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# Year 10 GCSE Information

2020-21

# Welcome



**Wye School**  
The best in everyone™  
Part of United Learning

■ Ambition ■ Confidence ■ Creativity ■ Respect ■ Enthusiasm ■ Determination

# Vision for Wye

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- Continue to be a smaller than average community school that has strong relationships and happy students
  - A well behaved school with traditional good manners and respect for people of all backgrounds
  - Outward facing, using the best of United Learning's experience in private and state schools across England
  - Students making excellent academic progress, but we are not an exam factory
  - That Year 11 leave us in ten months time (and that time will fly) qualified and ready for their next step
  - That as many Year 11s as possible have high enough grades to be suitable for further academic study in our 6th Form, or the provider of their choice
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Children only get one chance -  
but are not alone, we will  
support you all the way to  
success

'we' = parents and school



# Priorities for Year 10

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- To accept only the very best of themselves
- No limits, no barriers to success or learning
- To be fully aware of the challenges this year, but not stressed by them
- To be fully prepared for the next steps, understanding that they are laying the foundation for lifelong success



# Your Number is almost up...!

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- **1920** Days of school completed
- **315** Days left (14%!)
- **120** Hours for each subject to complete a GCSE (GLH)
  
- **283** Hours of **English** lessons
- **252** Hours of **Mathematics**
- **126** Hours of **Science** lessons per subject (Chem, Bio, Phys)
- **189** Hours of **Options** subjects



# GCSEs have changed – previously...

## GCSE Assessment in Y11 -Steve

- English Language – One 2¼ hr exam worth 60% of assessment, plus 40% CA
  - Maths – Two 1¾ hr exams
  - Science – Three 1 hr exams (75%), plus ISA (25%)
  - Spanish – One 50 min exam (20%), one 40 min exam (20%), plus 60% CA
  - RE – Two 1½ hrs exams
  - Product Design – One 2 hr exam worth 40% of assessment, plus 60% CA
  - History – One exam of 2 hrs (45%) and one exam of 1½ hr (30%), plus 25% CA
  - Drama – No exam, 100% practical assessment with written elements
- **TOTAL NUMBER OF EXAMS - 13**
  - **TOTAL EXAM LENGTH - 18¾ HRS**
  - **YEAR 11 SUMMER EXAMS REPRESENT 49% OF TOTAL GCSE ASSESSMENT**



# For the current Year 11

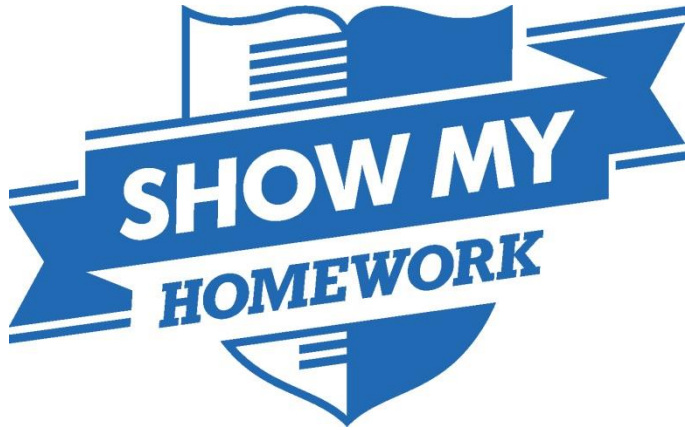
## GCSE Assessment -Y11 Steph

- In the summer of 2019 she will take GCSEs in:
  - English Language - Two 1¾ hr exams
  - English Literature – One 2¼ hr exam, one 1¾ hr exam
  - Maths – Three 1½ hr exams
  - Combined Science - Six 1¼ hr exams
  - Spanish – One 45 min exam, one 1hr exam, one 1¼ hr exam, plus 25% NEA
  - RE - Two 1¾ hr exams
  - Product Design – One 2 hr exam (50%), plus 50% NEA
  - History – Two 1¾ hr exams
  - Drama – One 1½ hr exam (40%), plus 60% NEA
- **TOTAL NUMBER OF EXAMS - 22**
- **TOTAL EXAM LENGTH - 33 HRS**
- **YEAR 11 SUMMER EXAMS REPRESENT 86.5% OF TOTAL GCSE ASSESSMENT**



# Support

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Parental support is 8 times more important in determining a child's academic success than social class.

