

- Make yourself start at the right time
- Build in breaks
- Don't leave the difficult bits to the end
- Have a tick sheet or a way of marking off what you have done to give yourself a feeling of progression
- Keep an organised work environment with notes filed in the right places
- Give yourself rewards for keeping to your schedule
- Find ways to check you have remembered key information – use someone else to test you, write out key facts without notes, answer exam questions

English

Exam board: Edexcel

All students sit both English Language and English Literature, which will give all students two GCSEs.

Both English Literature and English Language comprise of two examinations:

English Language – Paper 1: 19th Century Extract and Imaginative Writing

English Language – Paper 2: Non-Fiction Extracts and Transactional Writing

English Literature – Paper 1: Shakespeare and Post-1914 Novel or Play

English Literature – Paper 2: 19th Century Novel and Poetry

Resources needed for revision:

- Revision guides. All students will receive a revision guide created by the English department.
- Online curriculum – there is a revision section and access to past papers and exemplar answers using the interactive text book feature.
- Access to external revision websites – GCSE Bitesize and Sparknotes are examples; there are also some good summary videos on YouTube.
- Exercise books with written notes and revision folders.
- Past paper exam questions and mark schemes from class teachers or the official Edexcel website.
- Revision text books and revision workbooks. These are available to order from the Library as follows:
Revise Edexcel GCSE English Language Revision guide and Workbook £5

Top revision tips:

- Use the syllabus or revision guide to produce a list of texts and writing skills that you need to know for each exam. This will help you to break your revision down into manageable chunks.
- Hand in extra revision work to teachers so that they can provide additional feedback.
- Re-read the texts, which are available from the library, all good book stores or as ebooks – making notes about Character, Setting and Theme.
- Know whether you need context, analysis, evidence or evaluation etc. for each section of the exam.
- Read a range of short stories or the opening chapters of novels to help you think about your own imaginative writing.
- Read a range of non-fiction (magazines, newspapers, biographies etc) and consider how language and structure are used to engage the reader.

Maths

Exam board: OCR (Foundation) OCR/Edexcel (TBC) (Higher)

Edexcel Website: <http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/mathematics-2015-9-1-post-16-resits.html>

OCR Website: <http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse-mathematics-j560-from-2015/>

3 papers, all 90mins long:

- **1 non-calculator paper**
- **2 calculator papers**

Resources needed for revision:

- Revision guides available from the Maths department priced at £5. This includes the guide and the workbook to use at home. Each revision guide has a unique code that also unlocks online content for the students.
- Exercise books with written notes in
- Past paper exam questions and mark schemes given in class
- Scientific Calculator

Top revision tips:

- MyMaths can be used for further explanations on topics as well as providing extra questions.
- Utilise MyMaths Session 3 in the run up to the exams. Maths teachers are at hand for extra help with homework and topics of difficulty.
- Pinpoint Learning provides a breakdown of questions and topics you got wrong in the mocks, use these to help focus your revision.
- When attempting past papers at home set yourself a time limit. This way you can learn how to manage your time effectively in the real exam.
- Make sure you know which topics are Calculator topics and which ones are Non-Calculator topics. This will help you prepare for each type of paper.
- Work in pairs/groups to mix up your revision and share information. Each person has different strengths and weaknesses and working together can help you improve.

Useful Websites:

www.mymaths.co.uk
<http://pinpointlearning.co.uk>
www.mathsgenie.co.uk
<https://corbettmaths.co.uk>
www.mrbartonmaths.com
www.drfrostmaths.com

Science

Exam board: AQA Science

Combined Science (Trilogy): <http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/combined-science-trilogy-8464>

Separate Science (Biology): <http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/biology-8461>

Separate Science (Chemistry): <http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/chemistry-8462>

Separate Science (Physics): <http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/physics-8463>

Top revision tips:

- Purchase a CGP or Pearson revision guide.
- Purchase a CGP or Pearson workbook to use alongside your revision guide.
- Sign up to free 'entry level' access to revision resources on www.my-gcsescience.com.
- Use your revision guide and class work to produce a condensed version of what you need to know.
- Present your revision material in different formats e.g. mind maps, revision cards or posters.
- Use your revision summary to attempt exam questions on that topic.
- Other useful websites are:
 - BBC Bitesize <https://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zrkw2hv>
 - S-Cool <http://www.s-cool.co.uk/gcse>
 - GoConqr <https://www.gocongr.com/en/examtime/guide/gcse-revision/>

Resources needed for revision:

- Revision guides are available to purchase via ParentPay at the following costs:
 - 9-1 GCSE Combined Science (Trilogy) – Higher or Foundation Tier **£5.50** (£9.00 on Amazon)
 - 9-1 GCSE Separate Science (Biology, Chemistry or Physics) – Higher tier **£3.00** each (£6.00 each on Amazon)
- Workbooks are available to purchase via ParentPay at the following costs:
 - 9-1 GCSE Combined Science (Trilogy) – Higher or Foundation Tier **£5.50**
 - 9-1 GCSE Separate Science (Biology, Chemistry or Physics) – Higher tier **£3.00** each
- Revision topic list provided by class teachers
- Access to topic booklets provided by class teachers
- Exercise books with written notes in
- Past paper exam questions and mark schemes provided by class teachers
- Specimen past papers and mark schemes from AQA website (listed above).

