

Year 11

Pre Public Exams

Information pack



Pre Public Exams Timetable

DATE	EXAM		LINE UP INFO
TUES 10 and WED 11 November	MFL Speaking examinations. Students informed of their time.		
THURS 12 and FRI 13 November	All day	Art, Textiles and Graphics	Classrooms 8:30am
MONDAY 16 November (Day 6)	8:45-10:30am (10:57) 1:30-3:00pm (3:23pm) 1:30-2:30pm (2:45pm)	English Literature (Paper 1) Computer Science (Paper 1) Drama	Tutor Bases 8:15am Old Gym 1:05pm Old Gym 1:05pm
TUESDAY 17 November (Day 7)	8:45-10:15am (10:38) 11:30-12:30 (12:45) 1:30-3:00pm (3:23)	Maths (Paper 1: Non-Calc) MFL Listening (French & Spanish) PE (Paper 1: Fitness & Body Systems)	Tutor Bases 8:15am Old Gym 11:00am Old Gym 1:05pm
WEDNESDAY 18 November (Day 8)	8:45-10:30am (10:57) 11:30-12:30 (12:45) 1:30-3:15pm (3:42)	Biology MFL Reading (French & Spanish) Food Preparation & Nutrition	Tutor Bases 8:15am Old gym 11:00am Old Gym 1:05pm
THURSDAY 19 November (Day 9)	8:45-10:15am (10:38) 11:30- 12:30 (12:45) 1:30-3:00pm (3:23) 1:30-3:00pm (3:23) 1:30-3:15 (3:42)	Maths (Paper 2: Calculator 1) Geography (Paper 1) Media (Paper 1) Creative iMedia RS	Tutor Bases 8:15am Old Gym 11:00am Old Gym 1:05pm Old Gym 1:05pm Old Gym 1:05pm
FRIDAY 20 November (Day 10)	8:45-10:45am (11:15) 1:30-3:15pm (3:42)	History Chemistry	Old Gym 8:15am Old Gym 13:05pm
MONDAY 23 November (Day 1)	8:45-10:30am (10:57) 1:30-3:00pm (3:23)	English Language (Paper 1) Psychology	Tutor Bases 8:15am Old Gym 1:05pm
TUESDAY 24 November (Day 2)	8:45-10:30 (10:57) 1:30-2:50pm (3:10)	Business Studies MFL Writing (French & Spanish)	Old Gym 8:15am Old Gym 1:05pm
WEDNESDAY 25 November (Day 3)	8:45-10:30am (10:57) 11:45-12:35 (12:48) 1:30-3:15pm (3:42)	Physics Media (Paper 2 – inc. screening) Geography (Paper 2)	Tutor Bases 8:15am Old Gym 11:15am Old Gym 1:05pm
THURSDAY 26 November (Day 4)	8:45-10:45am (11:15) 8:45-10:30am (10:57) 1:30-3:00pm (3:23) 1:30-3:15pm (3:42)	Design Technology Sociology Computer Science (Paper 2) Music	Old Gym 8:15am Old Gym 8:15am Old Gym 1:05pm Old Gym 1:05pm
FRIDAY 27 November (Day 5)	8:45-10:15 (10:38) 1:30-2:45 (3:04)	Maths (Paper 3: Calculator 2) PE (Paper 2: Health & Performance)	Tutor Bases 8:15am Old Gym 1:05pm

Times in brackets are finish times for students with extra time.

Foundation/Combined papers (in Science and Languages) will finish earlier than the times stated.

How will the students be assessed?

All students will sit a formal Pre Public Exam in each of their GCSE subjects.

The exams will be based on everything the students have studied since the start of their GCSE course. The exams are designed to be as close as possible to actual GCSE and, where possible, students will sit full GCSE papers. The following pages will contain subject specific information about the exams.

Following the Pre Public Exams, students will receive a report with the following information for each subject:

F4L grade

The 'Fullbrook for Learning' score will range from a 1 to a 4. The Fullbrook for Learning score indicates the attitude of the student in lessons. A score of 1 indicates that the student has a low attitude for learning in the subject whilst a score of 4 indicates that the student has an excellent attitude for learning in the subject, going above and beyond expectations.

Pre Public Exam grade

The Pre Public Exam grade will be the GCSE grade that the student achieved in their Pre Public Exam.

Teacher Expected Grade

The Teacher Expected grade will be the grade that the subject teacher currently believes the student is most likely to achieve in their GCSE exam. This will be given as a range of 2 grades; the first grade being the most likely grade and the second grade being the next most likely. For example a grade of 6/7 would mean that the most likely grade is a grade 6 but the student is at the upper end and may well achieve a grade 7.

These grades will be given to parents on the reports which will be uploaded in the week commencing December 14th 2026. Parents will have the opportunity to discuss the reports with subject teachers at parents evening on Thursday December 17th 2026.

Revision Tips

What is revision?

We forget things! This is because information first goes into our **short-term memory**.

To be able to remember it in future, it must move into our **long term memory**

We then need to check that we can recall it.

Revision helps to strengthen our recall so we can remember key facts/ideas in exams.