The Campaign for Learning found that **parental involvement** in a child's education can mean the difference between **two grades at GCSE** level.





# Support - what can you do?

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- Provide a quiet space for students to work.
- Show interest in what they are doing.
- Try to resist giving students the impression that a subject doesn't matter eg 'I was never any good at science'.
- Correct language – if your son daughter says they cannot do it, qualify this – they cannot do it yet!
- Be familiar with deadlines – put these on the family calendar / outlook etc.
- Look at books, ask questions, help with a revision timetable.
- Use your own (positive) experiences.
- Ensure that students know how much cleverer they get(!) when they work hard



# Support - where else can you turn?

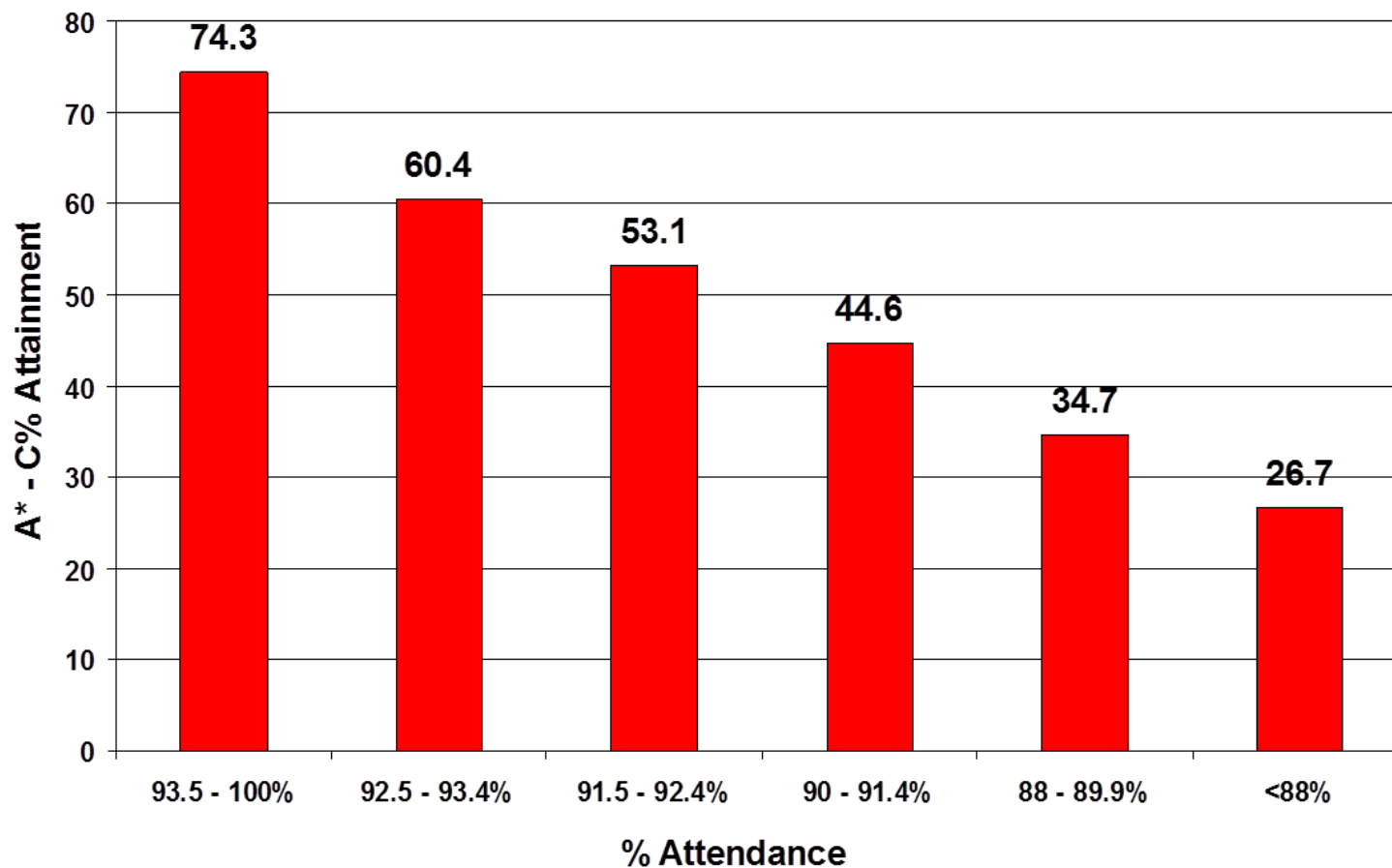
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- Listen and if there is a real concern please contact us. If a student has an issue with a subject we can help to provide support and encouragement. Use Form tutors as first port of call.
- Ask about revision sessions and tutor times – students will be doing additional work towards core and other subjects during these times.



