
Year 11 GCSE Information Evening

Welcome

2026-2027

17:15-18:15



Wye School
The best in everyone™
Part of United Learning

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

Agenda

- Achievement, Progress and Next Steps – Rachael Burden - Assistant Principal
- Core Subjects:
 - Science – Vicky Grist – Head of Science
 - Mathematics - Fiona Thomas, Head of Maths
 - English – Ellie Hunter – Head of English
- Pastoral, attendance and revision - Ms McCormick, Director of Year 11
- There will be an opportunity to ask questions to individual staff members after the presentation

Staff also available – Karen Henderson, SENCO



Vision for Wye

- 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**
- That Year 11 leave us in nine months' time (and that time will fly) qualified and ready for their next step.



Priorities for Year 11

- 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 too stressed by them
- To be fully prepared for the next steps, understanding that they are laying the foundation for lifelong success



Children only get one chance - but are not alone, we will support you all the way to success

'we' = parents and school



Wye School
@WyeSchoolKent

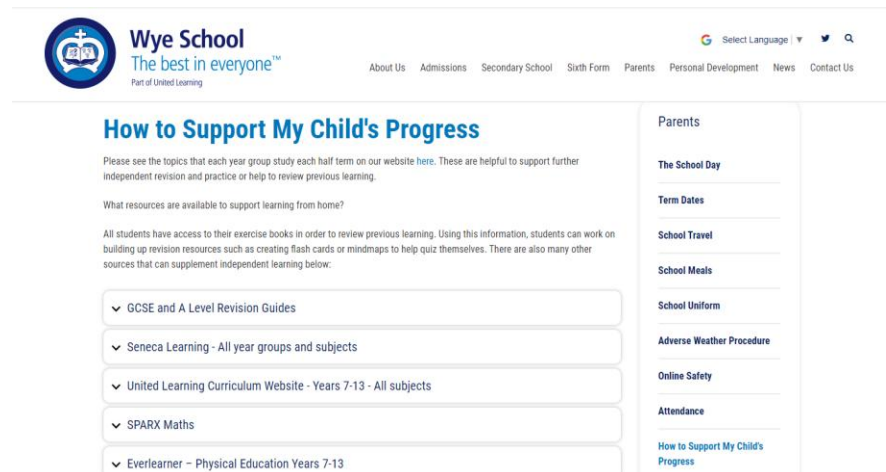
GCSE Results Day 2025. A happy morning where our students found out their grades and made their plans for Post 16 study. Well done, and good luck, to all for getting to this point in life, leaving mainstream school, setting out on your next steps in education and then employment.



Support

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**.



School website



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Year 11 Timeline

- Y11 Parents info Evening – 9/9/25 – 17:15
 - Kent Choices opens for Post-16 applications – Autumn term
 - Autumn term - Students should visit post-16 open evenings
 - Autumn Term – Career advice from external provider
 - 7th October – Presentation from some local Post-16 providers – Assembly Hall
 - *Mock Window 1 – 3/11/25 ->14/11/25 - Week 1 and 2 after half term*
 - Y11 Reports – 7th December
 - These are the grades students will put onto their post-16 applications
 - Y11 Parents Evening – 14th January
 - *Mock Window 2 – 23/2/27 -> 6/3/27*
 - Y11 Reports – End of Term 4 – Early April
 - *First GCSE exams begin 7th May 2027*
 - *PROVISIONAL* Year 11 Prom – Friday 25th June
 - GCSE Results day Thursday 19th August
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Internal exams

- Year 11 sit two mock exams this academic year
- Throughout the year there are other internal mocks for subjects such as Art, Hospitality and Catering and PE
- Internal exam results assemblies each time
- Students must be present for these exams



External exams

- **May and June.**
- Students will **not** have study leave during the first $\frac{2}{3}$ of their GCSE exams so they have dedicated teacher support in class. You will be told a date that study leave begins via email.
- There are other external exams throughout the year that students must be present for eg English, Art, PE and Food. These count towards their GCSE grade.
- It is **not** possible to change the date for any exam and 100% attendance is expected. This includes Art practical dates.



How well is my child doing?

From the mock exams in November/December, 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 for classwork and homework. It can be either Poor, Requires Improvement, Good or Excellent.