**SHORT-TERM
MEMORY**



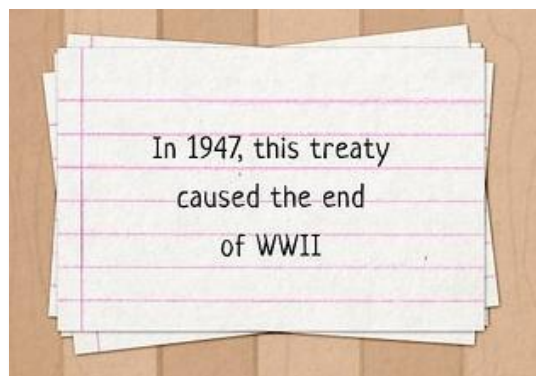
**LONG-TERM
MEMORY**

Top 5 Revision Strategies

1. Flash Cards

- Flash cards have key facts, definitions or questions on one side of a card and the answers on the other.
- Regularly testing helps strengthen memory and improve recall over time.
- You can make these yourself, buy pre-made cards online, or use Flash Card apps e.g. Anki.
- You can use AI to suggest what questions and answers to put.

Example: learning key events in History





GCSE GEOGRAPHY

Paper 3: Geographical applications

SPECIMEN ASSIGNMENT MATERIAL

Specimen

Time allowed: 1 hour 15 minutes

Materials

For the paper you must have:

- a blank copy of the pre-messure resource booklet.

Instructions

- Use black ink on both hand-out pages.
- Fill in the space at the bottom of the page.
- Answer all questions.
- You must answer the questions in the spaces provided. Do not write outside the area around the questions.
- All of rough work in the margins of the question paper and any work not to be marked.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The total number of marks available for this paper is 70.
- Spelling, punctuation and grammar will be assessed in Questions 3(i) and 4.

For multi-choice questions, you must cross (X) in the circle alongside the appropriate answer.

For example: A B C D E

If you think you change your answer, you must cross (X) in your original answer and X in the new answer.

If you are unable to answer a question correctly, don't ring the area you wish to be marked as incorrect.

X

Please write clearly, in black ink, in order to allow character recognition.

Centre number

Candidate number

Surname

Forename(s)

Candidate signature

This draft publication has not yet been approved. Any changes to the content or appearance of this paper may significantly differ from the published version. This draft publication is for internal use only and should not be distributed outside of the setting in which it is produced.

Making a Revision Timetable

Step 1: Find a checklist/specification for your subject.

Step 2: Rate your confidence:

- ✓ Green = confident
- ✓ Amber = need more practice
- ✓ Red = need lots of revision

Step 3: Create a timetable:

- ✓ Short, regular revision sessions (20–30 minutes)
- ✓ Focus on one topic at a time
- ✓ Use AI to help you

Poor prompt

Make me a revision timetable.

Better prompt

I am a Year 10 student studying Combined Science, Maths and English. My assessments start in 3 weeks. I am least confident with electricity, chemical calculations and algebra. I can revise for 45 minutes each weekday and 2 hours on Saturday. Create a revision timetable using retrieval practice and exam questions.

There is a revision timetable at the back of this booklet to help you

Avoid...

- X Just reading notes
- X Highlighting everything
- X Watching videos without making notes or testing yourself

Passive revision makes you feel *comfortable* with content, but it doesn't strengthen your **recall**.

Using AI to support your revision

Here are five practical suggestions on how to use AI to support your revision:

1. Test yourself with quizzes

Instead of just reading your notes, ask AI to create questions for you.

Try asking:

"Give me 10 GCSE Biology multiple-choice questions on enzymes. Ask one question at a time."

"Test me on the causes of World War I. Ask one question at a time and don't tell me the answer until I've replied."

This is much more effective than simply rereading notes because it makes your brain retrieve information.

2. Explain difficult topics in a different way

If you don't understand something from class or your revision guide, ask AI to explain it differently.

Try asking:

"Explain photosynthesis like I'm in Year 10."

"Can you explain Pythagoras' Theorem step by step?"

"What's the difference between osmosis and diffusion?"

3. Get instant feedback on your answers

Write your own answer first, then ask AI to check it.

Try asking:

"Mark this 6-mark GCSE Science answer using the AQA mark scheme."

"How could I improve this paragraph?"

"Have I included enough evidence?"

Remember: always write your answer before asking for feedback.

4. Create revision resources

AI can quickly turn your notes into useful revision materials.

Ask it to create:

Flashcards
Knowledge organisers
Mind maps
Summary sheets
Mnemonics to remember key facts

Try asking:

"Turn these notes into 20 flashcards."

"Summarise this topic onto one page."

5. Make a personalised revision plan

If you're not sure where to start, AI can help you organise your revision.

Try asking:

"I have three weeks until my GCSE Biology exam and can revise for one hour each evening. Can you make me a revision timetable?"

"Which topics should I prioritise if I find chemistry difficult?"

A good plan helps you revise regularly instead of cramming the night before.

Remember...

AI is a **revision coach, not a replacement for learning.**

✓ Use AI to explain, quiz, plan and give feedback.