# Attendance

## Chances of Success at GCSE



**Above 96%**  
students  
have the  
best possible  
chance of  
success

**Below 77%**  
attendance  
the most  
likely  
outcome is  
0 GCSES



# Attendance – the current statistics

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96.0+%	Attendance that leads to best performance
95.5%	National Average attendance
94.3%	Attendance for current year 10
9.0%	Overall school PA (persistent absentees <90% attendance)
9.9%	Last years PA for this year group

The current year 10 have below average attendance. At 94.3% an average year 10 student would miss 11 days or over 2 weeks of school. This will have an impact on grades.

Last years successful year 11 had 95% attendance in Year 10, and 9% PA



# Our Success

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In 2018, our Progress 8 Score at Wye School was +0.3. In 2019, our Progress 8 Score was +0.3.

This means that students are making a third of a grade more progress than at other schools.

This makes Wye School the best non-selective school in the area.

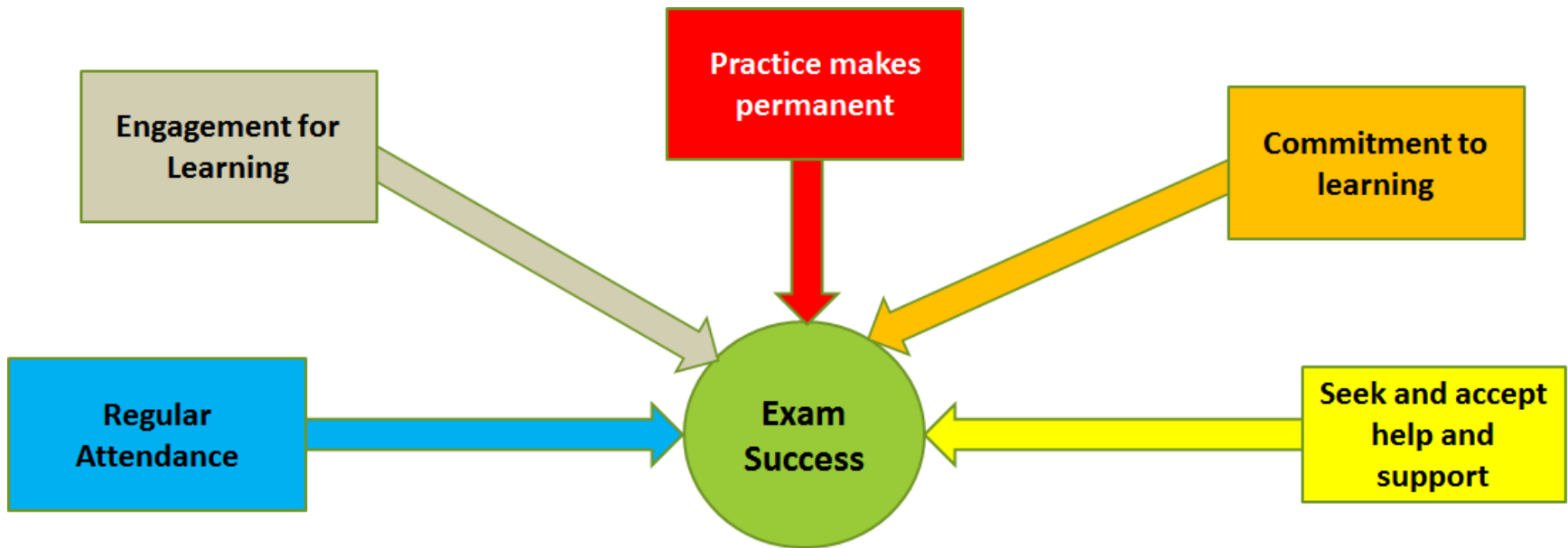


# GCSE Grading has changed:

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New GCSE Grade	Equivalent old GCSE grade
9	A* (top 3% nationally)
8	A*
7	A
6	B (top 2/3rds)
5	B (bottom 1/3rd) and C (top 1/3rd)
4	C (bottom 2/3rds)
3	D
2	E
1	G and F





# Revision Timetables

•A revision timetable will help your son or daughter plan their time and achieve the most - *avoid last minute panics and cramming.*

Be honest & realistic – do they work best in the mornings, afternoons or evenings?

- Plan in breaks for regular hobbies.
- Incentivise & reward.
- Keep each session between 45 – 60 minutes max

