



# **GCSE SUBJECT INFORMATION**

**2020-2021**

**Welcome to the GCSE Subject Information Booklet for the 2020-21 academic year.**

Please find enclosed information about all GCSE exams. The information provides details of exam boards, exam breakdown, revision guides, online resources and other advice.

As ever, please let me know if I can do anything to support your child/you.

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**Head of Year 11**

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<b>Subject</b>	<b>Art &amp; Photography G.C.S.E</b>
Exam board	AQA
Exams	No Externally set assignment this year – Students will be assessed on 100% coursework. The coursework submission must include 2 projects, one must be an extended project showing personal development of an idea or theme. Students will work on their personal projects until Christmas and use the Spring term to review, refine, improve and extend their work from Years 9 & 10 based on the individual feedback provided by their class teacher. All coursework must be submitted on or before the 1st April 2021.
Revision guide	Not applicable. Students should refer to the Personal Learning Checklists and Knowledge organisers for the key learning objectives & success criteria.

<b>Subject</b>	<b>BTEC Level 1/2 Tech Award in Digital Information Technology</b>
Exam board	Pearson
Exams	<b>Unit 1 – Exploring User Interface Design Principles-</b> Weighting 30% Internally assessed coursework Units <b>Unit 2 - Collecting, Presenting and Interpreting Data-</b> Weighting 30% Internally assessed coursework Units <b>Unit 3 - Effective Digital Working Practices-</b> Weighting 40% Scenario-based external written exam
Revision guide	Revise BTEC Tech Award Digital Information Technology Revision Guide: ISBN: 9781292272740 Price: £5.99
Online resources	All available via the Google VLE – Subjects   ICT   BTEC DIT

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Business Studies</b>
Exam board	Edexcel G.C.S.E. Business Studies
Exams	Unit 1: Investigating small business, 50% of final grade Unit 2: – Building a business, 50% of final grade Exams 90 minutes
Revision guide	Please purchase the <i>Edexcel Revision Guide and Revision Workbook</i> , priced around £6: <a href="https://www.pearsonschoolsandcolleges.co.uk/secondary/BusinessAndEconomics/14-16/EdexcelG.C.S.E.(9-1)Business2017/ISBN/Revision/ReviseEdexcelG.C.S.E.2017BusinessRevisionGuide.aspx?_ga=2.112656452.1902584573.1530696336-301990673.1508319919&amp;_ga=2.112656452.1902584573.1530696336-301990673.1508319919">https://www.pearsonschoolsandcolleges.co.uk/secondary/BusinessAndEconomics/14-16/EdexcelG.C.S.E.(9-1)Business2017/ISBN/Revision/ReviseEdexcelG.C.S.E.2017BusinessRevisionGuide.aspx?_ga=2.112656452.1902584573.1530696336-301990673.1508319919&amp;_ga=2.112656452.1902584573.1530696336-301990673.1508319919</a>
Online resources	G.C.S.E. Bitesize & Tutor2u (various topics), PLC's for both theme 1 and theme 2, Lesson PowerPoint's for topics covered

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Combined Science: Biology, Physics and Chemistry</b>
Exam board	OCR Gateway Science
Exams	Combined Science – 6 x 1hr 10 minutes exams (2 biology, 2 chemistry, 2 physics) Biology – 2 Exams 1hr 45mins Physics – 2 Exams 1hr 45mins Chemistry - 2 Exams 1hr 45mins
Revision guide	Sold in the science office - revision guide and work books are available from the science office at a discounted rate.
Online resources	BBC Bitesize, G.C.S.E. Pod, KERBOODLE – all students have a login and password in their planners and can access an online book to help them with revision.

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Computer Science G.C.S.E.</b>
Exam board	OCR
Exams	2 Exams in summer 2021, dates to be confirmed both 50% of G.C.S.E. <b>Unit 1</b> Computer Systems - 80 marks <b>Unit 2</b> Computational Thinking - 80 marks 1 Non Exam Element (Currently worth 0% but must be completed)
Revision guide	G.C.S.E. OCR Computer Science Revision Guide (Purchased for £5 by students) Optional Extra: (available in the classroom) OCR G.C.S.E. Computer science ISBN:978-1-910525-08-7
Online resources	All available via the Google VLE