Parents' Evenings

- In person
- Drop in independent careers advice available from KCC on site.
- What should I be asking?
 - Progress
 - My child's engagement
 - Homework
 - Specific topics that are strengths and weaknesses
 - Revision techniques
 - How can I help at home?



Support - what can you do?

- Provide a **quiet space** for students to work.
- **Show interest each day** 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**.
- Remind your child that to succeed, you must consistently work hard!
- Regularly check they have the correct **equipment**
- Make sure they eat a healthy **breakfast** before school and go to sleep at a good time
- **Ensure that they attend school and are on time.**



Support - where else can you turn?

- 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 tutor time, masterclasses and lunchtime interventions – students will be doing additional work towards core and other subjects during these times.



Science

Ms Grist



Science

Key details:

- AQA examining board
- Separate Biology/Chemistry/Physics (3 GCSEs)
or Trilogy: Combined Science (2 GCSEs)



- Pathway/level reviewed after mock examinations
- Fully examination assessed – no coursework
- Required practical work completed in class



Content

Biology

- Cell biology
- Organisation
- Infection and response
- Bioenergetics
- Homeostasis and response
- Inheritance, variation and evolution
- Ecology

Physics

- Energy
- Electricity
- Particle model of matter
- Atomic structure
- Forces
- Waves
- Magnetism and electromagnetism

Chemistry

- Atomic structure and the periodic table
- Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter
- Quantitative chemistry
- Chemical changes
- Energy changes
- The rate and extent of chemical change
- Organic chemistry
- Chemical analysis
- Chemistry of the atmosphere
- Using resources

Additional for Triple: Physics Space



Pathways

Combined Science: Trilogy

2 GCSEs

100% examination assessed

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

6 x 1 hour 15 minute examinations

Foundation and Higher Tier

Grades:

Foundation: Grades 1-5

Higher: Grades 4-9

Awarded as: 9/9, 9/8, 8/8, 8/7, 7/7, 7/6, 6/6 etc.



Pathways

Separate GCSEs: Biology/Chemistry/Physics

3 GCSEs

100% examination assessed

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

6 x 1 hour 45 minute examinations

Higher Tier only

Grades: 4-9 in each science

Awarded as: Biology 7, Chemistry 6, Physics 7



Required Practicals

‘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.’

GCSE Chemistry required practical activity: Making salts

Student sheet

**These are completed
in class for all pathways**

Required practical activity	Apparatus and techniques	Achieved?
Preparation of a pure, dry sample of a soluble salt from an insoluble oxide or carbonate, using a Bunsen burner to heat dilute acid and a water bath or electric heater to evaporate the solution.	AT 2– Safe use of appropriate heating devices and techniques including use of a Bunsen burner and a water bath or electric heater. AT 3 – Use of appropriate apparatus and techniques for conducting chemical reactions, including appropriate reagents. AT 4 – Safe use of a range of equipment to purify and/or separate chemical mixtures including evaporation, filtration, crystallisation. AT 6 – Safe use and careful handling of liquids and solids, including careful mixing of reagents under controlled conditions.	



Style of exam questions:

Multiple choice, structured, closed short answer and open response.

		Weighting
AO1	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of: scientific ideas; scientific techniques and procedures	40
AO2	Apply knowledge and understanding of: scientific ideas; scientific enquiry, techniques and procedures	40
AO3	Analyse information and ideas to: interpret and evaluate; make judgements and draw conclusions; develop and improve experimental procedures	20



How to help your child:

- CGP Bio/Chem/Phys or Trilogy Revision Guides/Workbooks
- Sparx Science
- AQA website has past papers to practice
- BBC Bitesize
- Cognito
- Supporting and prompting lots of practice on a regular basis
- Intervention support

The image shows three overlapping screenshots of educational resources. The top screenshot is the BBC Bitesize website for GCSE Chemistry, specifically the 'Solubility' page. The middle screenshot is the cover of the AQA GCSE Biology Third edition textbook, showing a green and white design with a microscopic image. The bottom screenshot is the AQA GCSE Biology Student Book, displaying a table of solubility data.

Solute	Solubility
Solute	36
Solute	32

The image shows the cover of the CGP GCSE Chemistry For AQA (Grade 9-1) Exam Practice Workbook. The cover is white with a red and yellow border. It features the CGP logo at the top right and the title 'GCSE Chemistry For AQA (Grade 9-1)' in large red letters. Below the title, it says 'Exam Practice Workbook'. At the bottom, it mentions 'Includes Answers' and 'For the new course starting September 2016'.