	9-10	10-11	11-12	12-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-6	6-7
Mo										
Tu										
We										
Th										
Fr										





# Year 10 Timeline

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- 9th November: Autumn Assessments (All Subjects)
- 14th December: First Reports Home
- 4th January: English and Maths Mock Examinations
- 18th January: Spring Assessments
- 15th March: Second Reports Home
- 7th June: End of Year Examinations



# Revision Materials/Books

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- A list of the specific revision guides you will need is available on the way out.
- Targeted revision materials/books
- Be specific with general revision websites
- Sample assessment materials
- Past Papers
- Youtube Tutorials (Mr Bruff for English).



# How well is my child doing?

From the mock exams, you will receive the following:

**Current Grades** – This indicates the level they are currently working at.

**Target Grades** – This is an aspirational grade based on their Key Stage 2 SATS scores. If they achieve their target grade, they are making excellent progress.

**Predicted Grade** – This is the grade we think they will achieve at the end of the course.

**Learning Indicator** – This is an effort grade. It can be either Poor, Requires Improvement, Good or Excellent.



# Key Information

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- A-Level courses will generally require a Grade 6 to be accepted.
- Students who do not achieve a 4 in English or Maths are required to re-sit these qualifications.



# Mathematics



# GCSE external Maths exams

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Edexcel Mathematics (1MA1 Specification) for summer 2022