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Creative iMedia</b>
Exam board	OCR National
Exams	75% portfolio- R082 Digital Graphics, R089 Digital Video and R090 Digital Photography.  Students research industry practice and then plan, create and evaluate a top-class Media product in response to a brief assigned by the board, which changes every two years. Portfolios are marked by the class teacher, standardised and then presented to an external moderator; units may be resubmitted.  25% exam- R081 Pre-Production Skills. This paper is taken at the end of Year 10 to allow for repeated attempts and is both explicitly taught via past papers and implicitly through the completion of the other units.
Online Resources	The Media Department V.L.E contains all the lesson Power-Points and materials, an online e-learning Hodder Dynamic Learning text-book.
Online resources	<a href="http://www.technologystudent.com">www.technologystudent.com</a> , <a href="http://www.bbcbitessize.com">www.bbcbitessize.com</a>
Past papers	Practice papers are used throughout the course in both physical and digital form and are free of charge

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Design &amp; Technology</b>
Exam board	AQA
Exams	50% Coursework – 35hrs Non-Examined Assessment takes place in lessons. This starts in June of Year 10 and is completed by Friday the 26th of February 2021, in Year 11. There will not be the emphasis on a final outcome as in previous years but students will be expected to produce high quality full size or scale models. 50% Exam – 2hr written paper
Revision guide	DT G.C.S.E. study guide has been issued to all students. PG On-line revision Guide available from DT staff for £8 with on-line support.
Online resources	<a href="http://www.technologystudent.com">www.technologystudent.com</a> , <a href="http://www.bbcbitessize.com">www.bbcbitessize.com</a>
Past papers	Practice papers have been purchased and along with past papers they will be used in lessons and set as home learning tasks.

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Drama</b>
Exam board	EDUQAS
Exams	<p><b>Component 1: Devising Theatre. Non-exam assessment: internally assessed, externally moderated and 40% of qualification</b> Component 1 a performance of a devised and timed MONOLOGUE along with a Creative Log and evaluation of final performance be completed November (Term 1 2020).</p> <p><b>Component 2: Performing from a Text. Non-exam assessment: externally assessed by a visiting examiner and 20% of qualification</b> This unit is worth 20% and is either a short MONOLOGUE or small GROUP PERFORMANCE from a text. You will be given your groups and your text to read, edit and learn lines. The exam will take place in the final week of January 2021 t.b.c.</p> <p><b>Component 3: Interpreting Theatre. Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes</b> 40% of qualification <b>Provisional exam date: 9th June 2021</b> Section A: Set Text: A series of questions on one set text <i>DNA</i>, Dennis Kelly. Section B: Live Theatre Review: One question, from a choice of two, requiring analysis and evaluation of a given aspect of a live theatre production seen during the course.</p>
Revision guide	Your teacher will give you all the information you need. Students will need to buy their own copy of <i>DNA</i> by Dennis Kelly ISBN-10 : 1840029528

	to read over Christmas. There will be a series of home learning tasks in addition to extra rehearsals for C1 and C2. Students will be issued with a printed revision guide to the exam and the play DNA (cost £3.00).
Online resources	Your teacher will point you towards any useful material and we will place this in the Google VLE under Drama. Most of the material has been written by the teachers and will be printed and handed out. Students will be regularly updated with information.

<b>Subject</b>	<b>English</b>
Exam board	AQA
Exams (How many exams are there? What is included in each?)	<p><b>AQA English Language – 2 papers</b></p> <p><u>Paper 1</u> Section A Reading unseen C20 fiction &amp; answering 4 analytical questions based on the text Section B Writing – descriptive and/or narrative</p> <p><u>Paper 2</u> Section A Reading unseen literary fiction and non-fiction &amp; answering 4 analytical questions based on the texts Section B Writing – discursive writing</p> <p><b>AQA English Literature - 2 papers</b></p> <p><u>Paper 1</u> An Inspector Calls / Power and Conflict Poetry – this is a CLOSED text exam <u>Paper 2</u> Macbeth / Unseen Poetry- this is a CLOSED text exam</p>
Revision guide	There are a number of revision guides available to purchase including York notes, Spark notes and CGP. In order to revise for Literature, students should ensure that they have reread their set texts alongside their revision notes.
Online resources	Students can access BBC Bitesize for some elements of the course: <i>An Inspector Calls</i> , some of the <i>Power &amp; Conflict</i> poems from the Anthology. YouTube videos made by Mr Bruff are also useful. The college VLE also contains a range of practical information and revision tasks that teachers have put together in order to support students in their revision. Students are also encouraged to use GCSEPod and Seneca to support their revision.