✗ Don't use AI to complete homework or coursework for you, or to write answers that you simply copy. You won't learn, and you won't be able to do it in the exam.

Examination Advice

1. Read the questions carefully
2. Use a highlighter pen to identify the important parts of the question
3. Look at the number of marks available for each section
4. Plan your time carefully so that you can attempt all of the questions
5. Annotate diagrams
6. Try to ensure your answers are neatly presented
7. Remember to use punctuation
8. Ensure that you can spell key subject terms accurately
9. Proofread your answers and make corrections
10. Attempt all the questions, do not leave blank spaces



Information about subjects being assessed in formal Pre Public Exams



The following pages include details of how the formal assessments in each subject will run. This will include details about each of the following:

- The number of Pre Public exams
- The length of the exams
- Topics to revise
- Top tips

English

For this exam period, you will be doing English Literature paper 1 and English Language paper 1.

Literature paper 1:

1. 1 hour 45 minutes
2. 64 marks in total
3. **Section A:** Macbeth (30 marks + 4 SPaG)
4. **Section B:** A Christmas Carol (30 marks).
5. Each question will have an extract, and you must use both the extract and the wider text in your answer

To aid your revision, please focus on the following themes:

Macbeth	A Christmas Carol
Good vs Evil Violence Ambition Fate vs Free will	Christian values Poverty Generosity and kindness Redemption

For all themes, revise: key moments of the text that explore the theme; relevant characters and context; key quotations and analysis of method.

Language paper 1:

- 1 hour 45 minutes
- 80 marks in total
- **Section A:** unseen fiction source, reading and analysis
 - a. Question 1 – 4 marks, multiple choice
 - b. Question 2 – 8 marks, language analysis
 - c. Question 3 – 8 marks, structure analysis
 - d. Question 4 – 20 marks, evaluate how far you agree...
- **Section B:** creative writing
 - a. Question 5 – 40 marks, description or narrative writing

Bring multiple pens, and a highlighter – you can highlight anything in the question and extract.

Top Tips:

- When looking at the plot, make sure you identify key moments and how they help progress the main message of the story
 - Revise key quotations for each text – keep the quotations short and broad in theme/character
 - You need to include context for each question but make sure that it links to key parts of the plot/themes/character development
 - Exam practice is essential! Timing is key, so doing a wide range of practice plans (in detail) will help you build your confidence
 - There are 4 marks available for SPaG in *Macbeth*. Revise key spellings to ensure you aren't losing out on these marks.
 - Test yourself! Just rereading your notes and annotations isn't enough, you need to be applying these to a question or reproducing them from memory outside of your notes.
-
- Make sure to practice your timings when answering the questions so you don't run out of time
 - Make sure to find a range of evidence to prove the analysis you are making
 - Always remember to link back to the effect that the writer is trying to create
 - Create a glossary of language and structural features and practice identifying them in different fiction stories
 - Your creative writing is 50% of the paper! Make sure you spend around 45 minutes on it
 - Plan your ideas
 - Use structure to create a clear atmosphere throughout
 - Think about linking to a specific genre
 - Attempt to include ambitious vocabulary

Mathematics

- You will sit 3 exam papers in Maths:
 - Paper 1 – Non Calculator
 - Papers 2 & 3 - Calculator
- Each test paper will be 90 minutes in length
- Each test paper will be out of 80 marks
- You will need to bring a pen, pencil, rubber, ruler, protractor, compass & scientific calculator

Topics to revise:

- HCF/LCM, Prime factors, Standard form, rounding & estimation
- Surds (Higher classes only)
- Algebra
- Representing data
- Averages
- Transformations & Constructions
- Ratio
- Percentages
- Sequences
- Proportion
- Solving Equations
- Pythagoras, Trigonometry & Vectors
- Probability

Top Tips:

- Show clear working
- Read the question carefully and give all answers to the required accuracy
- If you finish early go back and check everything

Combined Science

- Each paper is 1 hour 15 minutes
- Each paper is out of 70 marks.
- Bring a black pen, pencil, ruler and scientific calculator
- There will be a mixture of multiple choice, structured, closed short answer and open response style questions
- There will be questions on the Required Practical's- so make sure you revise these too

Topics to revise:

Biology Paper 1

1. B1: Cells (Specialised Cells, magnification, mitosis, diffusion, osmosis)
2. B2: Organisation (Digestion, enzymes, heart, lungs, cancer)
3. B3: Infection & Response (Types of disease, defences against disease, antibiotics)
4. B4: Bioenergetics (Photosynthesis, respiration, exercise, metabolism)

Chemistry Paper 1

1. Atomic structure and the periodic table
2. Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter
3. Quantitative chemistry (All calculations)
4. Chemical changes (Required practical including electrolysis and making pure salt crystals)
5. Energy changes (Required practical measuring energy changes)

Physics Paper 1

1. Energy (energy changes in a system; conservation and dissipation of energy; national and global energy resources)
 - *Required practical – specific heat capacity*
2. Electricity (current, potential difference and resistance; series and parallel circuits; domestic uses and safety; energy transfers)
 - *Required practical – resistance of a wire*
 - *Required practical – IV characteristics*
3. Particle model of matter (changes of state and the particle model; internal energy and energy transfers; particle model and pressure)
 - *Required practical - density*
4. Atomic structure (atoms and isotopes; atoms and nuclear radiation)
 - *Required practical – Properties of Radiation*