## PAPER 1 (Non-Calculator)

**All papers are 1hr 30mins  
80 marks per paper.**

## PAPER 2 (Calculator)

**There are three examined skills:**

## PAPER 3 (Calculator)

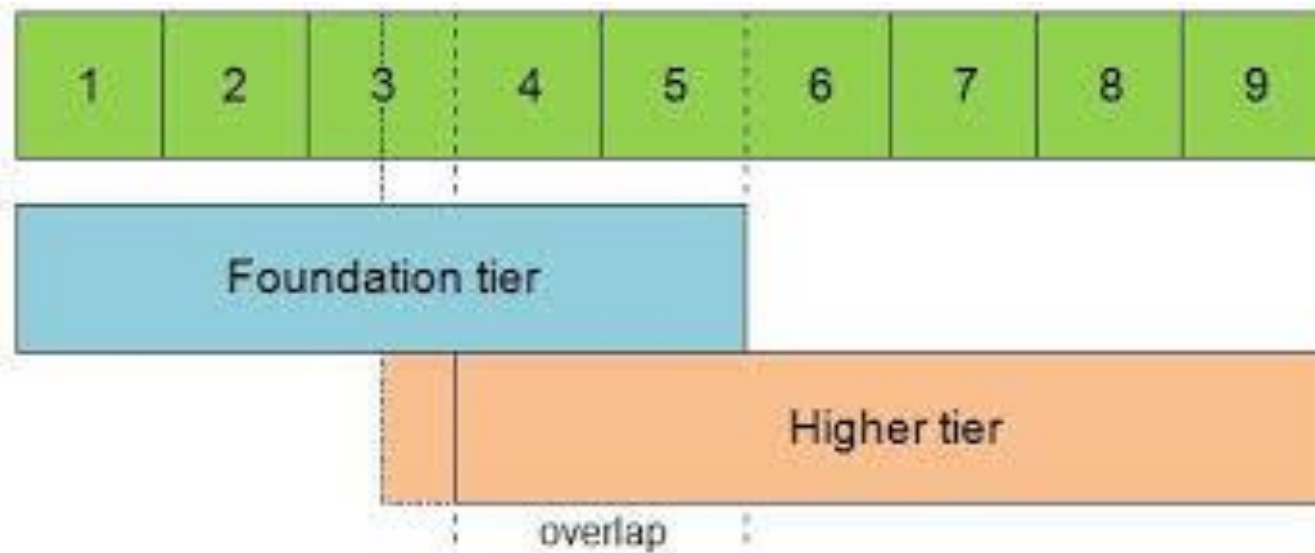
- 1. Mathematical fluency**
- 2. Mathematical reasoning and communication**
- 3. Problem solving**



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Students in all sets are taught the same content until Christmas of year 10. From that point, set 1 begin learning higher only content and sets 2, 3 and 4 continue with foundation GCSE content.

We do not make the final decision on tiering until Winter of Year 11.



# Foundation/Higher crossover question

- 4 Olly drove 56 km from Liverpool to Manchester.  
He then drove 61 km from Manchester to Sheffield.

Olly's average speed from Liverpool to Manchester was 70 km/h.  
Olly took 75 minutes to drive from Manchester to Sheffield.

- (a) Work out Olly's average speed for his total drive from Liverpool to Sheffield.

Janie drove from Barnsley to York.

Janie's average speed from Barnsley to Leeds was 80 km/h.  
Her average speed from Leeds to York was 60 km/h.

Janie says that the average speed from Barnsley to York can be found by working out the mean of 80 km/h and 60 km/h.

- (b) If Janie is correct, what does this tell you about the two parts of Janie's journey?

Some questions are also very 'wordy' and require students to read the question and select the appropriate information

(Total for Question 4 is 5 marks)





# Higher question

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**20** Solve algebraically the simultaneous equations

$$\begin{aligned}x^2 + y^2 &= 25 \\ y - 3x &= 13\end{aligned}$$

$$y = 3x + 13$$

$$x^2 + (3x + 13)^2 = 25$$

$$x^2 + 9x^2 + 78x + 169 = 25$$

$$10x^2 + 78x + 144 = 0$$

$$5x^2 + 39x + 72 = 0$$

This is a typical higher-only question.  
As you can see they have multiple steps.

This question has been started on the left but is still not complete.



# Support for Maths

Pen, pencil, ruler, planner, geometry set and calculator **every** lesson

CGP Revision Guide. New Edexcel 9-1. Higher or Foundation.

Casio FX-85GT or Casio Classwiz Calculator (higher only) £6-£9 / £20-£22

[www.hegartymaths.co.uk](http://www.hegartymaths.co.uk) to use independently.

-Homework will be a collection of GCSE questions or Hegarty quizzes set by the class teacher each week.

-Once per fortnight, students will sit a low-stakes test in class to check current understanding and retention of topics overtime.



