

# Year 11 Parents' Information Evening

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2025





**“Year 11 is a milestone – this is the year where your effort and choices will shape your future.”**



OPEN



CLOSE





# Introductions: Key people

- Mrs Cooper: Curriculum Leader English
- Mr Kerfoot: Curriculum Leader Maths (unable to attend)
- Mrs O Hall: Curriculum Leader Science
- Ms Smith: Head of Year 11
- Ms Calvert: Year 11 Transition Lead
- Mrs Pemberton: Career Lead (Work experience / Sheffield Progress Co-ordinator)
- Mr Casey: Leadership Team link, Year 11



# Purpose of this presentation



- To inform you about:
  - Vital facts about likely student attainment
  - SEND support
  - Key dates this academic year
  - The programmes of study in English, maths and science
  - Post-16 support



# Attendance:

	90% Attendance or better (63 students)	80% Attendance or better (157 students)	70% Attendance or better (182 students)
<b>Attainment 8</b>	4.49	4.22	4.11
<b>English Attainment 8</b>	4.29	4.28	4.23
<b>Maths Attainment 8</b>	5.05	4.59	4.44
<b>EBACC Attainment 8</b>	4.41	4.01	3.88
<b>Open Attainment 8</b>	4.35	4.14	4.04





# Behaviour:

	Suspended in Y11 (26 students)	Suspended in Y11 more than once (8 students)
Attainment 8	2.7	1.05
English Attainment 8	3.38	1.75
Maths Attainment 8	2.88	1
EBACC Attainment 8	2.31	0.67
Open Attainment 8	2.5	1





# Rewards:



- Behaviour
- Attendance
- Punctuality
- Uniform
- Attitude to learning







# SEND support:

- **Exams Access Arrangements** have been confirmed in Y10, these will remain in place through Y11 and for all assessments
- If you are unsure as to the specific support and access arrangement your child is entitled to in the formal assessments, please contact **Jo Anderson in the first instance.**
- Every Monday Evening there is a SEND drop-in evening from 3 – 5pm.



# National reality: SEND



	SEN only (51 students)
<b>Attainment 8</b>	2.31
<b>English Attainment 8</b>	2.44
<b>Maths Attainment 8</b>	2.47
<b>EBACC Attainment 8</b>	2.24
<b>Open Attainment 8</b>	2.19





# National reality: Pupil Premium



	PP only (79 students)
Attainment 8	2.88
English Attainment 8	3.17
Maths Attainment 8	3.05
EBACC Attainment 8	2.61
Open Attainment 8	2.83





# National reality: SEND & Pupil Premium



	SEN & PP (27 students)
Attainment 8	2.04
English Attainment 8	2.09
Maths Attainment 8	2.26
EBACC Attainment 8	1.98
Open Attainment 8	1.94





# National reality: Boys



	Boys (110 students)
Attainment 8	3.38
English Attainment 8	3.5
Maths Attainment 8	3.95
EBACC Attainment 8	3.23
Open Attainment 8	3.08





# National reality: Boys, SEND, PP



	Boys, SEN & PP (19 students)
Attainment 8	1.55
English Attainment 8	1.5
Maths Attainment 8	1.95
EBACC Attainment 8	1.46
Open Attainment 8	1.41





# 123









# Shape of the year ahead:



- **Half term 1:** 7 weeks and 3 days
- **Half term 2:** 6 weeks and 4 days
- **Half term 3:** 5 weeks and 4 days
- **Half term 4:** 5 weeks
- **Half term 5:**
  - 4 weeks and 4 days until your GCSE exams begin
  - 6 weeks and 4 days until half term
- **Half term 6:** Approximately 3 weeks

**123 school days  
until the GCSE exam  
begin**

**166 school days  
until students leave  
The Birley Academy**







# Period 6: Support offer



Period 6: Year 11 timetable

- Period 6
- Saturday school (in January, 2026)
- Easter school
- Possibly, February half-term school

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>French:</b> Room 206  <b>Food exam:</b> Room 201 and 203  <b>Resistant Materials:</b> Room 204  <b>Maths Higher paper:</b> Room 143 and 139	<b>History:</b> Room 146 and 148  <b>Geography:</b> Room 157  <b>Sports Studies:</b> Room 129  <b>Health and Social Care:</b> Room 130  <b>Music:</b> Room 125  <b>Food coursework:</b> Room 132  <b>Science:</b> Room 225	<b>Art:</b> Room 220  <b>English Language and Literature:</b> Room 246 and 250  <b>Food coursework:</b> Room 131  <b>Tourism:</b> Room 130  <b>Resistant Materials coursework:</b> Room 204  <b>Engineering:</b> Room 104  <b>Science:</b> Room 230	<b>Careers with Ms Pemberton:</b> Room 130	<b>Food; Resistant Materials; IMedia; Engineering coursework:</b> Room 131  <b>Maths Higher paper:</b> Room 145  <b>Maths Foundation paper:</b> Room 140 and 141  <b>Science:</b> Room 224



# Time is of the essence:

Tuesday 30 September  
/ 2 October, 2025:

**Geography fieldtrip**

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> October,  
2025:

**Year 11 revision / non-  
core Parents'  
Information Evening**

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup>  
October, 2025:

**Year 11 Post 16  
Evening (6 - 7.30pm)**

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup>  
October, 2025:

**Mock exams  
begin**

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November,  
2025:

**Mock exams end**

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup>  
November, 2025:

**Year 11 mock interview  
day**

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> – Thursday  
5<sup>th</sup> December, 2025:

**Art mock exam**





# Shape of Year 11:

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup>  
December, 2025:  
**Teachers ADP deadline –  
will lead to a school  
report being sent home**

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup>  
December, 2025:

**Year 11 Parents'  
Progress Evening**

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> January,  
2026: **TBC**

**Saturday school  
begins**

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February,  
2026:  
**Mock exams begin  
(timings TBC)**

16<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> February,  
2026: **TBC**

**Half term school**

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February,  
2026:  
**Mock exams continue  
(timings TBC)**





# Shape of Year 11:

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March,  
2026:  
**Teachers ADP deadline –  
will lead to a school  
report being sent home**

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March,  
2026:  
**Year 11 Parents'  
Progress Evening**

31st March - 11<sup>th</sup> April  
2026  
**Easter school (revision /  
interventions)  
Please don't book  
holidays!!!**

20 April – 29 April 2026:  
**GCSE Art exam**

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2026:  
**Main GCSE exams series  
begin**

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2026:  
**Year 11 prom**

## **We do not have study leave**

**Students must attend school during the exam period!**



# Mock exam timetable:



## Year 11 Mock Exams

Week B		Period 1	Period 2	Break	Period 3	Lunch		Period 4	Period 5
Date	Time	Exam	Exam	Time	Exam		Time	Exam	Exam
Weds 22 Oct	8.50am			11am	French listening (F = 45 mins / H = 1 hr)		1pm	Geography (1 hr 30 mins)	
Thurs 23 Oct	8.50am	Maths – Paper 1 / 4, calculator (1 hr 30 mins)		11am			1pm	History, Germany paper (1 hr 30 mins)	
Fri 24 Oct	8.50am	English Language (1 hr 45 mins)		11am			1pm	Biology combined (1 hr 15 mins) Biology triple (1 hr 45 mins)	

Week A		Period 1	Period 2	Break	Period 3	Lunch		Period 4	Period 5
Date	Time	Exam	Exam	Time	Exam		Time	Exam	Exam
Mon 3 Nov	8.50am	Maths – Paper 2 / 5, non-calculator (1 hr 30 mins)		11am			1pm	French reading (F = 45 mins / H = 1 hr) French writing (F = 1hr 15 mins / H = 1 hr 20 mins)	
Tues 4 Nov	8.50am	Chemistry combined (1 hr 15 mins) Chemistry triple (1 hr 45 mins)		11am			1pm	RS – Christian beliefs (1 hr) Resistant Materials (2hrs) <i>*3 students who do RM and RS will sit their RS exam during the Engineering exam</i>	
Weds 5 Nov	8.50am	English Literature (1 hr 45 mins)		11am			1pm	Creative Media (1 hr 30 mins)	
Thurs 6 Nov	8.50am	Maths – Paper 3 / 6, calculator (1 hr 30 mins)		11am			1pm	Food Technology (1 hr 45 mins)	
Fri 7 Nov	8.50am	Physics combined (1 hr 15 mins) Physics triple (1 hr 45 mins)		11am			1pm	Engineering (1 hr 30 mins)	