BUSINESS GCSE

Exam board: Edexcel

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/business-2009.html>

Resources needed for revision:

- Use the online ebook for topic tests and on-line tutor help on assessment style questions
- Revision guide and workbook available from the Business Department for £5 for both.
- Access to on-line revision <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zpsvr82>
- <http://www.businessed.co.uk/index.php/home/theory/gcse/edexcel-gcsetheory>
- <http://beta.tutor2u.net/business/topics>
- http://www.eckington.net/uploads/awh/revision/GCSE_Business_Studies.pdf
- Business folder
- Past paper exam questions and mark schemes from class or from the Edexcel web-site above

Top revision tips:

- Learn the formulas for the GCSE Business Course – Breakeven / Margin of Safety / Profit / Productivity / Net Cash Flow etc.
- Remember with formula questions to use the FFA rule – formula, figures, answer. Must show your working out!
- Revise areas of weakness not strengths!
- Make sure you can correctly calculate financial equations.
- Use your revision guide, notes or <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zpsvr82> to revise a topic and make a revision summary in a different format such as mind map, revision cards or poster.
- Practice answering 3 mark questions, making sure you are making one point and use two connectives and linking back to the business in question.
- Practice using connective words e.g. 'this will lead to...' 'because...' 'therefore...' etc. this means you are developing your point and looking at the impact.
- Make sure not to use 'also' in a 3 mark question, as this means you are making a second point and not developing the first point made.
- Make sure your answers are in context to the business in question e.g. refer to their products, the market they operate in, their competitors etc. All this shows context and application!
- Questions marked with an * are looking for quality of written communication, make sure to spell terms correctly, use Business key terms and use paragraphs.
- 8 and 10 mark questions need a conclusion, what do you think? Why? Why better than the other? Make sure to get off the fence.

GCSE

Food & Nutrition (Catering)

Exam board: WJEC GCSE Catering AQA GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition

Catering (4732/01) Unit 2 Online Exam: <http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/food/gcse/food-preparation-and-nutrition-8585>

Resources needed for revision:

- Revision guide. Available from parent pay at a cost of £4.00 or from amazon at a cost of £7.49 (publisher - Collins / ISB - 9780008166342)
- Online curriculum – there is a revision section and access to an interactive text book feature (Illuminate digital AQA Food Preparation and Nutrition) .
- Access to external revision websites – GCSE Bitesize, food a fact of life, the grain chain, NHS online, <http://www.s-cool.co.uk/gcse/food-technology>.
- Exercise books with written notes.
- Past paper exam questions and mark schemes from class teacher or the official AQA website.

Top revision tips:

- Look through your revision notes and then try and replicated it from memory. Once finished check to see how much of the material you got right.
- Use your revision guide, notes or <http://www.illuminate.digital/aqafood/> to revise a topic and make a revision summary in a different format such as mind map, revision cards or poster.
- Use past papers and mark schemes (obtained from your subject teacher) to cover the five topics
- Remember that 4 mark questions and above are looking for an analytical approach to questions, make your point and then EXPLAIN your reasoning behind it

1. [Food, nutrition and health](#)
2. [Food science](#)
3. [Food safety](#)
4. [Food choice](#)
5. [Food provenance](#)

Computer Science

Exam board: OCR

GCSE Computer Science - J276 OCR Specification

<http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse-computer-science-j276-from-2016/>

Resources needed for revision:

- The Online Learning Curriculum – this has all of the theory that you have learned in each lesson, log on through the Sandwell Academy website with your school username and password.
- GCSE Computer Science OCR Revision Guide (9781782946021) is available for purchase at £2.75
- GCSE Computer Science OCR Exam Practice Workbook (978 1 78294 603 8) is also available to purchase at £275
- Codio, use <https://codio.com> – practice your Python programming skills – username and password to be given to you by your Computer Science teacher.
- Exercise books with written theory notes in.
- Past paper exam questions and mark schemes from class and from the OCR website above.
- To learn Python for the controlled assessment, use Python programming interactive website www.python.org
- You can find Python video tutorials at www.toonzcat.com

Top revision tips:

- You will need to memorise the key information from your notes. Look through your revision notes and then try and replicate them from memory. Once finished, check to see how much of the material you got right. Rewrite the key points of your revision notes (coloured post-it notes/coloured pens work well for the different topics), read the notes out loud to yourself and/or put the notes up in places where you go regularly.
- Use <http://www.gcsecomputing.org.uk/theory/index.html> to revisit the topics you have learned in lesson.
- Register as a learner on <http://www.cambridgegcsecomputing.org/> - watch the videos on the topics you have learned in lesson to check your understanding.
- Practice on past exam papers and then self-mark your work. Make a list of topics you feel are your weaknesses and plan a revision timetable.
- Hand in extra revision work to your teachers so that they can provide you with additional feedback.
- Ask for help from your teachers.