# How to help your child

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- Encourage regular use of HegartyMaths on topics that are not secure.
- Ensure your child is revising for the 30 minute test each fortnight.
- Ensuring your child is completing their weekly homework on time
- Check they have the correct equipment for each lesson.
- Use CGP Revision Guides / Workbooks



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# Science



## Key details:

- AQA examining board
- Separate Biology/ Chemistry/ Physics (3 GCSEs)  
or Trilogy: Combined Science ( 2 GCSEs)
- Higher paper = Grade 4-9
- Foundation paper = Grade 1-5



# Pathways – specification details

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## Combined Science: Trilogy

### Biology

1. Cell biology
2. Organisation
3. Infection and response
4. Bioenergetics
5. Homeostasis and response
6. Inheritance, variation and evolution
7. Ecology

### Chemistry

8. Atomic structure and the periodic table
9. Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter
10. Quantitative chemistry
11. Chemical changes
12. Energy changes
13. The rate and extent of chemical change
14. Organic chemistry
15. Chemical analysis
16. Chemistry of the atmosphere
17. Using resources

### Physics

18. Energy
19. Electricity
20. Particle model of matter
21. Atomic structure
22. Forces
23. Waves
24. Magnetism and electromagnetism

## 2 GCSEs

2 x Biology, 2x Chemistry and 2 x Physics papers

6 x 1 hour 15 minutes

Foundation and Higher Tier

## Grades:

9/9, 9/8, 8/8, 8/7, 7/7, 7/6, 6/6 etc.



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# Pathways – specification details

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## Separate GCSEs: Biology/ Chemistry/ Physics

### Biology

1. Cell biology
2. Organisation
3. Infection and response
4. Bioenergetics
5. Homeostasis and response
6. Inheritance, variation and evolution
7. Ecology

### Chemistry

8. Atomic structure and the periodic table
9. Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter
10. Quantitative chemistry
11. Chemical changes
12. Energy changes
13. The rate and extent of chemical change
14. Organic chemistry
15. Chemical analysis
16. Chemistry of the atmosphere
17. Using resources

### Physics

18. Energy
19. Electricity
20. Particle model of matter
21. Atomic structure
22. Forces
23. Waves
24. Magnetism and electromagnetism
25. **Space physics**

### 3 GCSEs

2 x Biology, 2 x Chemistry and 2 x Physics papers  
6 x 1 hour 45 minutes

### Grades:

Biology Grade 6

Chemistry Grade 8

Physics Grade 6



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# Pathways – specification details

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Exam board links -

Science pages on AQA - <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse> - all specifications can be obtained from this link. You can also get past papers, mark schemes and examiner's reports that will really help to develop a student's capability in science.



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# Required Practicals

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‘Practical work is at the heart of science – that’s why we have placed it at the heart of each of our GCSE science specifications. By carrying out carefully considered practical work, students will enhance their investigative thinking, improve their mastery of techniques and consolidate their understanding of key scientific concepts.’

Students will be asked questions about the required practicals in the exam – including how to gather the data, what equipment to use, what the results mean (data interpretation from data provided by the exam board).

The required practicals are covered here

[https://www.youtube.com/c/Freesciencelessons/playlists?view=50&sort=dd&shelf\\_id=27](https://www.youtube.com/c/Freesciencelessons/playlists?view=50&sort=dd&shelf_id=27)

And here...

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL7O6CcKg0HaGP3xojKg1d4wA6WY1Hr-49>





# How to help your child:

- CGP Science/Bio/ Chem/ Phys Revision Guides/ Workbooks .
- Grades 9-1 – we will advise as to the correct version to buy/download.
- BBC Bitesize.
- [www.kerboodle.com](http://www.kerboodle.com) – students have a log-in, if they are unsure of what it is they can ask their teacher. This gives access to the text book for their course.

The screenshot shows two overlapping web browser windows. The top window is the BBC Bitesize website, displaying the 'Solubility' page for GCSE Chemistry. The page has an orange header and explains that solubility is a measurement of how much of a substance will dissolve in a given volume of a liquid. The bottom window is the Kerboodle website, showing the cover of the 'AQA GCSE Biology Third edition' textbook by Arnold. Below the cover, there is a table of solubility.