English

Ms Hunter



English Language and English Literature GCSEs

- Two GCSEs – both GCSEs in English ‘as important as each other’.
- No Coursework or Controlled Assessments.
- Spoken Language Component mark awarded. (Students deliver a speech/ presentation to peers and teacher)
- 100% exam.



English Language GCSE

- Exam board: AQA
- Two papers, each 1 hour 45 in length
- Both exams are **equally** important
- Dates: All dates are currently provisional and potentially subject to change

Paper 1 (fiction and creative writing) **21 May 2026**

Paper 2 (non-fiction and informative/persuasive writing) **5 June 2026**



Language: Where do we go next?

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 2024-2025

Pen, ruler, **highlighters** and whiteboard pens every lesson

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

Know how to identify language techniques and structural techniques.

Revision guides and workbooks

Internal exams

Intervention groups

Practice past papers and familiarisation with exam

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

Youtube channel – Mr Bruff Maths



English Literature GCSE

- 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
- Dates:

Paper 1 (texts from the Literary Heritage) **11 May 2026**

Paper 2 (modern texts) **29 May 2026**



Literature: Where do we go next?

- We are finishing the final topic this half term.
- The majority of Year 11 is revision of the following:
 - Shakespeare: Macbeth
 - Nineteenth-Century Novel: A Christmas Carol (Charles Dickens)
- Modern Text: An Inspector Calls (J.B. Priestley)
- Poetry Anthology: Power and Conflict poetry cluster from the AQA anthology
- Unseen Poetry: Practise of unseen poetry



Support for English Literature 2024-2025

Pen, ruler, highlighters and whiteboard pens 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>

Mr Bruff Youtube Channel



Mathematics

MRS THOMAS



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GCSE external Maths exams

Edexcel Mathematics (1MA1) for summer 2027

PAPER 1 (Non-Calculator)

PAPER 2 (Calculator)

PAPER 3 (Calculator)

All papers are 1hr 30mins

Each paper will assess any topic from the curriculum.

Each paper has 80 marks and is equally weighted.

Foundation: Grades 1 - 5

Higher: Grades 4 - 9

(4 = C/D)

(6 = B, 7 = A)



Type of exam questions:

		Weighting
AO1	Use and apply standard techniques	50 (F) 40 (H)
AO2	Reason, interpret and communicate mathematically	25 (F) 30 (H)
AO3	Solve problems with mathematics and in other contexts	25 (F) 30 (H)



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-83GT CW, FX-85GT CW or FX-991CW Calculator £10-£25

<https://sparxmaths.com/> to use independently.

Homework will be a collection of Sparx and/or GCSE questions set by the class teacher each week. **Due in on Wednesday every week.**

Tuesday 22nd Sept-Early Mock (Non-calc) to check the correct tier before half term.

Maths masterclasses during tutor time, twice per half term.

Maths intervention during tutor time to focus on key knowledge needed to make good progress.

- **Maths intervention during lunch** targeted students invited.

Maths Genie website – topic by topic revision (3rd and 4th column)



How to help your child

1. Encourage regular use of Sparxmaths on topics that are not secure.
2. Ensuring your child is completing their weekly homework on time.
3. Verbally test your child on recalling formulae from the GCSE formulae sheet (found on EDEXCEL website).
4. Check they have the correct equipment for each lesson.
5. Use CGP Revision Guides / Workbooks.
6. Encourage a "little and often" approach to revising.
7. Remind students that consistent self-testing of key facts AND lots of practice is the most effective way to study



Pastoral, and Revision

Ms McCormick
Head of Year 11



Year 11 Tutor Team

Head of Year 11 – Ms McCormick

Tutor Team

- **Maths – Mrs Thomas (HoD Maths)**
- **English – Ms Hunter (HoD English) and Mrs Boswell**
- **Science – Mrs Grist (HoD Science) and Mr Steadwood**
- **Science – Mrs Gawthorpe**

*Tutor groups may change after each mock cycle



Year 11 Leadership team and opportunities

Heads of School & Deputy Heads of School are running leadership opportunities.