# Exam boards:

- Art: AQA
- BTEC Engineering: Pearson
- BTEC PE: Pearson
- BTEC Travel and Tourism: Pearson
- Creative iMedia: OCR
- English Language: AQA
- English Literature: AQA
- Food: AQA
- French: Edexcel
- Geography: WJEC Eduqas
- Graphics: AQA
- History: Pearson
- Maths: OCR
- BTEC Music: Pearson
- Performing Arts: AQA
- Religious Studies: WJEC Eduqas
- Resistant Materials: AQA
- Science: AQA
  - Combined science
  - Biology
  - Chemistry
  - Physics



## Grading new GCSEs from 2017

New grading structure	Current grading structure
9	A*
8	
7	
6	B
5	
4	C
3	
2	E
1	
	F
	G
U	U

GOOD PASS (DfE)

5 and above = top of C and above

AWARDING

4 and above = bottom of C and above











The Birley Academy

- 2 year course.
- All exams are taken at the end of the 2 year course.
- Language texts (unseen)
- Students are marked for technical accuracy in the writing sections.

# GCSE English Language

Paper 1: *Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing.* (50%)

Paper 2: *Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives.* (50%)

Spoken Language (*non-exam assessment*)





# Paper 1



The Birley Academy  
A L.E.A.D. Academy

## Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing

### What's assessed

#### Section A: Reading

- one literature fiction text

#### Section B: Writing

- descriptive or narrative writing

### Assessed

- written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- 80 marks
- 50% of GCSE

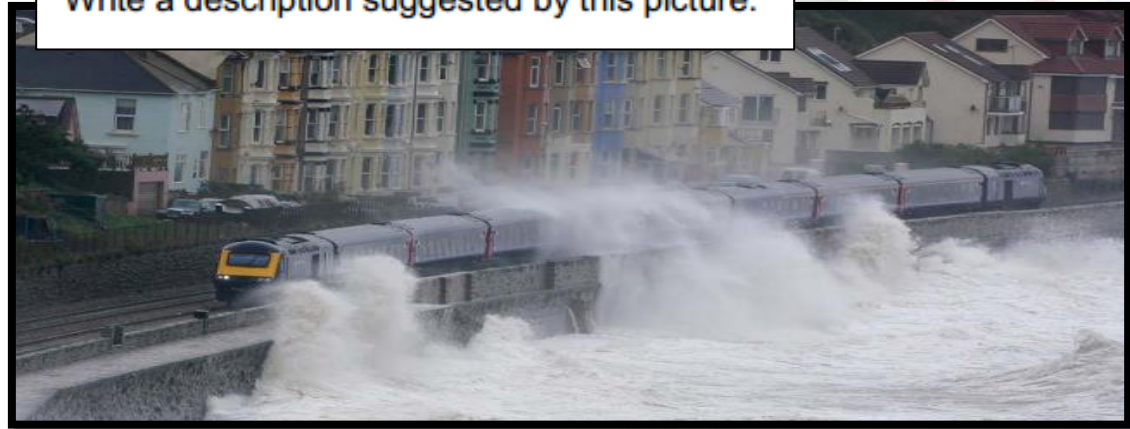
### Section A:

- Reading an extract from a novel.
- Questions on writer's use of language and structural techniques.

### Section B:

- Students write their own creative text.
- Narrative and descriptive skills in response to an image or written prompt.

Write a description suggested by this picture:



Write the opening part of a story about a place that is severely affected by the weather.



# Paper 2

## Paper 2: Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives

### What's assessed

#### Section A: Reading

- one non-fiction text and one literary non-fiction text

#### Section B: Writing

- writing to present a viewpoint

### Assessed

- written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- 80 marks
- 50% of GCSE

### Section A:

- Reading **two sources** from two different time periods.
- Both sources offer a view or perspective on a particular theme or topic.
- Questions on how these viewpoints are presented.

### Section B:

- Students present a viewpoint or argument in a written text.

Homework has no value. Some students get it done for them; some don't do it at all. Students should be relaxing in their free time.'

Write an article for a broadsheet newspaper in which you explain your point of view on this statement.







The Birley Academy

- 2 year course.
- Untiered.
- Technical accuracy makes up 5% of the exam.