<b>Subject</b>	<b>Film Studies</b>
Exam board	EDUQAS
Exams (How many exams are there? What is included in each?)	<p><b>Paper 1, Key Developments in American Film.(1 1/2 hr) 35% of total marks.</b>  Section A and B- The US Comparative Study. You will be studying <b>Rear Window</b> (Hitchcock USA 1954) and <b>Witness</b> (Weir, USA, 1985).  Section C-The US Independent Film. Either, <b>Little Miss Sunshine</b> (Dayton/Faris, USA 2006) or <b>Whiplash</b> (Chazelle, USA, 2014)  Putting films in their social and technological context and exploring reviews written about them are all part of this study.</p> <p><b>Paper 2, Global Film (1 1/2hr) 35% of total marks.</b>  Section A- <b>Slumdog Millionaire</b> (Boyle, UK 2008)  Section B- <b>The Wave</b> (Gansel, Germany 2008)  Section C- <b>Skyfall</b> (Mendes, UK, 2012)</p> <p><b>Component 3. 30% of total marks. The Practical.</b>  A film or a screen-play + an evaluation in response to the official exam brief which is very general in nature allowing for great creativity.  This is an extra GCSE which is taken after college in addition to the main programme and which begins in Year 9 when Paper 2 and the practical are studied; the GCSE is taken a year early in Year 10 which is when Paper 1 is the focus. Studying and understanding genre, representation and narrative structure are important elements of the course and so we shall be watching a wide range of films of many genres, which are both mainstream and independent.</p>
Revision guide	The Media Department's VLE contains the teaching materials and guides from the board.
Online resources	There are very few of these but practice papers supplied by the board are used throughout the course.

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Food Preparation and Nutrition</b>
Exam board	WJEC EDUQAS
Exams	One coursework unit: 50% NEA Task 2. Food Investigation Assessment 50% Written exam – 1 hour 45 minutes
Revision guide	Revision guide available online for WJEC EDUQAS course
Online resources	Information to be provided by teacher

<b>Subject</b>	<b>French</b>
Exam board	AQA
Exams	Listening Paper 1 (25% of exam) Speaking (Teacher assessed 25% of exam & assessed during the academic year.) Reading Paper 3 (25% of exam) Writing Paper 4 (25% of exam) Changes for Summer 2021 include the introduction of an additional Writing question choice at both the Overlap 90 word Foundation/Higher tiers & in the 150 word Higher Writing.
Revision guide	Resources issued to students: G.C.S.E. AQA vocabulary book/ AQA Revision guide/ AQA Grammar & Translation book. Revision workbook (Listening, Reading & Writing practice) available to purchase on Parent pay £5.
Online resources	Active Learn <a href="https://www.pearsonactivelearn.com">https://www.pearsonactivelearn.com</a> ( students have a personalised login which is given to them by their class teacher – please email us if this is lost), Languages on line <a href="https://www.languagesonline.org.uk">https://www.languagesonline.org.uk</a> ( no password needed) , <a href="https://www.linguascope.com/">https://www.linguascope.com/</a> (username : KCC password : lang & go to the Intermediate section)
Past papers	G.C.S.E. papers & End of module assessments mapped to G.C.S.E. course – google link shared with parents by Miss Pring
Any other advice/information	<b>Changes to the French GCSE include a change to the Speaking exam</b> The Ofqual consultation outcome confirmed that the spoken language assessment in summer 2021 will be an endorsement reported on a 3-point scale (pass, merit and distinction) against common assessment criteria. Students' speaking skills will be assessed by teachers during the course of study and the endorsement level of pass, merit or distinction will be reported alongside the 9-1 grade. We are still awaiting guidance on the conduct & marking of this exam.