Year 7 mentoring		Committees	
Interhouse competitions		Year Book	



Year 11 Tutor

8:35am - 9:10

- English, Maths and Science intervention (3 sessions per week)
- Wednesday core subject masterclass (1 session per week)
- Assembly, careers discussions, PSHE and opportunities for celebration (1-2 sessions)



Expectations of students

- 100% effort, 100% of the time with school support
- Active engagement
- Prompt to school and lessons
- Correct equipment every lesson
- Correct uniform every day
- Completion of homework every week
- No phones between 8:10 and 3:40
- **Try** everything, even if they are not sure – working on resilience



Attendance is the most fundamental requirement



* and a square without good GCSEs

-5% = ~1 grade boundary

Expected attendance is 95% or higher.



Homework and Equipment

Studies have shown that completing homework is equivalent to an additional **5 months** of education or **6 months** when involving digital technologies.

- *Students receive approximately 1 hour of homework per subject per week. Logged on Arbor.*
- *Before tests, students should also be independently revising.*
- *Praise and sanctions*



Essential equipment:

- Black/blue pen
- Green pen
- Pencil
- Rubber
- Ruler
- Highlighter
- Scientific calculator
- Protractor
- Pair of compasses
- PE kit
- Reading book

All equipment (except calculators) are available for purchase at Reception during break and lunch only.



Lunchtime Intervention timetable

Starting Monday 21st September

Year 11 Lunchtime interventions 13:00 - 13:30 Autumn Term

	Mon A	Tue A	Wed A	Thurs A	Fri A
Subject 1	Maths 7+	RS	Triple Chemistry	History 4+	Maths 5+
Room	M21	M16	Lab 3	K14	M21
Teacher	Mrs Sparks	Ms Drake	Mrs Grist	Mrs Cusani	Ms Davis
Subject 2	Triple Physics	Maths 4+	Music	Computing	PE
Room	Lab 1	M21	Music (M10)	IT Room	K10
Teacher	Mr Steadwood	Mrs Smit	Mrs Apps	Mr Maisey	Mr Sparks
Subject 3	English 5+	English 7+	Geography	Art	Science 5+
Room	M15	M11	K13	Art	Lab 5
Teacher	Miss Hunter	Ms McCormick	Miss Gallantree	Mr Henderson	Ms Gawthorpe
Subject 4			Business Studies		English 4+
Room			M13		M13
Teacher			Mr Buckley		Mrs Skilton
Subject 5			French		
Room			K1		
Teacher			Mr Gyabaah		

	Mon B	Tue B	Wed B	Thurs B	Fri B
Subject 1	Maths 7+	RS	Triple Chemistry	History 4+	Maths 5+
Room	M21	M16	Lab 3	K14	M21
Teacher	Mrs Thomas	Ms Drake	Mrs Grist	Mrs Cusani	Ms Burden
Subject 2	English 5+	Maths 4+	Music	Triple Physics	PE
Room	M15	M21	Music (M10)	Lab 1	K10
Teacher	Miss Hunter	Mrs Boswell	Mrs Apps	Mr Steadwood	Mr Sparks
Subject 3		English 7+	Geography	Computing	Science 5+
Room		M12	K13	IT Room	Lab 2
Teacher		Mrs Hall	Miss Gallantree	Mr Maisey	Mrs Obbard
Subject 4			Business Studies	Art	English 4+
Room			M13	Art	M14
Teacher			Mr Buckley	Mr Henderson	Mr Ballard
Subject 5			French		
Room			K1		
Teacher			Mr Gyabaah		



Mentoring

Later in the year, some students will be assigned a mentor if we feel they need additional support, however students will always have the opportunity to talk to a teacher about the following:

- ✓ Discuss subjects
- ✓ Homework/subject deadlines
- ✓ Revision planning
- ✓ Exams



1:1 mentoring and Homework help

1:1 mentoring available throughout the year, please contact Mr Starley

Homework support 13:00 Tuesdays ICT room

Time management support 13:00 Tuesdays ICT room



Post-16 Options

- Students at Wye will soon be completing their Post-16 Options.
- We will be supporting them with their application through Kent Choices.
- **We strongly encourage you to visit open days over the coming 2 months for a range of providers.**

7th October – Presentation from some local Post-16 providers – Assembly Hall



CXK Careers guidance

We are extremely lucky to be able to work with CXK Careers Guidance

Every student will have a meeting with a Careers adviser before the deadline for Post-16 options.

This will either be in the form of a 1:1 interview, or a group session (Max. 4 people)

These are confidential, and students will be sent a summary sheet of what has been discussed by the advisor.