# GCSE English Literature

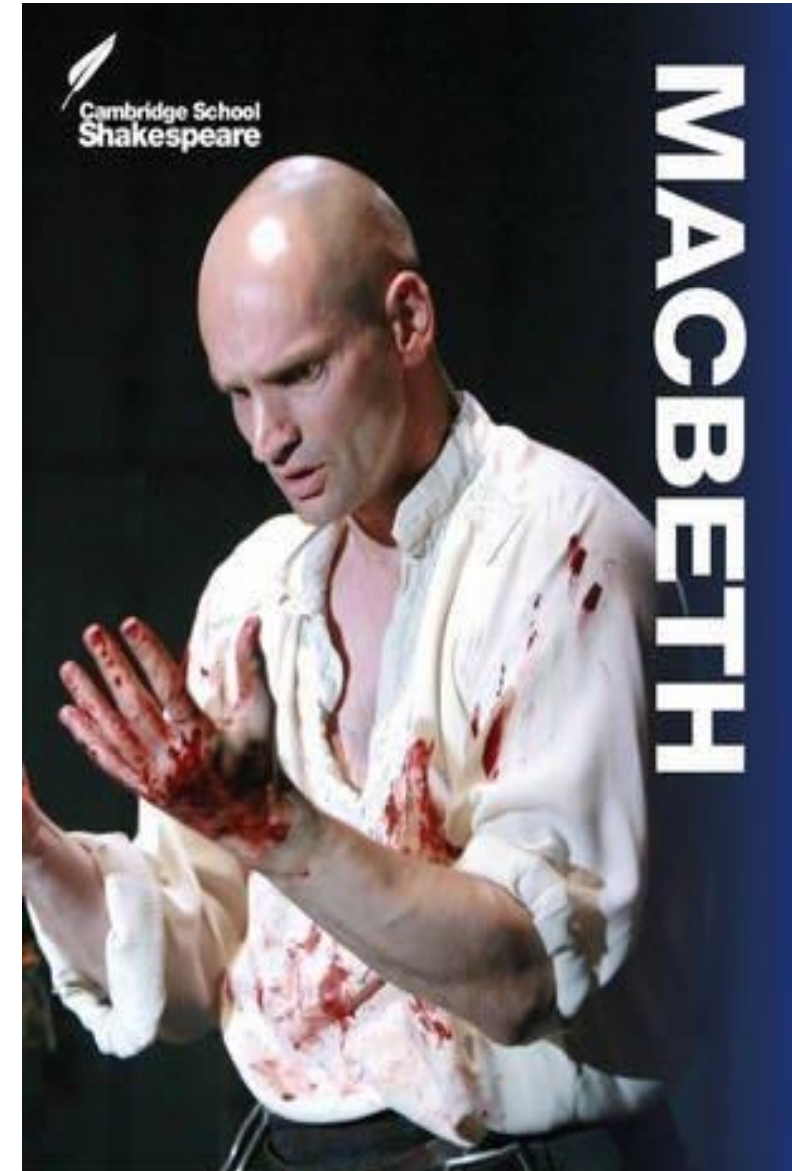
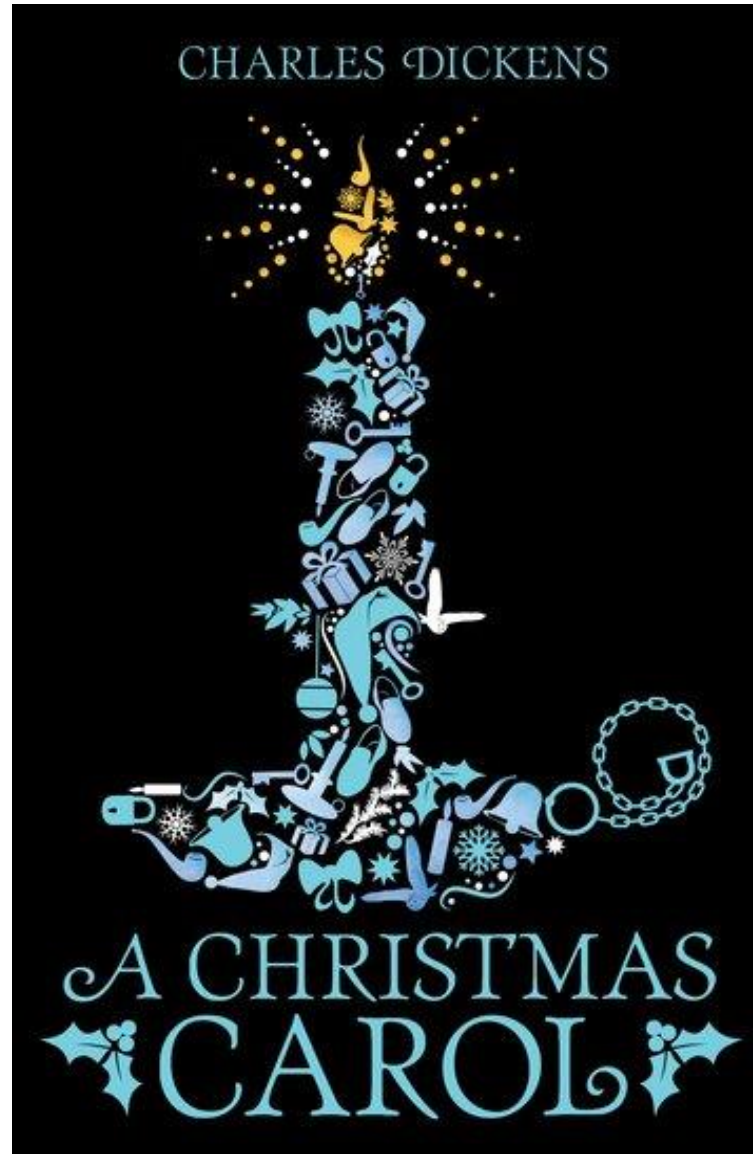
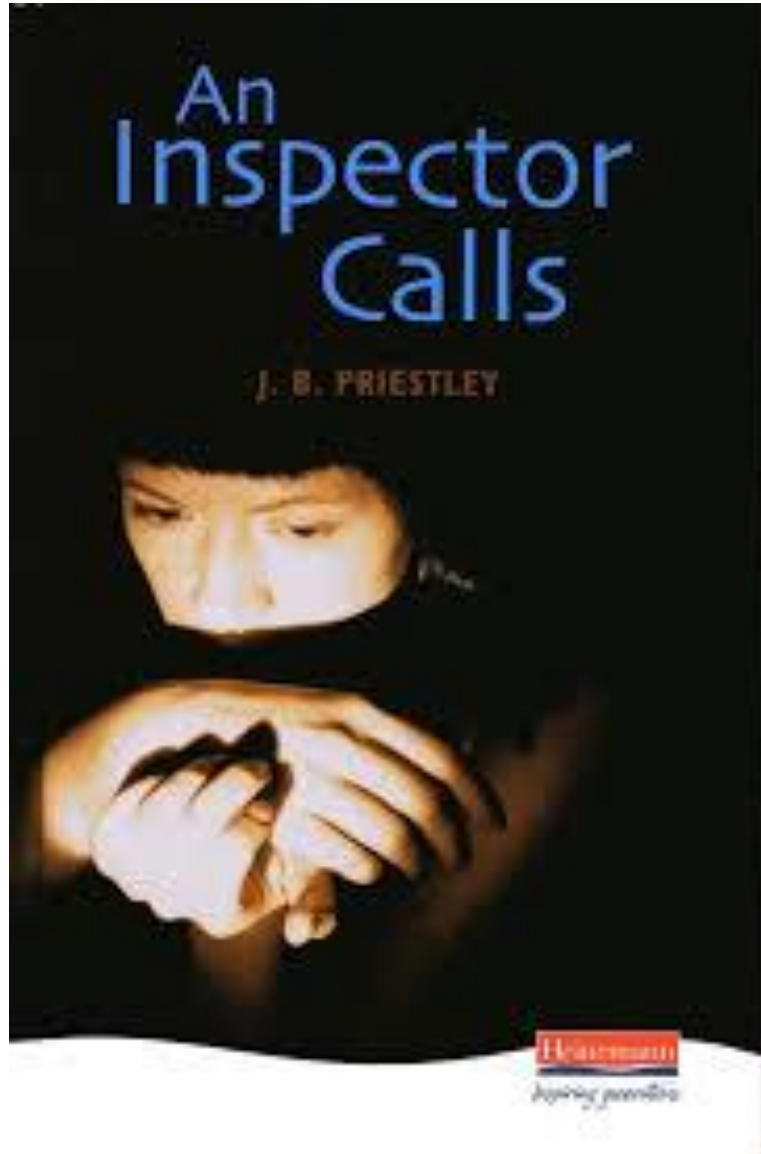
Paper 1: *Shakespeare and the 19<sup>th</sup> century novel.* (40%)

Paper 2: *Modern Texts and Poetry.* (60%)





**LITERATURE EXAM TEXTS:** *Students need to know the story including knowledge of **characters, themes, social context** and the **writer's intention**. Students need to consider their **own views** on the text and how a reader is expected to respond to certain events and characters.*



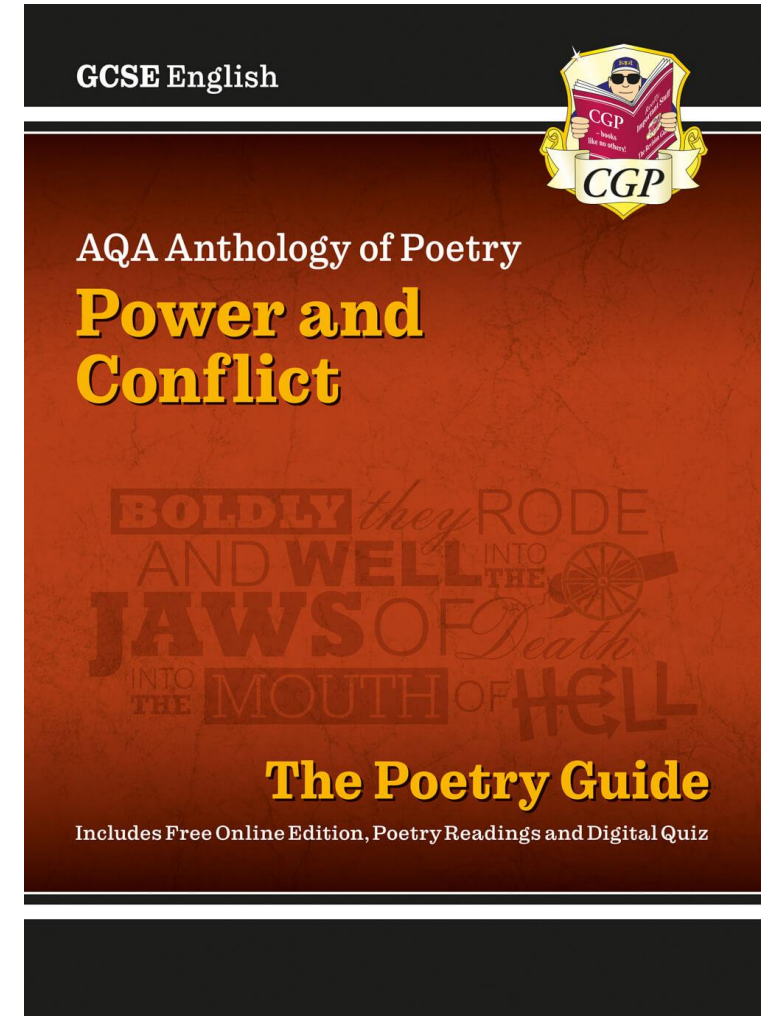


## AQA Poetry Anthology

Students will analyse a poem from the cluster studied and then be asked to compare this poem (by memory) to another poem in the cluster they have previously studied. This means that learning key content and quotes is important when revising.