Geography

Exam board: AQA Geography 8035

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/geography/gcse/geography-8035>

Resources needed for revision:

- Class books, revision notes and marked exam questions
- Case study booklets
- The online curriculum
- Specimen papers and mark schemes from the above website.
- Revision work booklets
- I would also recommend the purchasing CGP New Grade 9-1 GCSE Geography AQA Revision Guide https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/School/books_gcse_geography.book_GAR44

Top revision tips:

- Use the revision checklists or the AQA Geography A specification to break down your revision into manageable chunks.
- Make a **revision timetable** to show when you can revise and which topics you plan to cover each night. Make sure you have regular breaks.
- To get the best grades in Geography you must memorize;
 - **Keywords** for each topic.
 - The full sequence within the **formation of different landforms and processes** in diagram and written form.
 - Learn models
 - **Case study specifics** to support your answers.
- **Create mind maps** using different colours and images.
- Look through your revision notes and then try and replicate them from memory. Once finished check to see how much of the material you got right. Add the extra in a red colour, this will help you to remember.
- Use your revision mind map to attempt **exam questions** on that topic. Have a look at the mark scheme and identify what you missed out. Reading the mark schemes will help you identify ways to improve and stop you making silly mistakes.
- Remember when answering questions 4 marks and above are level marked and you must **link** your statements, complete the **full sequence** and support with **specific case study facts** and figures. Remember if it requires a case study add this to the first sentence.
- **Practice key skills** including drawing field sketches, grid references, using map scales, interpreting graphs and drawing cross sections.

Health and Social Care GCSE

Exam board: OCR Health and Social Care GCSE (Single award)

<http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse-health-and-social-care-single-double-award-j406-j412-from-2012/>

Resources needed for revision:

- Revision guide. Available from the Health and Social Care department.
- Access to on-line curriculum with class notes-
- Exercise books with written notes in.
- Past paper exam questions and mark schemes from class or from the OCR web-site above
- Revision sites https://getrevising.co.uk/resources/level/gcse/subjects/health_and_social_care

Top revision tips:

- Use your revision guide and notes to revise a topic and make a revision summary in a different format such as mind map, revision cards or poster.
- Use your revision summary to attempt exam questions on that topic. Have a look at the mark scheme and identify what you missed out.
- Make sure you add detail to your answers by always explaining why and making connections.
- Read the stem of the question carefully – identify key words.

History

Exam board: Edexcel History GCSE (9 to 1)

http://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/GCSE/History/2016/specification-and-sample-assessments/9781446925867_GCSE2016_L12_History_Web.pdf

Resources needed for revision:

- Books with all revision notes, exercise books, and marked exam questions.
- Sample paper exam questions and mark schemes from class or from the Edexcel web-site above.
- Medicine Textbooks – materials used in lessons (Not essential)

https://www.amazon.co.uk/Edexcel-History-Medicine-through-c1250-present/dp/1292127376/ref=sr_1_7?ie=UTF8&qid=1510594427&sr=8-7&keywords=edexcel+gcse+history+9-1

- American West Textbooks – materials used in lessons (Not essential)

https://www.amazon.co.uk/Edexcel-History-American-c1835-c1895-Student/dp/1292127309/ref=sr_1_2?ie=UTF8&qid=1510594427&sr=8-2&keywords=edexcel+gcse+history+9-1

- Elizabethan England Textbooks – materials used in lessons (Not essential)

https://www.amazon.co.uk/Edexcel-History-Elizabethan-England-1558-1588/dp/1292127260/ref=pd_bxgy_14_img_2?encoding=UTF8&psc=1&refRID=A9195BX4AEPD1J5Y71VW

- Germany Textbooks – materials used in lessons (Not essential)

https://www.amazon.co.uk/Edexcel-History-Germany-1918-1939-Student/dp/1292127341/ref=sr_1_10?ie=UTF8&qid=1510594427&sr=8-10&keywords=edexcel+gcse+history+9-1

Top revision tips:

Use the revision checklists or the Edexcel History GCSE (9 to 1) specification to break down your revision into manageable chunks.