Solute	Solubility
30	
32	

The image shows the front cover of a 'CGP GCSE Chemistry For AQA (Grade 9-1) Exam Practice Workbook'. The cover is white with a red and orange border. It features the CGP logo at the top right, which includes a cartoon character reading a book. The title 'GCSE Chemistry' is in large red letters, and 'For AQA (Grade 9-1)' is in smaller black letters below it. The bottom half of the cover shows a stack of practice papers with various diagrams and text. At the bottom, it says 'Includes Answers' and 'For the new course starting September 2016'.

# Support for Science 2020-22

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Exam style questions and technique development.

Re-visiting previously studied topics.

Reviewing required practicals

Help with learning the Physics equations and developing required Maths skills

Revision guides and workbooks later in the year

Internal exams

Intervention groups - probably via Teams but this is to be confirmed

Past papers and exam style questions at regular intervals



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# English



# English Language and English Literature GCSEs

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- Two GCSEs - New specifications – both GCSEs in English ‘as important as each other’.
- No Coursework or Controlled Assessments.
- 100% exam.
- More difficult in terms of content and expectations



# English Language GCSE

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- Exam board: AQA
- Two papers, each 1 hour 45 in length
- Both exams are equally important



# Language: Where do we go next?

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- By December:
- Students to have sound knowledge of question level requirements in every question
- Students to know how to identify and comment on language techniques in writing, including word level analysis, and structural techniques in writing
- Students to be able to produce different types of writing, creative fictional pieces and factual pieces
- Students' writing to be grammatically accurate, have correct spellings and contain different sentence types



# Support for English Language 2019-20

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Pen, ruler and highlighters every lesson

Read outside of school, both fiction and non-fiction.

Know how to identify language techniques and structural techniques.

Revision guides and workbooks later in the year

Internal exams

Intervention groups

Practice past papers and familiarisation with exam

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-language-8700>



# English Literature GCSE

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- Exam board: AQA
- Two papers, the first is 1 hour 45 and the second is 2 hours 15 in length
- Both exams are equally important





# Literature: Where do we go next?

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- At end of Year 10 all students have studied all texts.
- Year 11 is revision of the following:
  - **Shakespeare**  
All study *Macbeth*
  - **Nineteenth Century**  
All students study *The Sign of Four*
  - **Modern text**  
All study *An Inspector Calls*
  - **Poetry**  
All: *Power and Conflict* poetry cluster from the AQA anthology  
All: Practice of un-seen poetry



# Support for English Literature 2019-20

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Pen, ruler and highlighters every lesson

Re-read the texts and know them inside out. Revision lessons will focus on important scenes – not the whole text.

Know key characters and key themes for each text.

Start to memorise quotes for each text.

Revision guides and workbooks later in the year

Internal exams

Intervention groups

Practice past papers and familiarisation with exam

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-literature-8702>



# The next step

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A-Levels require **five grade 6+ GCSE grades** with English & Maths

- What grades do you need?

Published in our Sixth Form Booklet (updating now)

- Subject specific grades? E.g. for Sciences – Maths 6+
- What are the back up plans?

**Wye Sixth Form Open Evening**  
**Date TBC**



# At Wye, we offer a flexible and academic A level offer...

Art



Biology



Physics



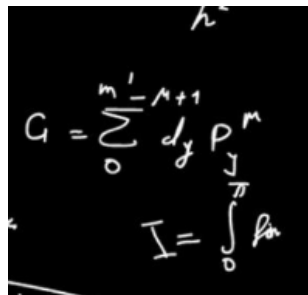
Sociology

Psychology



Health &  
Social Care

Maths



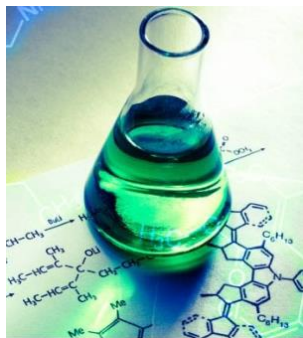
French/  
Spanish



History



Chemistry



Politics



Geography



English Literature  
English Language  
Drama



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