## AQA UNSEEN POETRY

Students will be given an unseen poem to analyse and a second poem for the purpose of comparison. They will have practised exam skills, but not seen the poems on the exam paper beforehand.





# How can students revise for English?

## Literature

Use Seneca (Home Learning)

Create flashcards and quiz yourself on core knowledge and quotations

Practice exam questions, plan then write

Mind-map on characters or themes (from memory!)

Online quizzing

## Language

Practice exam questions! Planning and writing

Reading (fiction and non-fiction)

Learn new vocabulary

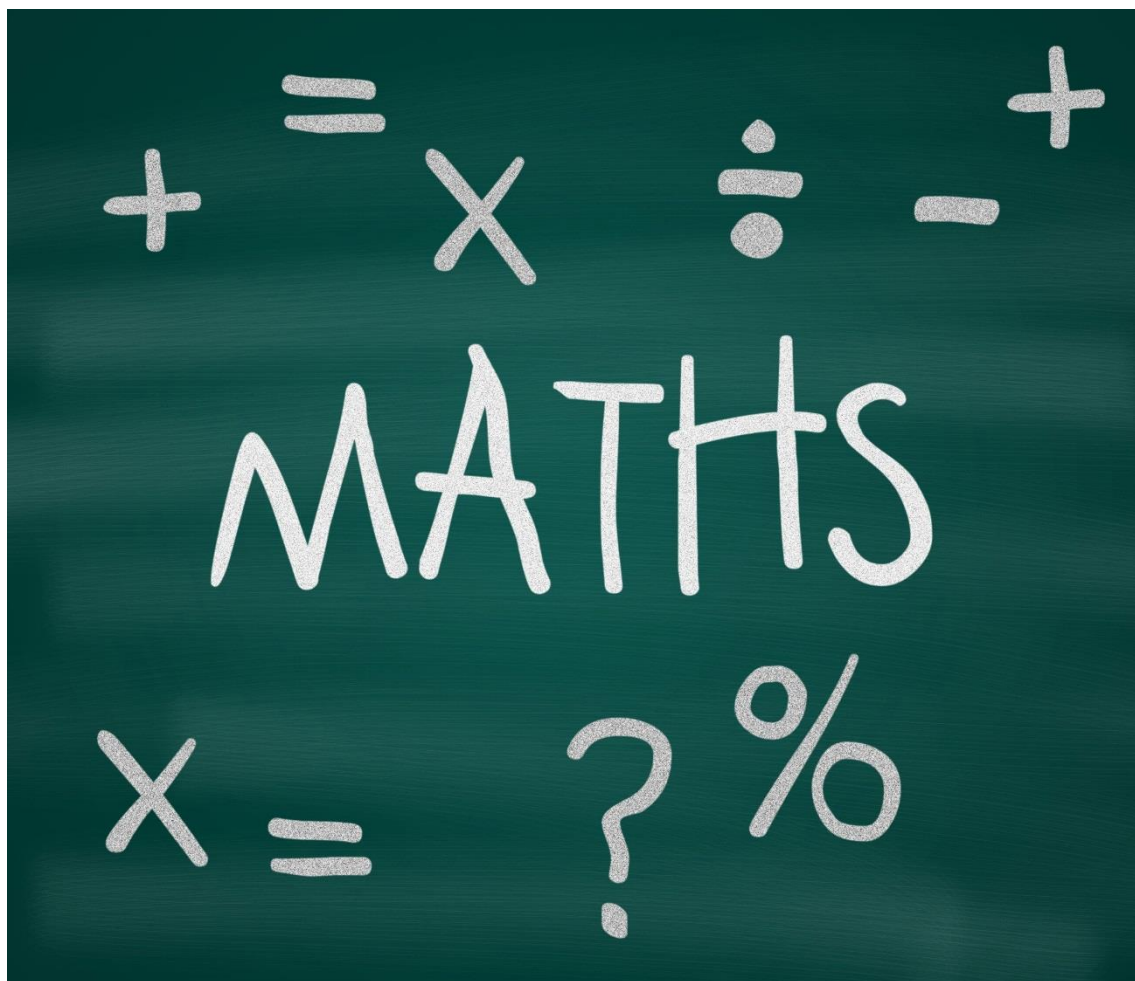
Flashcards for sentence starters



## GCSE English Exams (AQA Exam board)

Exam	Content
<b>English Language Paper 1 (50% of Language)</b>	<b>Exam Duration:</b> 1 hour 45 minutes <b>Exam Focus:</b> Fiction Reading/Writing (one text) <b>Section A:</b> 4 reading questions (40 marks in total) <b>Section B:</b> Extended creative writing task (40 marks)
<b>English Language Paper 2 (50% of Language)</b>	<b>Exam Duration:</b> 1 hour 45 minutes <b>Exam Focus:</b> Non-fiction Reading/Writing (two texts: one modern/one literary heritage text) <b>Section A:</b> 4 reading questions (40 marks in total) <b>Section B:</b> Extended writing task to present a viewpoint (40 marks)
<b>English Literature Paper 1 (40% of Literature)</b>	<b>Exam Duration:</b> 1 hour 45 minutes <b>Exam Focus:</b> Shakespeare and 19 <sup>th</sup> Century Novel (both extract-based) <b>Section A:</b> Macbeth <b>Section B:</b> Jekyll and Hyde
<b>English Literature Paper 2 (60% of Literature)</b>	<b>Exam Duration:</b> 2 hour 15 minutes <b>Exam Focus:</b> Modern Drama, AQA Anthology Poetry, Unseen Poetry <b>Section A:</b> An Inspector Calls (one question) <b>Section B:</b> AQA Anthology Poetry (2 questions – one comparison) <b>Section C:</b> Unseen Poetry (2 questions – one comparison)







# Maths Exams

1st Paper – 100 marks – 1h 30 – Calculator allowed

2nd Paper – 100 marks – 1h 30 – Calculator NOT allowed

3rd Paper – 100 marks – 1h 30 – Calculator allowed



# Maths Exams

Exam					Grade								
Board	Month	Year	Tier	Total	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
OCR	June	2019	F	300					63%	48%	35%	21%	8%
OCR	June	2019	H	300	85%	71%	57%	45%	34%	23%	17%		

Grade boundaries change every year.

Encourage pupils not to aim for a particular percentage or grade.





# Exam Analysis

After each mock exam, pupils will receive a Question Level Analysis (QLA). This provides bespoke analysis of their exam. It also provides details of what to work on independently along with associated Sparx codes.

A QLA is shown on the next page.



