Provisions Operate
- 1.3 Health and Safety in Hospitality and Catering
- 1.4 Food Safety in Hospitality and Catering

Ensure that you learn all key terms and definitions.

Be prepared to give examples.

In addition, you will undertake a practice NEA. This will involve a 2-hour practical exam and write up.

Details have been shared on Arbor and the date for the practical exam will be confirmed nearer the time.

Resources to use & where to find them:

Revision materials provided on Arbor



## Subject: Music

### What to revise:

#### Concerto Through Time

Baroque Solo concerto  
Baroque Concerto Grosso  
Classical  
Romantic  
-Composers for each period  
-Features of each style  
-Instrumentation

#### Conventions of Pop

Rock 'n' Roll of 50s & 60s  
Rock Anthems of 70s & 80s  
Pop Ballads of 70s, 80s & 90s  
Solo Artists of 90s to present  
-Artists for each period  
-Features of each style

#### Film/Game Music

How music is used to support the action on the screen  
-Leitmotifs  
-Musical elements and the effect they create/how they tell the story

### Types of questions:

-There will be 2 questions on each area of study, including Rhythms of the World. Even though we haven't covered this topic yet, still use your musical knowledge to listen carefully and answer as best you can. (I will give you two marks – one including these questions, and one without).

-Long answer question:

Chronological order  
Describe the music and the effect  
SPAG

Comparison question:

Use comparative statements (A has ..., but B doesn't. Both extracts contain...)  
SPAG

Dictation (notating the melody that you hear):

Draw the shape of the melody underneath the staff  
Decide where on the staff the first note should be, then fill the rest in, using the given rhythm.

### Resources to use & where to find them:

Orange Music folders (containing knowledge organisers)  
GCSE Bitesize (OCR specification) – to revise musical elements  
YouTube – to listen to examples and test yourself



## Subject: Drama

### What to revise:

#### 'Kindertransport' by Diane Samuels

##### Plot

- Key moments in each scene
- Time period(s)
- characters involved

##### Character

- Age at different key moments
- Relationships
- Motivations at key moments
- Development through the play

##### Actor/Performer Skills

- Voice
  - Pace, pitch, volume, tone,
  - emphasis, pause/silence,
- Physicality
  - Walk/gait, posture, pace,
  - mannerisms, gesture,
  - facial expressions
- Spatial
  - Levels
  - Proxemics
  - Entrances and exits
  - Staging types

##### Design Skills

- Set
- Lighting
- Costume
- Sound

### Types of questions:

Questions 1-8 - use the WHAT/WHY structure (what you would do and why would you do it)

### Resources to use & where to find them:

BBC Bitesize- for specific vocabulary

YouTube – to watch Kindertransport

Kindertransport scripts – spares in the Drama room if needed



Subject: EDEXCEL Business Studies

**What to revise:**

**Enterprise**

- Customer needs
- Entrepreneurs - risk
- Competition
- Adding value
- Branding

**Marketing**

- Market research
- Market segmentation
- The marketing mix (4Ps)
- Price
- Product
- E-commerce

**In addition, math's:**

You will need to calculate total costs, margin of safety, averages, percentage change and read a table.

**Finance**

- Fixed and variable costs
- Profit
- Break even / margin of safety
- Cash
- Cash flow

*Note: some of the above will be examined in the number questions*

- Sources of finance
- Financial aims
- Insolvency

**Business Ownership**

- Partnerships
- Franchises

**Stakeholders**

- Business owners
- Customers

**Business plans**

- Business plans
- Business location

**Legal Obligations**

- Employment law

**Economy**

- Unemployment
- Consumer incomes

**Resources to use & where to find them:** *in addition to your class notes*

- Microsoft Teams – All lessons for Theme have practice questions as well as theory you can use.
- BBC Bitesize – EDEXCEL Business [Studies](#) - Paper 1 – Theme 1. Recommended by exam board to use.
- YouTube- Know it all Ninja – Quick revision videos providing summaries of topics.
- Knowledge Organisers



## Subject: Design & Technology

### What to revise:

#### Section A

- New and emerging technologies and their impact
- Energy generation & storage (renewables, fossil fuels, batteries)
- Developments in new materials
- Mechanical devices (levers, linkages, gears, cams etc.)
- Material properties (strength, hardness, malleability etc.)
- Systems approach (inputs/processes/outputs)

#### Section B

- Material selection (why choose certain materials)
- Forces, stresses, reinforcement techniques
- Surfaces and finishes
- Stock forms and material origins
- Production processes (e.g., laminating, extrusion, laser cutting)
- Quality control and scales of production

#### Section C

- Market research methods
- Design briefs and specifications
- Evaluation of products (aesthetic, ergonomic, suitability)
- Tolerance and quality checking
- Data interpretation (tables, percentages etc.)
- Sketching/CAD communication questions
- Questions on designers or design influences

### Resources to use & where to find them:

CGP Revision book (Amazon) –  
ISBN 978 1 78294 755 4



Collins AQA GCSE 9-1 DT Revision book –  
ISBN 978 0 00 853501 8



KS4 Knowledge Organiser available on Teams



## Subject: Art – Continuation of portfolio work

### How can I gain more marks

### Checklist

- Does the sketchbook have X3 artists?
- Have you used a range a wide range of experiments?
- Have you used a wide range of materials/techniques during the experimentation processes? (Try not to repeat the same techniques)
- Does each relevant page include a Title & Annotation (Write-ups and Explanation?)
- Have you included inspired page?
- Have you included gallery/museum/workshop visits?
- Have you included a series of Observational Research  
Is your work personal to you?
- Have you included inspired page?
- Can you see initial ideas? (Have you combined your observation studies with your artist research?)
- Can you see the development?
- Have you done a final piece plan?
- Have you done a Marquette/ Mock up?
- Is there an outcome?
- Does the sketchbook flow? Do you understand it? Would the examiner understand it?

## JCQ posters for GCSE examinations



AQA

City & Guilds

CCEA

OCR

Pearson

WJEC

# NO MOBILE PHONES NO WATCHES

NO POTENTIAL TECHNOLOGICAL/WEB  
ENABLED SOURCES OF INFORMATION



Possession of unauthorised items, such as a mobile phone  
or any watch, is a serious offence and could result in

# DISQUALIFICATION

from your examination and your overall qualification.

This poster must be displayed in a prominent place outside each examination room.

## Warning to candidates



AQA



City & Guilds



CCEA



OCR



Pearson



WJEC



1

You **must** be on time for all your examinations.

2

**Possession of a mobile phone** or other unauthorised material **is not allowed** even if you do not intend to use it. You will be subject to penalty and possible disqualification from the exam/qualification.

3

You **must not** talk to, attempt to communicate with or disturb other candidates once you have entered the examination room.

4

You **must** follow the instructions of the invigilator.

5

You **must not** sit an examination in the name of another candidate.

6

You **must not** become involved in any unfair or dishonest practice in any part of the examination.

7

If you are confused about anything, only speak to an invigilator.

The *Warning to candidates* must be displayed in a prominent place outside each examination room. This may be a hard copy A3 paper version or an image of the poster projected onto a wall or screen for all candidates to see.