Top Tips:

- Use the following to go over content: Your own classwork, “BBC bitesize”, on YouTube: “Cognito” and “Free Science Lessons”
- Test yourself! Reading notes and hoping it will stick is not a revision strategy. Look, cover, write, check, correct will help build long term memory. Tests on BBC bitesize can help you to quiz yourself.
- Exam practice is essential. Use “Physics and Maths Tutor” to download past papers. Afterwards use the mark scheme to see where you were right and to correct your mistakes

Biology

- Your Biology paper is 1 hour 45 minutes and 100 marks
- Bring a pen, pencil, ruler and scientific calculator
- There will be a mixture of multiple choice, structured, closed short answer and open response style questions
- There will be questions on the Required Practical's- so make sure you revise these too.

Topics to revise:

B1: Cells (Specialised Cells, magnification, mitosis, diffusion, osmosis)

B2: Organisation (Digestion, enzymes, heart, lungs, cancer, plant transport)

B3: Infection & Response (Types of disease, defences against disease, antibiotics, plant diseases)

B4: Bioenergetics (Photosynthesis, respiration, exercise, metabolism)

Top Tips:

- Use the following to go over content: Your own classwork, "BBC bitesize", on YouTube: "Cognito" and "Free Science Lessons"
- Test yourself! Reading notes and hoping it will stick is not a revision strategy. Look, cover, write, check, correct will help build long term memory. Tests on BBC bitesize can help you to quiz yourself.
- Exam practice is essential. Use "Physics and Maths Tutor" to download past papers. Afterwards use the mark scheme to see where you were right and to correct your mistakes

Chemistry

You will be sitting a Chemistry paper 1 exam which is 1hr 45mins, worth 100 marks. There will be a mixture of multiple choice, structured, closed short answer and open response style questions. There will be questions on the Required Practical's- so make sure you revise these too.

Topics to revise:

- Atomic structure and the periodic table
- Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter
- Quantitative chemistry (Including core practical Titrations)
- Chemical changes (Core practical's electrolysis and making pure salt crystals)
- Energy changes (Core practical measuring energy changes)

Top Tips:

- **Read the FULL question.**
- Look at the command words to know how to answer the question e.g. explain = give me the reason/ science, describe= say what you see, compare= use language of comparison e.g. this is more or less etc.
- Familiarise yourself with the first 20 elements of the periodic table (you will be given one in the exam but it's good to know where the elements are to save time finding them)
- Complete as many past paper exam questions and self-assess using mark scheme, use the websites below to find these.

Revision Websites and Resources:

- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/z8xtmnb> (**revision and quiz**)
- <https://primrosekitten.com/pages/get-exam-ready-gcse-science-aqa> (**past exam questions broken down into topics and videos on each chapter in science**)
- https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqbOeHaAUXw9II7sBVG3_bw (**YouTube videos on each topics in science**)
- <http://www.docbrown.info/index.htm> (**Provides revision notes and questions for GCSE sciences. Has been updated for 9-1.**)
- <http://www.westsomersetcollege.org/science/> (**A range of revision materials that could be downloaded and printed off with summaries of key facts**)
- <https://www.physicsandmathstutor.com/#> (**Past papers, exam questions by topic, revision notes, worksheets and solution banks**)
- <https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/> (**past exam questions broken down into topics and videos on each chapter in science**)
- <https://www.savemyexams.com/gcse/chemistry/aqa/18/> (**revision notes, exam questions according to easy, medium and hard, past papers and flashcards**)

Physics

- You will be sitting a Physics paper 1 exam which is 1 hour 45 minutes, worth 100 marks
- There will be a mixture of multiple choice, structured, short answer and open response style questions
- There will be questions on the required practicals - so make sure you revise these too.

Topics to revise:

- ❖ Energy (required practical – specific heat capacity)
- ❖ Electricity (required practicals – resistance of a wire, and IV characteristics)
- ❖ Particle model of matter (required practical – density)
- ❖ Atomic structure (required practical– Properties Of Nuclear Radiation)

Top Tips:

- **Read the question, and ask yourself, “what does the question want me to do?”**
- Look at the command words (i.e. explain, describe, evaluate) in the question to understand how to answer it.
- Remember this rubric for all maths questions to maximise your chances of getting marks in calculation questions:
 - a. Write down the equation
 - b. Substitute in the values from the question
 - c. Rearrange the equation (if you need to)
 - d. Write down the answer
- Complete as many past paper exam questions and self-assess using mark scheme, use the websites below to find these.