Questions	Question Title	Score			Clip Number
1	Complex calculations using a calculator, round to significant figures	3	/	3	U926 U731
2	Compare quantities using ratio, write ratios in the form $a:b$	2	/	2	U687
3a	Write ratios as fractions, multiply fractions	3	/	3	U176
3b	Share in a given ratio	2	/	2	U753
4a	Lowest common multiple	2	/	4	U751
4b	Lowest common multiple	1	/	1	U751
5	Set up 8	6	/	6	U599
6		4	/	6	U981
7	Perimeter problems and Pythagoras' theorem	2	/	6	U604
8a	Translation	3	/	2	U656
8b	Transformations	0	/	2	U656
9a	Corresponding angles				U626
9b	Angle problem solving				U628
10	Compound Interest				U332
11	Upper & lower bound calculations		/	4	U587
12a	Find the $n$ th term of a linear sequence	0	/	2	U498
12b	Quadratic sequences and simultaneous equations	0	/	5	U137
13ai	Interpreting cumulative frequency graphs	1	/	1	U642
13aii	Interpreting cumulative frequency graphs	1	/	2	U642
13aiii	Interpreting cumulative frequency graphs	3	/	3	U642
13b	Median from histograms	0	/	5	U569

Each question is colour coded indicating what to focus on

Sparx codes to complete independently



	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Week 8	Week 9	Week 10	Week 11	Week 12
Autumn term	Graphs <b>Gradients &amp; lines</b> VIEW		Graphs <b>Non-linear graphs</b> VIEW		Graphs <b>Using graphs</b> VIEW		Algebra <b>Expanding &amp; factorising</b> VIEW		Algebra <b>Changing the subject</b> VIEW		Algebra <b>Functions</b> VIEW	
Spring term	Reasoning <b>Multiplicative reasoning</b> VIEW		Reasoning <b>Geometric reasoning</b> VIEW		Reasoning <b>Algebraic reasoning</b> VIEW		Revision & communication <b>Transforming &amp; Constructing</b> VIEW					

**Y11 Scheme of work.**  
**We hope to complete by February, this allows 3 months of exam question revision**

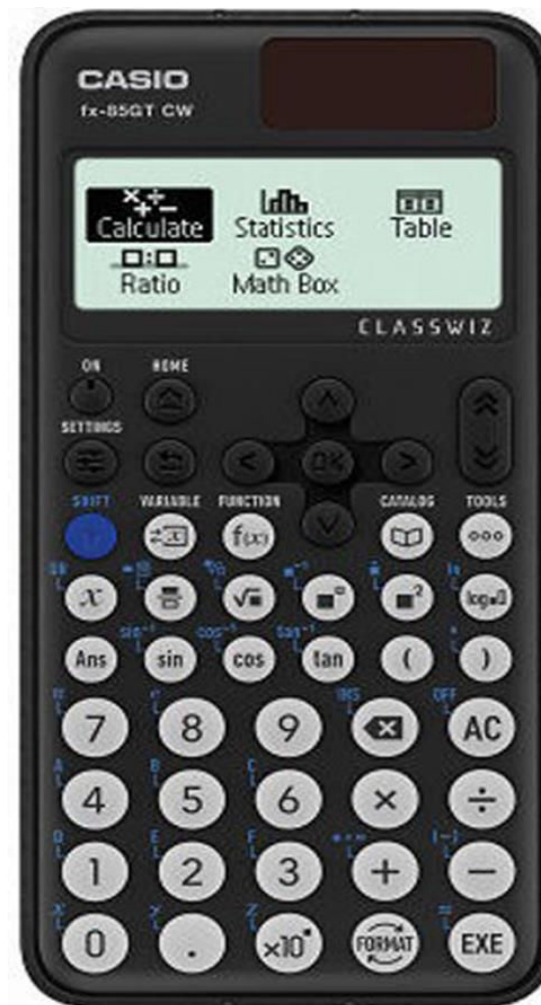


# Calculators

The maths exam consists of three papers each worth 100 marks.

Two of these papers need a calculator.

We recommend the "Casio fx"





# Formulae sheet

These are provided and the department will give advice to all pupils how to use them.



## Higher Tier Formulae Sheet

### Perimeter, area and volume

Where  $a$  and  $b$  are the lengths of the parallel sides and  $h$  is their perpendicular separation:

$$\text{Area of a trapezium} = \frac{1}{2} (a + b) h$$

Volume of a prism = area of cross section  $\times$  length

Where  $r$  is the radius and  $d$  is the diameter:

$$\text{Circumference of a circle} = 2\pi r = \pi d$$

$$\text{Area of a circle} = \pi r^2$$

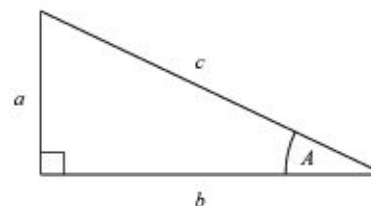
### Quadratic formula

The solution of  $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$

where  $a \neq 0$

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

### Pythagoras' Theorem and Trigonometry

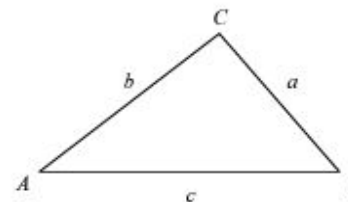


In any right-angled triangle where  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $c$  are the length of the sides and  $c$  is the hypotenuse:

$$a^2 + b^2 = c^2$$

In any right-angled triangle  $ABC$  where  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $c$  are the length of the sides and  $c$  is the hypotenuse:

$$\sin A = \frac{a}{c} \quad \cos A = \frac{b}{c} \quad \tan A = \frac{a}{b}$$



In any triangle  $ABC$  where  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $c$  are the length of the sides:

$$\text{sine rule: } \frac{a}{\sin A} = \frac{b}{\sin B} = \frac{c}{\sin C}$$

$$\text{cosine rule: } a^2 = b^2 + c^2 - 2bc \cos A$$

$$\text{Area of triangle} = \frac{1}{2} a b \sin C$$

### Compound Interest

Where  $P$  is the principal amount,  $r$  is the interest rate over a given period and  $n$  is number of times that the interest is compounded:

$$\text{Total accrued} = P \left( 1 + \frac{r}{100} \right)^n$$

### Probability

Where  $P(A)$  is the probability of outcome  $A$  and  $P(B)$  is the probability of outcome  $B$ :

$$P(A \text{ or } B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \text{ and } B)$$

$$P(A \text{ and } B) = P(A \text{ given } B) P(B)$$





# Homework and Revision



**sparx** Homework

0 XP | Brett Coleman | MENU

Compulsory  
None available

XP Boost  
None available

Target  
None available

**Sparx  
Practice**

Independent  
Learning

Practice homework is designed to help you learn how to use Sparx. Completing this does not count towards the weekly homework set by your teacher.

▶ Sparx practice homework

New



# Homework and Revision



sparx Homework

0 XP

Brett Coleman

MENU

Compulsory  
None available

XP Boost  
None available

Target  
None available

Sparx  
Practice

Independent  
Learning

Homework is designed to help you learn how to use Sparx. Completing this does not count towards the weekly homework set by your

New

**Compulsory Homework contains:**  
1. Current in-class work  
2. Bespoke Consolidation work



The Birley Academy



# Homework and Revision



**sparx Homework** 0 XP | Brett Coleman MENU

Compulsory  
None available

XP Boost  
None available

Target  
None available

**Sparx Practice**

Independent Learning

practice homework is designed to help you learn how to use Sparx. Completing this does not count towards the weekly homework set by your teacher.

homework **New**

**XP Boost contains:**  
1. Extra Consolidation work



# Homework and Revision



**sparx** Homework 0 XP Brett Coleman MENU

**Compulsory**  
None available

**XP Boost**  
None available

**Target**  
None available

**Sparx Practice**

**Independent Learning**

Practice homework is designed to help you learn how to use Sparx. Completing this does not count towards the weekly homework set by your teacher.

