

GCSE Success: specifications, books and recommended activities

Core Departments:

English Language and Literature

Ms R Curley

Specification and board: Edexcel

1EN0 and 1ET0

Set texts:

Romeo and Juliet, Animal Farm, Frankenstein, Poetry Anthology (Time & Place)

Other activities:

Read and become familiar with a range of non-fiction texts (e.g. newspapers, reviews, travel literature).
Secure your basic English skills – grammar, spelling, punctuation – using BBC Skillswise and BBC Bitesize.

Maths

Ms L Franklin

Specification and board: Edexcel

1MA1

Textbooks:

Edexcel Mathematics 9-1, published by Pearson. Available to buy through the school on WisePay.

Other activities:

Students have access to ActiveLearn, an online interactive tool that enables them to access the textbook and practice questions, watch instruction videos, and receive immediate feedback. This will be a really valuable tool for consolidation and revision over the GCSE course.

Science

Mr A Clift-Matthews

Specification and board: Edexcel

2SC01 and 2SA01 (Double)

2BI01, 2CH01, and 2PH01 (Triple)

Textbooks:

Collins GCSE Edexcel Science textbooks by Gurinder Chadha for the 2011 specification for double (2 books) and triple (3 books)

Revision guides:

Soon to be available to buy through the school on WisePay:
Collins Edexcel GCSE Revision Guide and Exam Practice Workbook

Other activities:

Develop a good general knowledge of science from reading the BBC Science news pages and reading around the subject.

Controlled assessments:

May 2015 and Autumn 2016 (+ Spring 1 2017 for Triple)

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ADT Department

Art		Ms P Carragher
Specification and board:	Edexcel	2AD01
<u>Other:</u>		
Make sure you have the right equipment: art apron/ old shirt, graded pencils, colouring pencils, glue stick, acrylic paint and watercolour paints.		
Visit galleries such as the Tate, the Saatchi gallery, the National Portrait Gallery.		
Regularly look at art magazines online such as Art Review and Frieze Magazine.		
DT: Graphic Products		Ms P Carragher
Specification and board:	AQA	4550
<u>Textbooks:</u>		
Soon to be available to buy through the school on WisePay:		
AQA GCSE Design and Technology: Graphic Products by Eamonn Durkan, David Dunlop, Geoff Westell.		
<u>Other:</u>		
Make sure you have the right equipment: art apron/ old shirt, graded pencils, colouring pencils, graphic markers/ colouring pens, glue stick, acrylic paint and watercolour paints.		
Packaging Makeover: Graphic Redesign for Market Change by Stacey King Gordon		
Structural Packages by Joseph M Garroffe		
Folding Patterns for Display and Publicity by Peping van Roojen		

Drama Department

Drama		Ms K Field
Specification and board:	WJEC	4150 LA
<u>Other activities:</u>		
Check Fronter regularly for recommended reading and viewing.		
Students should look out for as many opportunities as possible to see live theatre either in person or recorded (check the Arts channels).		
<u>Controlled assessment:</u>		
Autumn 2016		

Humanities Department

Geography		Ms S Balsdon
Specification and board:	OCR B	J385
<u>Textbooks:</u>		
Heinemann OCR Geography Specification B Geography. Series Editor: Tom Miller OR		
Oxford GCSE Geography OCR B by Widdowson, Naldrett, Cole, Kinder, Thurtle, Mortimer		
<u>Revision guides:</u>		
Heinemann OCR GCSE Geography B: Revision Toolkit Student Workbook by Rob Clemens		
CGP Geography revision guide for Geography GCSE OCR B		
<u>Other activities:</u>		
A quality newspaper/ news website at least once a week.		
Regularly watching the news; Channel 4 News is particularly good on geographical issues.		
<u>Controlled assessment:</u>		
Summer 2016		