History

You will sit a two-hour assessment (like the real exam). This will be:

- **Paper 1 Germany (6 Questions) - 1 hour**
- **Paper 2 Elizabeth (4 Questions) - 1 hour**

Topics to revise:

- The Weimar Republic, 1919-23
- Recovery of Weimar, 1924-29
- The Depression and the failure of Weimar 1929-32
- Hitler's rise to power and establishing a dictatorship 1933-34
- Economy under the Nazis and German workers
- Elizabeth and the question of marriage.
- The actions of English Sailors
- Elizabeth's Religious settlement
- The Spanish Armada Site Study

Top Tips:

- Use the **After school (Day 3 and 8)** and **Lunchtime revision sessions (Day 1 and Day 9)** to really develop your exam skills.
- Speak to your teachers if you need additional support.
- Manage your time in the PPE, you should spend 1 hour on each paper and start with the big questions first.
- Make timelines of each of the four units which you can refer to as the overview of each unit.
- Use active revision strategies such as to revise for the exams (flashcards, mind maps, quizzing, dual coding and exam practice questions).
- Complete the retrieval quizzes for each unit on Educake – students who do more than 500 questions make greater progress than those who don't.
- Before the exam, make sure you have practised each type of exam question – this is what top-level students do to revise. You can find these paper structures in the back of your books.
- BUGS each question – box the topic, underline the date range, gather your response (plan) and use the sentence starters.
- Focus on revising and including SPEND in your answer (Statistics, People, Places, Events, Names and Dates) and underline any explanations.
- Use your book as a tool – use it to make notes on a topic, practice questions and retest yourself. Buy a revision guide if you need one.
- Send your teacher any timed exam questions to get feedback – exam questions can be found in your book or on the AQA website (AQA GCSE History 8145).

Geography

You will sit two papers:

Paper 1 (Global Geographical issues) - 1 hour

- a. Topic 1: Hazardous Earth
- b. Topic 2: Development dynamics

Paper 2 (UK Geographical issues) - 1 hour 45 minutes

- c. Topic 4: UK physical landscape (includes coasts and rivers)
- d. Topic 5: UK's evolving human landscape
- e. Topic 6: Fieldwork (Seaford for Coastal and London for Urban)

Topics to revise:

All the topics we have studied so far will be assessed

Top Tips:

- Bring a calculator into your exam
- Remember to **CHUP** your question (**C**ommand word, **H**ighlight wider Geography, **U**nderline key information, **P**lan your answer) to help you break the question down and know what to write
- The number of marks a question is worth is roughly how many minutes you should be spending on it – keep an eye on the clock and manage your time
- Revise using active techniques – practice exam questions, create flashcards, revision mindmaps etc. to help you remember the key content and processes
- Remember your mathematical and statistical skills will be assessed across topics e.g. averages and map/graph work
- Revise your specific fieldwork – use the student Geography hub to access materials. Remember your coastal fieldwork was Seaford and your urban fieldwork was East London

Religious studies

You will sit a 1 hour and 45 minute lesson (like the real exam). This will be:

Paper 1 Themes

Topics to revise:

- Relationships & Families
- Sexual relationships
- Contraception & family planning
- Marriage
- Divorce & remarriage
- Families & their purpose
- Gender equality
- Christian & Muslim teachings

Religion & Life

- Origins of the universe & human life
- Environment & animals
- Sanctity of life
- Abortion
- Euthanasia
- Death & the afterlife
- Christian & Muslim teachings

Human Rights & Social Justice

- Human rights & social justice
- Prejudice & discrimination
- Religious freedom
- Wealth & poverty
- Exploitation
- Charity
- Christian & Muslim teachings

Crime & Punishment

- Reasons for crime
- Aims of punishment
- Treatment of criminals
- Forgiveness
- Death penalty
- Justice
- Christian & Muslim teachings

Top Tips:

- Manage your time in the PPE, start with the bigger questions first
- Use active revision strategies such as to revise for the exams (flashcards, mind maps, quizzing and exam practice questions).
- Before the exam, make sure you have practised each type of exam question – this is what top-level students do to revise.
- Use your book as a tool – use it to make notes on a topic, practice questions and retest yourself. Use the booklets and quotations banks I have provided you with.
- Send your teacher any timed exam questions to get feedback
- Revise the structure for each exam question

French

You will sit 4 papers::

Paper 1 (Speaking) - before the assessment window, 10th/11th November (date and time to be confirmed with your teacher)

Paper 2 (Listening)

- Foundation 45 minutes, including 5min reading time
- Higher 60 minutes, including 5min reading time

Paper 3 (Reading)

- Foundation 45min
- Higher 60min

Paper 4 (Writing)

- Foundation 1hour15min
- Higher 1hour20min

Topics to revise:

- My personal world
- Lifestyle and wellbeing
- My neighbourhood
- Media and technology
- Studying and my future
- Travel and tourism

Top Tips:

- For revision and to prepare:
 - Create a structured revision plan: Focus on your weaker topics and avoid spending too much time on what you already know well.
 - Practise consistently: Short, frequent practice sessions are more effective than infrequent cramming sessions.
 - Build your vocabulary: Learn new words daily, perhaps 10-15. Use flashcards, apps like Quizlet, or create mind maps.
 - Focus on grammar: Learn to use a variety of tenses, including past, present, and future, and master connectives to link ideas.
- During the assessment, try every question, don't leave anything blank.