▶ Sparx practice homework New

**Target contains:**  
1. Extension work



# Homework and Revision



sparx

Homework

Compulsory

None available

XP Boost

None available

Target

None available

Sparx Practice

Independent Learning

sparx

M932, M544, M888

PLOTTING AND INTERPRETTING GRAPHS

Key Concept

Substitution – This is where you replace a number with a letter

If  $a = 5$  and  $b = 2$

$a + b =$	$5 + 2 = 7$
$a - b =$	$5 - 2 = 3$
$3a =$	$3 \times 5 = 15$
$ab =$	$5 \times 2 = 10$
$a^2 =$	$5^2 = 25$

Key Words

**Intercept:** Where two graphs cross.

**Gradient:** This describes the steepness of the line.

**y-intercept:** Where the graph crosses the y-axis.

**Linear:** A linear graph is a straight line.

**Quadratic:** A quadratic graph is curved, u or n shape.

Examples

Draw the graph of  $y = 2x - 1$

X	-2	-1	0	1	2
Y	-5	-3	-1	1	3

Notice this graph has a gradient of 2 and a y-intercept of -1.

Questions

1) What are the gradient and y-intercept of:

a)  $y = 4x - 3$       b)  $y = 4 + 6x$       c)  $y = -5x - 3$

2) Draw the graph of  $y = 3x - 2$  for x values from -3 to 3 using a table.

ANSWERS: 1) a) m = 4, c = -3      b) m = 6, c = 4      c) m = -5, c = -3

Tip

Parallel lines have the same gradient.

Formula

$$\text{Gradient} = \frac{\text{difference in y's}}{\text{difference in x's}}$$

Independent Learning



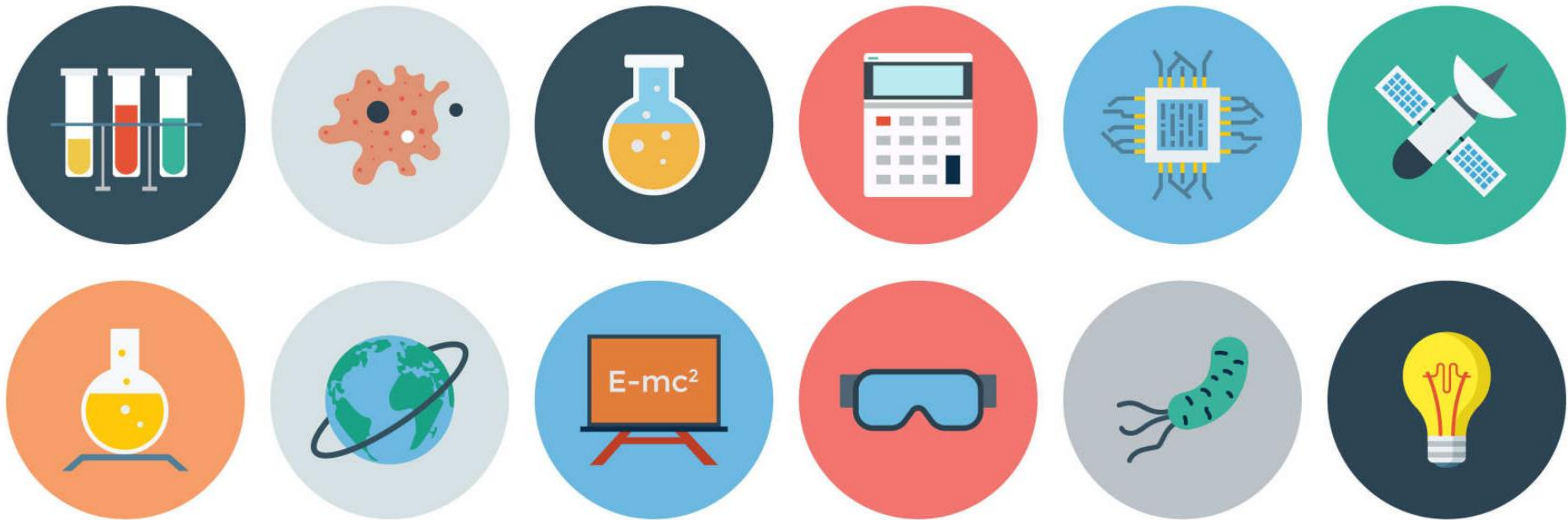
# Past Papers

- [www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/past-paper-finder/](http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/past-paper-finder/)
- Maths Genie
- Mr Barton Maths
- Physicsandmathstutor.com





# Science:





# Why science?

Supports  
other subjects

Valued by  
collages,  
universities  
& employers

## GCSE Science



→ *The foundation for  
future opportunities*

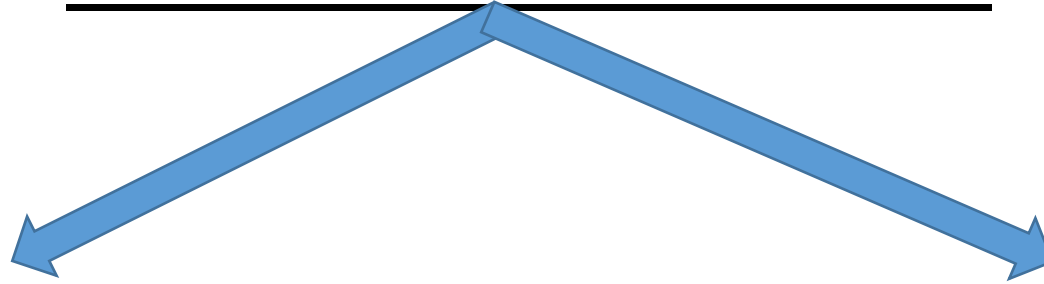
It is a CORE  
subject

It keeps  
options open

Prepares for  
the future



# The Science courses

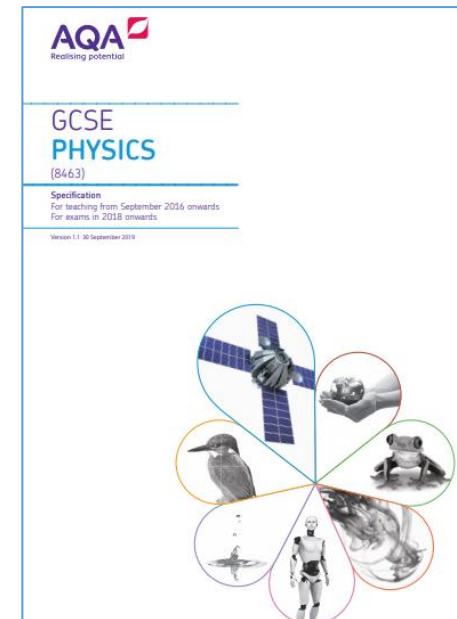
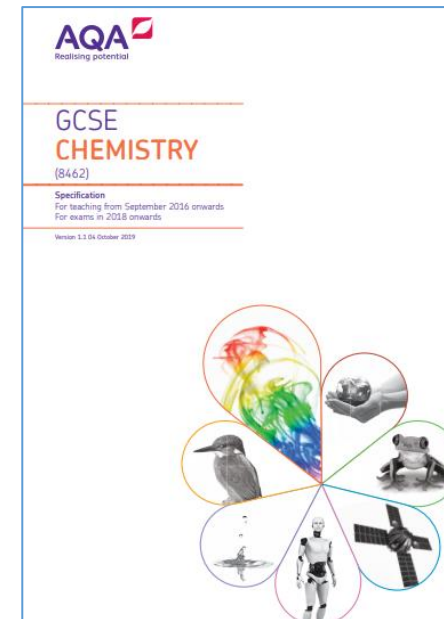
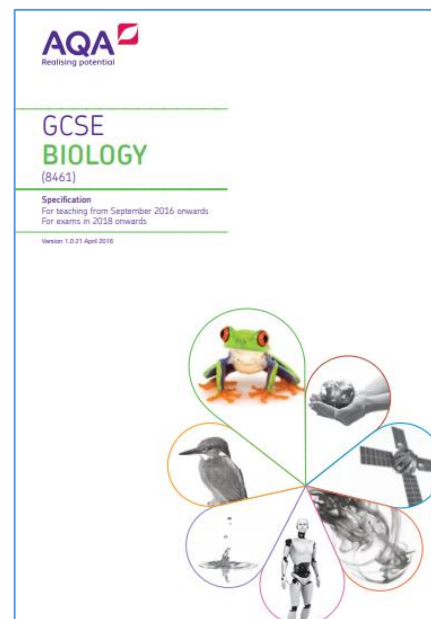
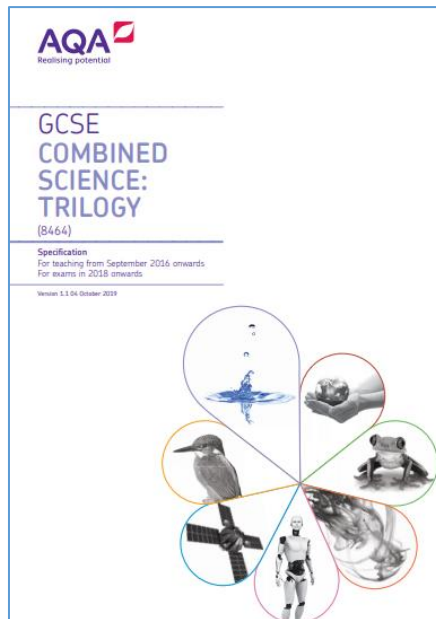