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Geography</b>
Exam board	AQA
Exams	<p><b>Unit 1: Living with the Physical Environment: Paper 1 - 1hr 30min (35% of the G.C.S.E.)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>The Challenge of Natural Hazards</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Physical Landscapes in the UK</i></li> <li>▪ <i>The Living World</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Unit 2: Challenges in the Human Environment: Paper 2 - 1hr 30min (35% of the G.C.S.E.)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Urban Issues and Challenges</i></li> <li>▪ <i>The Changing Economic World</i></li> <li>▪ <i>The Challenge of Resource Management</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Unit 3: Geographical Applications: Paper 3 - 1hr 15min TBC (30% of the G.C.S.E.)</b></p> <p>Unit 3 comprises of 2 sections, students will be examined on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Fieldwork</b> – Students will no longer be asked any questions on their own fieldwork. They may be asked short answer questions that require them to interpret results and evaluate methods from other theoretical fieldwork.</li> <li>▪ <b>Issue Evaluation</b> – students will be given a set of resources in March (released from the exam board) on an issue to interpret and analyse. They will have to think critically to solve problems and make a decision on the issue.</li> <li>▪</li> </ul>
Revision guide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• G.C.S.E. 9-1 Geography: Revision Guide Oxford publisher</li> <li>• Use your book for CASE STUDIES revision</li> </ul>
Online resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BBC Bite size</li> <li>• G.C.S.E. pod</li> <li>• Seneca</li> <li>• Make sure you watch the news!</li> </ul>
Any other advice/information	Students really need to develop their ability to answer challenging questions which will have command phrases such as “Assess the extent to which...”, “evaluate the factors that...”. They need to have a good grasp of how to use connectives effectively.

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Health &amp; Social Care BTEC</b>
Exam board	Pearson BTEC Tech Award in Health and Social Care Level 1/2
Assessment	60% Coursework – 2 separate pieces of coursework worth 30% each, including an assessed role play. To be completed throughout the course. 40% Exam – Written exam. 2 hours
Revision guide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Revise BTEC Tech Award Health and Social Care Revision Guide: (with free online edition) Paperback by Mrs Brenda Baker (Author) ISBN-13 : 978-1292245614</li> <li>BTEC National Health and Social Care Revision Workbook: Second edition (REVISE BTEC Nationals in Health and Social Care) Paperback – 7 Sept. 2017 by Georgina Shaw (Author) ISBN-13 : 978-1292230580</li> </ul>
Online resources	All lessons and revision materials are available on the VLE
Past papers	Practice papers are available from your teacher and in the Revision Workbook

<b>Subject</b>	<b>History</b>
Exam board	OCR
Exams	<p><b>4 exams</b></p> <p>The Norman Conquest:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Was the Anglo-Saxon Age a Golden Age?</li> <li>How did William take power in England in 1066?</li> <li>How did William control England?</li> <li>What lasting impacts did the Normans have in England?</li> </ul> <p>People's Health c.1250 to present</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Looking at public health conditions, epidemics and local government solutions to public health in the Medieval era, the Early Modern Era, the Industrial era and the Modern era</li> </ul> <p>History Around Us (Buckland Abbey)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Looking at the History of Buckland Abbey during its monastic era.</li> <li>Looking at how Buckland Abbey changed in the Tudor era and who lived there</li> <li>Looking at changes Buckland Abbey underwent in the industrial era</li> <li>Looking at how Buckland Abbey functions under the ownership of the National Trust.</li> </ul> <p>Living Under Nazi Rule 1933-1945</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Looking at how the Nazi party created a one party state in Germany in 1933-4</li> <li>Looking at how they controlled people's lives and changed the lives of German people</li> <li>Analysing what occurred in Nazi Germany during World War Two</li> <li>Looking at how they treated occupied countries</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Learning about the Holocaust.</li></ul> <p><b>NO COURSEWORK OR CONTROLLED ASSESSMENT</b></p>
Revision guide	Revision guides to be issued in the Spring Term 2021.
Online resources	BBC Bitesize G.C.S.E. POD

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Maths</b>
Exam board	Edexcel
Exams	3 papers (1hr 30 mins each) – Paper 1 non-calculator paper, Paper 2 Calculator paper and Paper 3 Calculator Paper. Any topic from the syllabus can be tested on any of the papers. There are 2 tiers – Higher (grades 9 – 4) and Foundation (grades 5 – 1). Most students will sit the Higher Tier examination.
Revision guide	CGP Revision Guide and work book (£3.50 each) for Edexcel grade 9 – 1 course – available from Maths Dept
Online resources	Mathswatch VLE and JustMaths
Any other advice/information	We are completing fortnightly past papers, every Thursday Week B. Make sure that you use the R.A.G sheets to prioritise you independent revision and use Mathswatch VLE for video clips to explain the topic and follow this up by completing the interactive questions.

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Music</b>
Exam board	AQA
Exams	1 exam – 1 hr 30 min Aural exam focusing on listening skills and set works - 40% Either: 1.5 minute solo performance or 2 minute ensemble performance - 30% Either: Composition to a brief or free composition (2 minutes) - 30%
Revision guide	We have produced a revision guide and have issued it to all students; spares are available from the music department.
Online resources	BBC Bitesize DSO Kids
Any other advice/information	Miss Marshall and Mr Simm will be available to provide one to one help after school for any student who requests it.