Spanish

You will sit 4 papers:

Paper 1 (Speaking) - before the assessment window, 10th/11th November (date and time to be confirmed with your teacher)

Paper 2 (Listening)

- Foundation 45 minutes, including 5min reading time
- Higher 60 minutes, including 5min reading time

▪ **Paper 3 (Reading)**

- Foundation 45minutes
- Higher 60 minutes

Paper 4 (Writing)

- Foundation 1 hour 15 minutes
- Higher 1 hour20 minutes

Topics to revise:

- My personal world
- Lifestyle and wellbeing
- My neighbourhood
- Media and technology
- Studying and my future
- Travel and tourism

Top Tips:

- For revision and to prepare:
 - Create a structured revision plan: Focus on your weaker topics and avoid spending too much time on what you already know well.
 - Practise consistently: Short, frequent practice sessions are more effective than infrequent cramming sessions.
 - Build your vocabulary: Learn new words daily, perhaps 10-15. Use flashcards, apps like Quizlet, or create mind maps.
 - Focus on grammar: Learn to use a variety of tenses, including past, present, and future, and master connectives to link ideas.
- During the assessment, try every question, don't leave anything blank.

Music

- You have 1 listening exam, 1 hour 45 minutes long (80 marks)
- Our exam papers all follow the same format:
 - Section A has 6 listening questions on set works studied; 1 melodic dictation question with an unfamiliar melody; 1 unfamiliar listening question (linking to an area of study).
 - Section B is the 12 mark question with a set work studied and a similar unfamiliar piece.

Topics to revise:

- 6 or 7 of the 8 set works we study will come up in the exam, so you do need to revise all of them. Listen to them as well!
- You should revise the elements of music and associated keywords, to ensure your vocabulary knowledge is secure.

Top Tips:

- Use your revision guides as a handy summary of set works, along with quick questions on each one.
- Listen to the set works so you are comfortable with the outline of each piece and what different sections sound like.
- Use mind maps and tables to help you create a bank of key features for each set work.
- Make sure you are familiar with keyword vocabulary for the elements of music, so you can answer questions correctly. A common mistake is to answer something that is not what was asked.

Drama

- One 1-hour paper, Section A and B only, 48 marks available

Topics to revise:

Section A: Theatre roles and staging types.

Section B: Blood Brothers

Top Tips:

- Revise your Key Word Sentences and do as much exam practice as possible. I will happily mark anything you bring me.
- Go over your question structures in preparation for this.

GCSE PE

You will sit two exams:

Paper 1 (Component 1)- 1 hour 30 minutes

- Body Systems; Physical Training; Use of data

Paper 2 (Component 2)- 1 hour 15 minutes

- Health, Fitness & Wellbeing; Sport Psychology; Socio-cultural influences; Use of data

Topics to revise:

Red Book (Paper 1)

- Body Systems: Cardiovascular, Respiratory, Skeletal & Muscular
- Anaerobic & Aerobic exercise; Short & Long-term effects of exercise
- Health, Exercise, Fitness & Performance; Components of fitness and their fitness tests
- Principles of Training (ISPORT & FITT) and Methods of Training
- Optimise training & Injury prevention; Warm up & Cool down
- Performance-enhancing drugs

Blue Book (Paper 2)

- Benefits of physical activity (PES) and Lifestyle Choices; Sedentary lifestyle
- Balanced diet (7 essentials); Hydration
- Factors affecting optimum weight; Energy balance
- Skill Classification; Goal setting (SMART); Guidance, Feedback & Mental Preparation

Top Tips:

- Use your revision guide to revise, test and monitor your progress.
- Summarise and structure your notes into sub headings and highlight key words so that it is easier to revise from. Use diagrams to help you remember key points.
- Learn key definitions and diagrams with labels
- Create a topic based list of terminology and revision cards.
- Complete past exam papers and refer to the mark scheme. Do past papers twice, use exemplar material. The mark allowance is a guide to the detail needed in your answer

Creative iMedia

- One 1 hour 30 minute written paper
- Total of 70 marks
- Section A – Core Knowledge
- Section B – Application of knowledge

Topics to revise:

- Media industry sectors and products
- Production phases
- Target audiences and how products appeal to them
- Media distribution
- Client briefs
- Preproduction documents
- Purpose of media products
- Improving pre-production documents
- Job Roles
- Media codes to convey meaning
- File types and formats

Top Tips:

- Use revision guides and notes in exercise books.
- Review past practice paper questions and feedback.
- Know it all ninja You Tube videos
- Online interactive quizzes

Computer Science

- Paper 1 – 90 minutes, Computer Systems
- Paper 2 – 90 minutes, Computational thinking, algorithms and programming

Topics to revise:

- Data Representation (Number systems/conversions, Images, Sound, Characters, Compression)
- Components of a Computer System (CPU, Memory), System Performance, Secondary storage (SSD, Magnetic, Optical), Software (Open source, Proprietary), Utility software, O/S
- Networks (LAN, WAN, network hardware, Wired/Wireless, The Internet (IP, MAC addressing), Network threats, Network Protocols
- Issues (Ethical, Cultural, Environmental), Computer Legislation
- Algorithms (Pseudocode, Flowcharts), Search algorithms (Binary, Linear), Sorting (Merge, Bubble, Insertion)
- Programming (Data types, Variables (constants, operators), 3 constructs (Sequence, Selection, Iteration), Arrays (1D, 2D), File Handling, Procedures/Functions
- Design, Testing, IDE's (Defensive design, Testing, Translators (Compiler, Interpreter, Assembler), Features of IDE's
- Logic (Truth tables (AND, OR, XOR, NOT), Logic diagrams

Top Tips:

- Use the revision guide,
- Start revision early,
- Complete as many past paper questions as you can possibly do, if there are any topics that you are not sure about let your Computing Teacher know ASAP.