**Double award**

(Combined /Trilogy Science)

**Triple award**

(separate/single Science)





# Science assessments

Students will sit 6 science exams at the end of the academic year

Combined science  
(Trilogy Science)

Triple science  
(separate Science)

Biology paper 1 16.7% of GCSE	Chemistry paper 1 16.7% of GCSE	Physics paper 1 16.7% of GCSE
Biology paper 2 16.7% of GCSE	Chemistry paper 2 16.7% of GCSE	Physics paper 2 16.7% of GCSE

Biology paper 1 50% of GCSE	Chemistry paper 1 50% of GCSE	Physics paper 1 50% of GCSE
Biology paper 2 50% of GCSE	Chemistry paper 2 50% of GCSE	Physics paper 2 50% of GCSE

Students will awarded **TWO GCSE's**.

Students will be given two adjacent  
grades from 9-1.

Found ation	55	54	44	43	33	33	32	22	21	11
Higher	99	98	88	87	77	76	66	65	55	44

Students will awarded **THREE GCSE's**.

One for each subject

Founda tion					5	4	3	2	1
Higher	9	8	7	6	5	4			



# FOUNDATION



# Shared questions

# Differences

# Grade boundaries

# HIGHER

## How are tiers decided?

- Target grade.
- ATL
- Mock exam results.
- Student/parent input

# When do tiers have to be decided?

## Jan/Feb 2026

For **combined science**, all papers have to be the **same tier**



# GCSE Science Exams - tiers

## Combined science grades

Foundation  
Higher

Maximum Mark	Grade Boundaries																
	9-9	9-8	8-8	8-7	7-7	7-6	6-6	6-5	5-5	5-4	4-4	4-3	3-3	3-2	2-2	2-1	1-1
420	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	243	221	200	173	146	119	93	67	41
420	269	251	233	216	199	180	161	142	123	105	87	78	-	-	-	-	-

Small margin between a 43 and  
44 (Strong pass)

Grade boundaries change every year

Revision is essential for a strong pass (44)



# Science content

GCSE Dual Science - 6 exams - 1 hour 15 minutes each - 70 marks

GCSE Triple Science - 6 exams - 1 hour 45 minutes each - 100 marks

## Biology

## Chemistry

## Physics

### Paper 1

### Paper 2

### Paper 1

### Paper 2

### Paper 1

### Paper 2

- Cell biology
- Organisation
- Infection & response
- Bioenergetics

- Homeostasis & response
- Inheritance, variation & evolution
- Ecology

- Atomic structure & the periodic table
- Bonding, structure & the properties of matter
- Quantitative chemistry
- Chemical changes
- Energy changes

- The rate & extent of chemical change
- Organic chemistry
- Chemical analysis
- Chemistry of the atmosphere
- Using resources

- Energy
- Electricity
- Particle model of matter
- Atomic structure

- Forces
- Waves
- Magnetism & Electromagnetism
- Space physics (triple only)

## Mock exams:

October mocks –  
paper 1's

February mocks –  
paper 2's

+ assessed practicals and maths skills



# HOW TO REVISE FOR GCSE SCIENCE

Knowledge



Exam  
technique





# The importance of retrieval practice in science

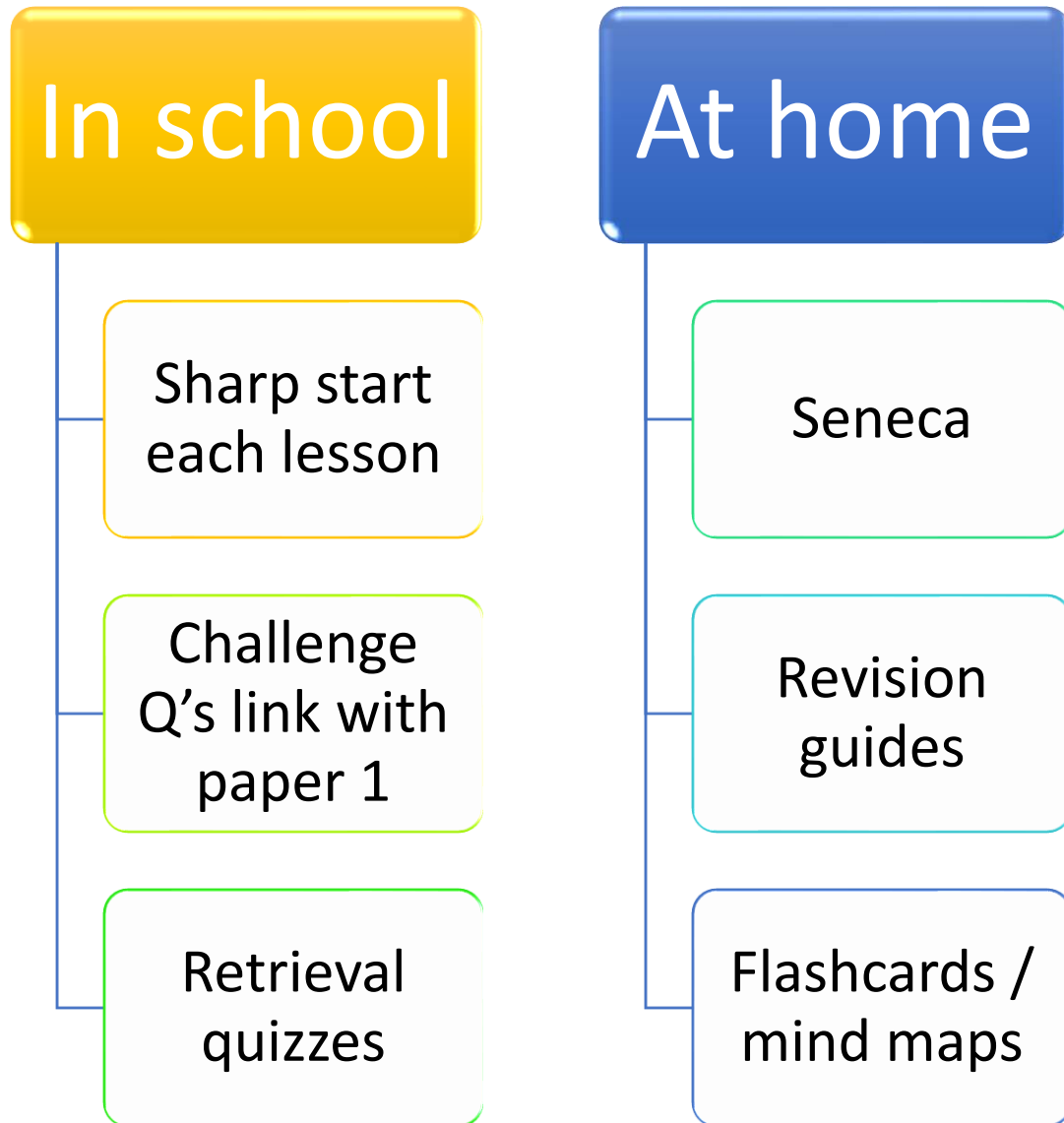
**"Retrieval practice** is a learning strategy where we focus on getting information out. Through the act of retrieval, or calling information to mind, our memory for that information is strengthened and forgetting is less likely to occur. Retrieval practice is a powerful tool for improving learning."