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Physical Education</b>
Exam board	AQA
Exams	<p><b>40% NEA (Non-Examined Assessment)</b></p> <p><b>30% Practical:</b> <u>Students will be assessed in two activities rather than three.</u> These can be two individual activities, two team activities or one of each. Information on the skills for each activity can be found: AQA G.C.S.E. PE- specifications for exams from 2016- p47-169. More guidance will be provided by AQA at the earliest opportunity regarding the challenges caused by the ongoing public health restrictions. The exam board are aware that social distancing measures make certain activities difficult or impossible for the time being.</p> <p><b>10% Written Coursework:</b> One piece of coursework 'Analysis and evaluation of performance to bring about improvement in one activity' (worth 25 marks). All NEA needs to be completed by February 2021.</p> <p><b>60% Theory:</b> This is covered by two 1hr 15mins papers worth 78 marks each: Paper 1 – The human body and movement in physical activity and sport &amp; Paper 2– Socio-cultural influences and well-being in physical activity and sport.</p>
Revision guide	<p>Hodder education: My Revision Notes: AQA G.C.S.E. 9-1 PE second edition –Kirk Bizley</p> <p>Available to buy for £10 from the P.E. Office- Please ask your G.C.S.E P.E. teacher if you would like to purchase a copy of this.</p>
Online resources	AQA GCSE PE B.B.C Bitesize, 'Planet P.E' on YouTube- GCSE PE Paper 1 topics & GCSE PE Paper 2 topics playlists and the online textbook on S.M.H.W and the KCC V.L.E.

Subject	R.E.
Exam board	EDUQAS
Exams	<p>There are three exams.</p> <p><b>Component 1:</b> Religious, Philosophical and Ethical Studies of the Modern World (50% of G.C.S.E. - 2 Hours)</p> <p><b>Component 2:</b> Christianity Beliefs and Teachings and Practices (25% of G.C.S.E. - 1 Hour)</p> <p><b>Component 3:</b> Buddhism Beliefs and Teachings and Practices (25% of G.C.S.E. - 1 Hour)</p>
Revision guide	<p>My Revision Notes WJEC Eduqas GCE (9-1) Religious Studies: Route A ISBN: 978-1510414624</p> <p>You will also be given a pack of basic revision materials by your teacher</p>
Online resources	<p>All of the revision materials that have been created by the college, including past papers, will be available on Google Classroom. You will be told how and when you can access these materials. Feel free to email the RE team asking questions if you are unsure about any of the content covered or come and find one of us. One of the team will respond with an answer to your question.</p> <p>BBC Bitesize - the two religions you are studying are - Christianity Paper 2 and Buddhism Paper 3 (Beliefs and teachings and Practices). Paper 1 covers: Relationships, Life &amp; Death, Good &amp; Evil and Human Rights.</p> <p><a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/z68sjhv">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/z68sjhv</a></p>
Any other advice/information	<p>Only use G.C.S.E. Pod to download podcasts approved by your teacher.</p> <p>When revising, stick to Buddhism and Christianity. Use Humanism only for Issues of Life and Death. You may find information on more religions if you use external materials but this will only confuse you!</p> <p>Trust that you can do brilliantly in the subject. A little effort goes a long way in RE! There will be RE catch up Every Monday in RE1 if you are stuck on any specific topics please come along.</p> <p>Keep track of current affairs and topical issues: Human Rights, Abortion Law, Euthanasia etc.</p>



<b>Subject</b>	<b>Sports Science</b>
Exam board	OCR Cambridge National
Exams	<p>Each unit is worth 25% and 4 are studied. Units include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Reducing the risk of sports injuries (Compulsory examination)</b></li> <li>- Applying principles of training.</li> <li>- Technology in sport.</li> <li>- Sports Psychology</li> </ul>
Revision guide	<p>Hodder Education: Cambridge National Level 1/2 Sport Science Student eTextbook  Author: Ross Howitt, Mike Murray ISBN: 9781510455832</p>
Online resources	<a href="https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/cambridge-nationals/sport-science-level-1-2-j802-j812/assessment/">https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/cambridge-nationals/sport-science-level-1-2-j802-j812/assessment/</a>