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<p>History</p> <p>Specification and board: AQA</p> <p><u>Textbooks:</u> GCSE Modern World History by Ben Walsh</p> <p><u>Revision guides:</u> AQA GCSE Modern World History Revision Guide, Second Edition, by Ben Walsh</p> <p><u>Controlled assessment:</u> Summer 2016</p>	<p>Ms R Priestley</p> <p>9145</p>
<p>RE</p> <p>Specification and board: OCR B</p> <p><u>Textbooks:</u> Philosophy and Applied Ethics – GCSE religious studies for OCR B- Libby Ahluwalia, Alex and Jayne Marklew, Oxford</p> <p><u>Revision guides:</u> GCSE religious studies: philosophy and applied ethics for OCR B – revision guide – Jon Mayled, Hodder education CGP – Religious Studies – OCR B: Ethics 1&2, CGP CGP – Religious Studies – OCR B: Philosophy 1&2, CGP</p> <p><u>Other reading:</u> Bible which includes the Old Testament and the New Testament (either NIV or King James edition) Online news articles</p>	<p>Mr B Woracker</p> <p>J621</p>

Languages Department:

<p>French</p> <p>Specification and board: Edexcel</p> <p><u>Textbook:</u> Edexcel GCSE French Higher (Pearson)</p> <p><u>Other activities:</u> Regularly listen to a French radio station Watch French films (list on Fronter) Read great French literature (list on Fronter) Read French newspapers online, e.g. Le Monde Use the websites Linguascope and Vocab Express French</p> <p><u>Controlled assessments:</u> Speaking 1 in Autumn 2015, Writing 1 in Spring 2016, Speaking 2 and Writing 2 in Summer 2016 Speaking 3 and Writing 3 in Year 11</p>	<p>Ms J Spencer</p> <p>2FR01</p>
<p>Spanish</p> <p>Specification and board: Edexcel</p> <p><u>Textbook:</u> Edexcel GCSE Spanish Higher (Pearson)</p> <p><u>Other activities:</u> Regularly listen to a Spanish radio station Watch Spanish films (list on Fronter) Read great Spanish literature (list on Fronter) Read Spanish newspapers online, e.g. El Pais and El Mundo Use the websites Linguascope and Vocab Express Spanish</p> <p><u>Controlled assessments:</u> Speaking 1 in Autumn 2015, Writing 1 in Spring 2016, Speaking 2 and Writing 2 in Summer 2016 Speaking 3 and Writing 3 in Year 11</p>	<p>Ms J Spencer</p> <p>2SP01</p>

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Music Department

Music		Mr G Coughlin
Specification and board:	Edexcel	2MU01
<u>Textbooks:</u>		
Edexcel GCSE Music: Student Book by John Arkell and Johnny Martin		
<u>Set pieces:</u>		
And the Glory of the Lord' – Handel		'All Blues' – Miles Davis
'Symphony No.40 in G Minor' – Mozart		'Grace' – Jeff Buckley
'Prelude No.15 (Raindrop)' – Chopin		'Why does my heart feel so bad?' – Moby
'Peripetie' - Schoenberg		'Skye Waulking Song' – Capercaillie
'Something's Coming' (West Side Story) – Bernstein		'Raga Desh' – Anoushka Shankar, Ravi Shankar, Alok Bhatt, Steve Gorn, Benjy Wertheimer
'Electric Counterpoint' – Steve Reich		'Yiri' – Madou Koné
<u>Other activities:</u>		
Listen to other works by the composers/ groups of the set works. There will soon be a recommended listening list on Fronter.		
Practising regularly is essential for GCSE music students. Half an hour of practice 3 times a week is a minimum to obtain high marks in the performance element.		
<u>Controlled assessments:</u>		
2 compositions and 2 performances		

Physical Education Department

PE		Mr D Beattie
Specification and board:	Edexcel	2PE01
<u>Textbooks:</u>		
Edexcel GCSE Physical Education Student Book by Tony Scott (Pearson)		
<u>Revision guides:</u>		
Revise Edexcel: GCSE Physical Education Revision Guide (Pearson)		
Revise Edexcel: GCSE Physical Education Revision Workbook (Pearson)		
Revise Edexcel: GCSE Physical Education Practice Papers (Pearson)		
<u>Controlled assessment:</u>		
Summer 2016		