Post-16

What are the upcoming timelines for Post-16 applications?



NOVEMBER

Young people will receive their log in details for the online application system. There will be a letter available for parents to explain this.



MARCH/APRIL

Young people should start to receive offers following their applications and they will be asked to put these in order of preference.

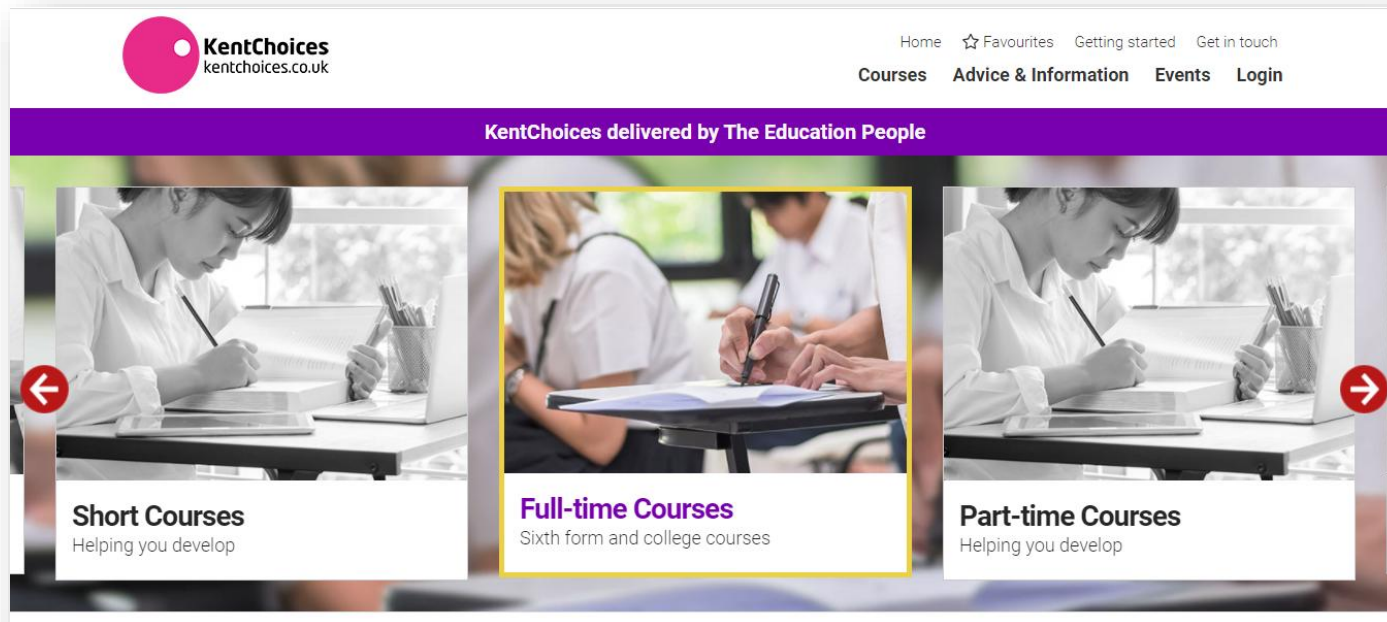


NOVEMBER ONWARDS

Young people should be making applications to their chosen post-16 establishment.



Kent Choices website is there to help



Revision Materials/Books

- [A list of the specific revision guides you will need is available on the website.](#)
- Targeted revision materials/books
- Be specific with general revision websites
- Sample assessment materials
- Past Papers



Revision Tips

1. Retrieval practice
 - Use of flashcards
 - Cover up notes and retrieve them from memory
2. Past Papers and Exam Questions
 - Complete in timed conditions at home and bring in for teachers to mark.
3. Spaced revision
 - Revise little and often rather than cramming.
4. Interleaving
 - Be sure to mix topics rather than focusing on one skill all evening
5. Teach someone else



For any questions, please feel free to talk to any member of staff after the meeting and we will be happy to help.

- Rachael Burden – Assistant Principal
- Fran McCormick – Director of Year 11
- Ellie Hunter – Head of English
- Fiona Thomas – Head of Maths
- Vicky Grist – Head of Science
- Karen Henderson – SENCO
- Keir Starley – Year 11 Behaviour manager and Pastoral Support