Sociology

- You will be completing one exam paper (100 marks)
- There will be sections on Education and Crime and deviance
- Each section will be worth 50 marks
- This is the length of a full exam paper; you have 1 hour 45 minutes.

Topics to revise:

- Education
- Crime and Deviance
- Research methods

Top Tips:

- Read the questions carefully
- Attempt to answer all questions
- Use key concepts, perspectives and authors in your answers (use the revision booklet you have to help your revision)
- Make sure to use the context in a 4 mark question.
- Follow the PEACEL structure for 12 markers (make sure to write 2 main body paragraphs and a conclusion!)
- Keep an eye on the time – one minute per mark!

Psychology

- You will sit a Paper 1 (1 hour 30 minutes)

Topics to revise:

- Developmental Psychology
- Psychological Problems
- Criminal Psychology
- Research Methods

Top Tips:

- **Read the questions carefully**
- **Attempt to write something for every question**
- **Show your workings out for maths-based questions.**
- **Keep an eye on the time** – especially for 13-mark questions (max. 15 minutes).
- **13-mark questions:** Remember structure AO1, AO3, AO1, AO3, conclusion. Students' opening sentence should show an understanding of the question/ introduce the debate/research method focus.
- **Presenting data:** if asked to draw a chart/graph make sure that you have clearly labelled all parts of this. A graph should include a title, labelled X and Y axis and should be plotted accurately. A pie chart should be titled, with each segment labelled. A tally chart should have each column labelled correctly.
- **Stick to the point and answer the specific question being asked.** If you are told to identify one factor for something, only give one factor.
- **Research methods:** to gain full marks in a question make sure you link back to the scenario or to the research you are designing. Simply explaining your AO1 knowledge will only get you half of the marks.
- **Key studies:** When answering key studies questions make sure you use specific details about the study to gain full marks.
- **Evaluation/Criticisms/Strengths/Weakness:** all mean to take a critical look at the theory or study by identifying what is positive and negative about it. Always start your evaluations by stating 'One weakness of - One strength of - One criticism of...'. When evaluating a key study use WWWH to help you (Who, Where, When, How). When evaluating a theory use the debates e.g. Nature vs Nurture, Free will vs Determinism, Reductionism Vs Holism and consider whether the theory is scientific.

Business Studies

- You will sit one exam paper
- The paper will consist of 90 marks
- You will have 1 hour 45 minutes – this is the same as full GCSE Paper

Topics to revise:

All of Theme 1: Investigating small business

This includes:

- Enterprise & Entrepreneurship
- Spotting a business opportunity
- Putting a business idea into practice
- Making the business effective
- Understanding external influences on business

Top Tips:

- Read the questions carefully
- Section A is general business questions, testing your knowledge of key theories and concepts
- Section B & C are based on case studies, so all answers must be applied to the business in the case study.
- Make sure you use BLT (Because, leads to, therefore) for all 3 and 6 mark questions
- For 9 mark questions where you are asked to recommend which option a business should choose you only need to write the pro's and con's of your chosen option
- Make sure you have a calculator
- Answer the questions you find easiest first.
- Remember to use "It depends on..." and "Short term v's long term" in your conclusion to the 9 and 12 mark questions.

Media

- Paper 1 will be 1 hour 30 minutes and will consist of 80 marks
- Paper 2 will be 50 minutes and will consist of 30 marks

Topics to revise:

- Advertising and Marketing (including film posters): Media Language + Representation
- Magazines: Media Language + Representation
- Film: Industries
- Video Games: Industries + Audiences
- Radio: Industries + Audiences
- Television: Media Language + Representations + Industries + Audiences

Top Tips:

To build memory and knowledge:

- Flashcards
- Look, Cover, Write, Check with class booklets
- Mindmap memory of a topic, then add forgotten details in green pen with the aid of class booklet/other resource (Mrs Fisher on youtube is really useful for a lot of content coverage <https://www.youtube.com/@mrsfisher8961>)

To build skill with expressing understanding

- Practice papers in exam conditions (https://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/media-studies-gcse/#tab_pastpapers)
- Teach someone who does not study media, such as a family member, about the topic, answer all their questions and explain it to them until it makes sense.

