

GCSE Success: specifications, books and recommended activities

Core Departments:

English Language and Literature

Mr T Davoll

Specification and board: Edexcel

1EN0 and 1ET0

Set texts:

Romeo and Juliet, Animal Farm, A Christmas Carol, Poetry Anthology (Time & Place)

Revision Guides:

Romeo and Juliet: York Notes for GCSE (9-1) by John Polley and Jo Heathcote

A Christmas Carol: York Notes for GCSE (9-1) by Lucy English

Animal Farm: York Notes for GCSE (9-1) by Wanda Opalinska

REVISE Edexcel GCSE (9-1) English Language Revision Guide by Julie Hughes

REVISE Edexcel GCSE English Language Revision Workbook: For the 9-1 Exams by Julie Hughes

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

Mr B Simpson

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.

Students also have access to MathsWatch, an online bank of tutorial videos with step by step instruction for exam-style questions.

Science

Mr A Clift-Matthews

Specification and board: AQA

8464 (Combined: Trilogy)

8461, 8462, and 8463 (Triple)

Textbooks:

Oxford University press GCSE AQA Science textbooks for the 9-1 specification.

AQA Biology student book by Anne Fullick

AQA Chemistry student book by Lawrie Ryan

AQA Physics student book by Jim Breithaupt

Revision guides:

Now available to buy through the school on WisePay:

Collins AQA 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. Review the support materials on the AQA website and use the practice exam papers. Visiting BBC Bitesize to review class learning regularly is also a valuable revision tool.

GCSE Success: specifications, books and recommended activities

ADT Department

Art		Ms Spencer
Specification and board:	Edexcel	1AD0
<u>Other:</u>		
Ensure 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.		
Check Fronter regularly for online resources and powerpoints used during lessons.		
DT: Graphics		Ms Spencer
Specification and board:	Edexcel	1DT0
<u>Textbook:</u>		
Pearson GCSE Design and Technology Student Book for the 2017 specification.		
ISBN: 978-1-292-18458-6		
<u>Other activities:</u>		
Extend your understanding of design by visiting places such as the Design Museum and the Saatchi gallery.		
Check Fronter regularly for online resources and powerpoints used during lessons.		
<u>Non-exam assessment (NEA):</u>		
Non-exam assessment task worth 50% of the total marks. Released in June of Year 10 and completed in lessons.		

Drama Department

Drama		Ms K Field
Specification and board:	Eduqas	601/8420/6
<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 2018		

Humanities Department

Geography		Ms P Gurm
Specification and board:	Edexcel B	1GB0
<u>Textbooks:</u>		
GCSE Geography Edexcel B Student Book. Published May 2016. ISBN: 0198366574		
<u>Revision guides:</u>		
New Grade 9-1 GCSE Geography Edexcel B: Investigating Geographical Issues – Revision Guide. Published April 2017. ISBN: 1782946217		
Revise Edexcel GCSE (9-1) Geography B Revision Workbook (Revised Edexcel GCSE Geography 16). Published November 2016. ISBN: 1292133767		
<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.		
Check Fronter for articles, activities and reading		

GCSE Success: specifications, books and recommended activities

History	Ms R Priestley
Specification and board: Edexcel	1H10
<u>Textbooks:</u>	
Edexcel GCSE (9-1) History Medicine Through Time c1250-present Student Book	
Edexcel GCSE (9-1) History Early Elizabethan England, 1558–1588 Student Book	
Edexcel GCSE (9-1) History Superpower relations and the Cold War, 1941–91 Student Book	
Edexcel GCSE (9-1) History The USA, 1954–1975: conflict at home and abroad Student Book	
<u>Revision guides:</u>	
Revise Edexcel GCSE (9-1) History: Medicine in Britain Revision Guide and Workbook	
Revise Edexcel GCSE (9-1) History: Early Elizabethan England Revision Guide and Workbook	
Revise Edexcel GCSE (9-1) History: Superpower relations and the Cold War Revision Guide and Workbook	
Revise Edexcel GCSE (9-1) History: The USA, 1954-1975: conflict at home and abroad Revision Guide and work book.	
<u>Other activities:</u>	
Check out GCSE Bitesize Revision – History to review content covered in class.	
Religious Studies	Mr B Woracker
Specification and board: Edexcel	1R80
<u>Textbooks:</u>	
Edexcel Religious Studies for GCSE (9-1): Beliefs in Action (Specification B) (Edexcel Religious Studies GCSE) ISBN: 1471866599	
<u>Revision guides:</u>	
Edexcel Religious Studies for GCSE (9-1): Beliefs in Action (Specification B): Area 1 Religion and Ethics through Christianity, Area 2 Religion, Peace and Conflict through Islam. ISBN: 1510404783	
<u>Other reading:</u>	
Bible which includes the Old Testament and the New Testament (either NIV or King James edition)	
Online news articles	

Languages Department:

French	Ms P Baxter
Specification and board: Edexcel	1FR0
<u>Textbook:</u>	
Studio - GCSE French Higher (Pearson)	
<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	
Spanish	Ms P Baxter
Specification and board: Edexcel	1SP0
<u>Textbook:</u>	
Viva - Edexcel GCSE Spanish Higher (Pearson)	
<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	

GCSE Success: specifications, books and recommended activities

Music Department

Music

Mr G Coughlin

Specification and board: Eduqas

601/8131/X

Textbooks & Revision Guides:

WJEC/Eduqas GCSE Music – Jan Richards (Illuminate Publishing)

WJEC/Eduqas GCSE Music Revision Guide (Rhinegold Education)

Areas of Study:

AoS1: Musical Forms & Devices

AoS2: Music for Ensemble

AoS3: Music for Film

AoS4: Popular Music

Other activities:

Listen to works associated with these areas of study. 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 the high marks required in the performance element.

Controlled assessments:

2 compositions (one based on a brief to be released in 2017) and 2 performances either solo or ensemble

Physical Education Department

PE

Mr D Beattie

Specification and board: OCR

J587

Textbooks:

OCR GCSE PE (9-1) – Second Edition – John Honeybourne

Other activities:

It is important that students are taking part in potentially assessable sports outside of normal school hours, either in enrichment clubs or external clubs.

Regularly revising key terms through use of the “glossary of terms”.

Non-exam assessment (NEA):

Written analysis and evaluation of performance task – likely to be September 2018

Practical assessment and moderation – March to May 2019