It is especially important in science because of the nature of the subject



# The importance of retrieval practice



- This should be done regularly.
- It is important not to copy notes.
- It is an important way to find out what they know and what they don't know.



# The importance of exam **skill practice**

## In school

Exam Q  
every lesson

Mock exams  
/ tests & QLA

Period 6 (3  
days a week)

## At home

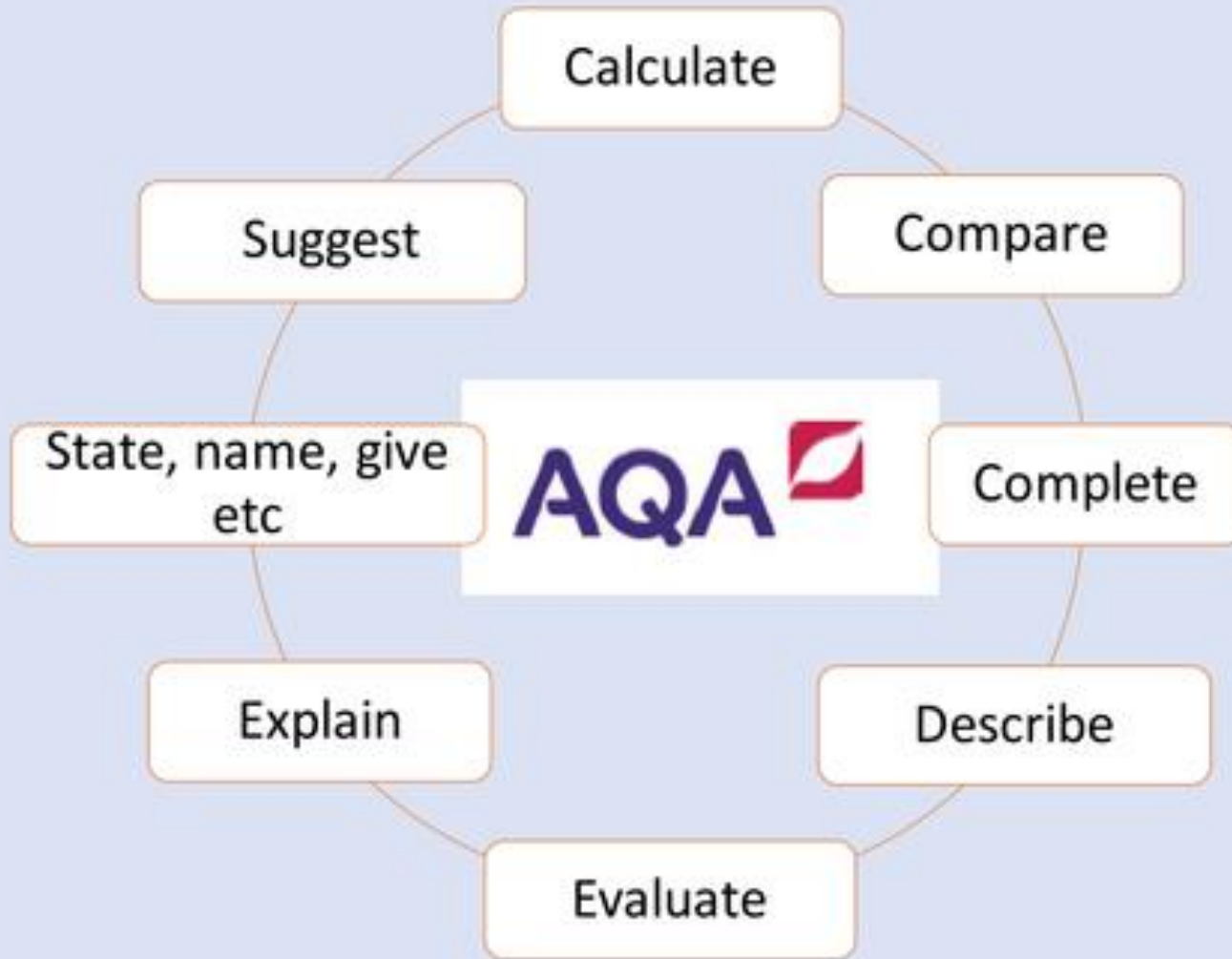
Past papers  
& mark  
schemes

Extra exam  
practice

- Long answer questions.
- Command words in science.
- Reading the questions carefully.
- Application questions.
- Maths questions.



# Exam technique



- Command words
- How many marks each question is worth.
- Detail / key words.



# As a parent, what could I do to help my child succeed?

- Encourage your child to practice **retrieval** regularly
- Encourage your child to complete as many past papers as they can





# Careers – Post 16 Support



## Careers Hub based in the Library

- **Careers Advisor**, Sophie Short from Progress Careers  
Y11 Student - Careers Guidance Appointments  
Monday in the Library
- **Careers Leader** - Work Experience /Sheffield Progress Coordinator  
Ann Pemberton - Mon/Tue/Wed/Thurs - Library



# Post-16 Evening support:

## Sixth Form and College - Open Events 2025-26



All Saints 6 <sup>th</sup> Form School	Saturday 8 November 2025
Astrea 6 <sup>th</sup> Form School	Check website
Eckington 6 <sup>th</sup> Form School	Wednesday 22 October 2025
Forge Valley 6 <sup>th</sup> Form School	Wednesday 12 November 2025
High Storrs 6 <sup>th</sup> Form School	Thursday 6 November 2025
King Egbert 6 <sup>th</sup> Form School	Thursday 13 November 2025
King Edward VII 6 <sup>th</sup> Form School	Tuesday 11 November 2025
Meadowhead 6 <sup>th</sup> Form School	Thursday 6 November 2025
Notre Dame 6 <sup>th</sup> Form School	Saturday 15 November 2025
Sheffield South East Sixth Form (Sheffield Park Academy)	Thursday 4 December 2025
Silverdale 6 <sup>th</sup> Form School	Thursday 20 November 2025
Tapton 6 <sup>th</sup> Form School	Wednesday 22 October 2025

The Sheffield College – <b>All Campuses</b> City/Hillsborough /Advanced Technology Centre	Thursday 23 October 2025	4pm - 7pm (6pm - 7pm 'Quiet Hour')
Bloom Open Day (Peaks)	Wednesday 5 November 2025 Wednesday 22 April 2026	3.30pm - 6pm 3.30pm - 6pm
Landmarks Specialist College	Tuesday 4 February 2025 Tuesday 29 April 2025	10am - 12pm 5pm - 7pm
The Sheffield College – <b>All Campuses</b> City/Hillsborough/Advanced Technology Centre	Wednesday 12 November 2025	4pm - 7pm (6pm - 7pm 'Quiet Hour')
Campus Open Day – Pennine Five Adult English, Maths and ESOL	Wednesday 3 December 2025	4pm - 6pm
The Sheffield College – <b>All Campuses</b> City/Hillsborough/Advanced Technology Centre	Thursday 22 January 2026	4pm - 7pm (6pm - 7pm 'Quiet Hour')
<b>City</b> Campus Open Day	Tuesday 12 February 2026	4pm - 7pm
<b>Hillsborough</b> Campus Open Day	Thursday 5 March 2026	4pm - 7pm
<b>Advanced Technology Centre</b> Campus Open Day	Tuesday 24 March 2026	4pm - 7pm
Community Open Day	Saturday 9 May 2026	10am - 1pm



# Your questions:

- We will take your questions.
- We would greatly appreciate some feedback. Could you please complete a questionnaire which we will send after the meeting has ended.
- We want to use your feedback to improve our offer to you as parents / carers.