Food Preparation and Nutrition

- You will sit 1 paper
- The paper will last for 1 hour and 45 minutes

Topics to revise:

- **Food, Nutrition and Health**
 - Macronutrients and Proteins: Gluten formation (gliadin and glutenin) and functional properties of fats (plasticity and spreading ability).
 - Micronutrients and Vitamins: Roles and sources of fat-soluble vitamins (Vitamin D and Vitamin K) as well as the function of antioxidants in protecting cells.
 - Energy and Health: Energy balance concepts, Basal Metabolic Rate (BMR), physical activity levels and daily nutritional requirements.
- **Food Science and Cooking Methods**
 - Heat Transfer and Cooking Techniques: Dry and moist heat methods (e.g. stir-frying), gelatinisation and dextrinisation.
 - Enzymes and Biological Processes: Action of enzymes as biological catalysts, enzymatic browning, denaturation and coagulation.
 - Raising Agents: Chemical raising agents (baking powder and bicarbonate of soda) and biological raising agents (yeast).
 - Foams and Emulsions: Protein denaturation in foams (e.g. meringues) and emulsification properties.
- **Food Safety and Microbiology**
 - Temperature Control: Critical food safety temperatures, including minimum core cooking temperatures (e.g. 75C, danger zone, chilling and freezing).
 - High-Risk Foods: Characteristics and safe handling of high-risk foods (e.g. minced beef and raw poultry).
 - Sensory and Spoilage: Signs of food spoilage, sensory testing and the role of pectin in setting gels or jams.

Top Tips:

- Read through the questions and check for understanding of what you are being asked to do.
- Answer all questions you cannot lose marks!
- If there are 6 marks make sure that you make 6 points... that are justified (explained)
- THINK about your answer PLAN your longer answers even notes can gain marks if you do not get time to finish.
- Practice exam questions particularly the nutritional analysis ones.

Design Technology

You will have a 2 hour paper worth 100 marks. This paper is split into 3 sections

- A. – Core principles – multiple choice Q's worth 20 marks
- B. – Specialist Technical principles – short and long Q's on your specialist areas worth 30 marks
- C. – Design and making principles - short and long Q's on skills worth 50 marks

Topics to revise:

<u>Core principles</u>	<u>Specialist Technical principles</u>	<u>Maths Skills</u>
New and emerging technologies	Timber	Area/Volume
Industry and enterprise	Sources and origin	Percentages
Sustainability and the environment	Stock form, type and sizes	Presenting/reading data
People, culture and society	Manufacturing processes	Decimal & standard form
Production techniques and systems	Surface treatments and finishes	
Informing design decisions	Polymers	
Energy, Materials, systems and devices	Sources and origin	
Energy generation	Stock form, type and sizes	
Energy storage	Manufacturing processes	
Modern materials	Modification of properties	
Smart materials	Surface treatments and finishes	
Composite materials/technical textiles	Designing and making principles	
Mechanisms	Using primary and secondary data	
Materials & their working properties	Ergonomics/anthropometrics	
Papers and boards	Product analysis	
Timbers	Exploring the work of designers	
Metals and alloys	Design strategies	
Polymers	Drawing skills	
Textiles	Marking out equipment	
	Production aids	
	Safety	

Top Tips:

- Bring a calculator and show working out on maths questions
- Section B when given the choice only choose the questions on Timbers, Metals or Polymers
- Give every question a go – marks are awarded for method or attempting some questions

Art

You will take part in a 10-hour exam spread over two days (with break and lunch at your usual school times). During this exam, you will produce a practical response—a final outcome—to conclude your Photography project. This is also a valuable opportunity to experience the format of the practical exam ahead of your final assessment in Year 11.

Top Tips:

- **Plan Ahead:** Complete detailed planning pages for your final outcome before the exam begins.
- **Structure Your Time:** Break down what you will do over the two days to ensure you complete your final piece.
- **Show Progression:** Your final outcome should demonstrate development beyond your sketchbook work and reflect the influence of the artists you've studied.
- **Use Every Minute:** Make full use of the time available to you.
- **Refine if You Finish Early:** If you complete your piece before the end, refine it further or use your remaining time to add any extra work to support your project.
- **Come Prepared:** Bring all the materials and resources you'll need.
- **Highlight Your Strengths:** Use this opportunity to showcase your skills and creativity to the examiner.

Textiles

You will sit a 10 hour exam over two days (following the school timings). This is a practical exam where you will create your final outcome for your coursework project that you have spent the past year working towards. It is also an opportunity to gain experience of the exam before the final practical exam in Year 11.

Top Tips:

- Ensure your final outcome shows further progression from your sketchbook work and encompasses the artists who you have studied in detail
- Plan your final outcome in detail before the exam
- Plan the 2 days of the exam, so you are able to achieve completion of your final outcome.
- Use all of the time in the exam effectively
- Come prepared with the necessary resources
- Showcase your ability.

Graphic Design

You will sit a 10 hour exam over two days (following the school timings). This is a practical exam where you are given the opportunity of creating your final outcome for the project you have spent the past year working towards.

Top Tips:

- Use all of the time given to you
- Come prepared with what you want to achieve and the resources and planning to achieve it
- Showcase the full range of your ability and think about the final details and how you might present the final outcome
- Have additional extras in mind that you could do if time allows