- Do more than just read over the revision guides; the best revision involves making use of your old essays and notes and identifying the main points of the key questions.
- Create flashcards for certain key questions.
- Do not generalize! For each time period/key event, try creating memo-cards with bullet points of the main information. Make sure that these are good enough to come back to.
- Look through your revision notes and then try and replicate from memory. Once finished check to see how much of the material you got right. Add the extra in a red colour, this will help you to remember.
- Actually attempt exam questions! Remember that teachers will always be willing to mark any practice questions you write – this is common practice with older students. Try mind mapping your answers first.
- Attempt sample exam style questions provided by your teacher.
- **Practice key skills** for the source paper, including analysing sources and PEEL writing style.

Physical Education

Exam board: AQA Physical Education

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/physical-education/gcse/physical-education-8582/specification-at-a-glance>

Resources needed for revision:

- Revision guide which is available from the Library at a cost of £6, it is £8.99 on Amazon.
- Written notes in both books (Paper 1 and Paper 2), exam questions from class with mark schemes (Exam Pro)
- Revision booklets for both papers produced by PE staff – to include content overview, checklists per topic, all key words for each topic, key content per topic, exam questions with mark schemes and mind maps.
- AQA released papers from the website.

Top revision tips:

- Use the class notes and handouts – each topic will be a different colour so it is easy for you to distinguish the difference in areas that are of strength and weakness. This will help you to break your revision down into manageable chunks.
- When you are revising be active, don't just read your notes, you have to summarise the key information in a different format (mind maps/diagrams etc). This will help more information go into your long term memory.
- Paper 1 will be the first exam you sit – you need to consider the areas of this paper that require more time and plan this in early.
- Interpreting data is an important feature of the exam always be mindful of this and practice data questions both qualitative and quantitative.

Product Design

Exam board: AQA Design and Technology: Product Design (4555)

[Product Design: AQA | Design and Technology | GCSE | Design and Technology: Product Design](#)

Resources needed for revision:

- Revision guide. Available from the Design and Technology department at a cost of £2.00
- Access to on-line curriculum summaries of key topics and past papers - <http://curriculum.sandwellacademy.com/dt/content/11/content/11/Y11-ExamPrep.html>
- Revision folders with written notes in and completed homework's.
- Past paper exam questions and mark schemes from class or from the AQA web-site above
- Revision sites www.technologystudent.com and BBC bitesize.

Top revision tips:

- Use your revision guide, notes or <http://www.technologystudent.com> to revise a topic and make a revision summary in a different format such as mind map, revision cards or poster.
- Use your revision summary to attempt exam questions on that topic. Have a look at the mark scheme and identify what you missed out.
- Attend and fully participate in the DT workshop on the 21st of June with a guest speaker, this is important examination prep.

Useful websites for Revision:

www.technologystudent.com

www.mrdandt.com

Religious Studies

Exam board: OCR

Exam Board: OCR

<http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse-religious-studies-j625-j125-from-2016/>

Resources needed for revision:

- Revision guides. These have already been supplied to pupils.
- Access to on-line curriculum with some class notes.
- Exercise books with written notes in.
- Past paper exam questions and mark schemes from class or from the OCR web-site above.
- BBC Bitesize - <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zb48q6f>
- RE Quest – <http://request.org.uk/>

Top revision tips:

- Use your revision guide and class notes to revise a topic and make a revision summary in a different format such as mind map, revision cards or poster.
- Use your revision summary to attempt exam questions on that topic.
- Have a look at the mark scheme and identify what you missed out.

Spanish

Exam board: EDEXCEL

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/spanish-2016.html>

Resources needed for revision:

- Revision guide: CGP Edexcel Spanish Revision Guide ISBN - 978 1 78294 549 9 (£2.50)
- Spanish work book: CGP Edexcel Spanish work book ISBN - 978 1 78294 550 5 (£2.50)
- Access to Vocab Express online (students have a username and password)
- Exercise books with written notes in.
- AQA GCSE Vocabulary booklet (topic by topic) Foundation/Higher.
- Past paper exam questions and mark schemes from class or from the AQA web-site above.
- Access online to GCSE Bitesize: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/spanish/>

Top revision tips:

- Use your vocabulary summary to attempt exam questions on that topic. Have a look at the mark scheme and transcript to identify what you missed out.
- Practise past paper exam questions from class or from the Edexcel web-site above . You can ask your teacher to give you some practice papers to work through over the holidays. Time yourself when you do them and make sure to read the question. Twice. The context of your answer can often be extracted from the wording of the question. All of the examination boards advise this and most boards will have links to the list of rubrics they will use on their websites.
- For Listening papers, use transcripts to revise structures and vocabulary. Listen and watch as much authentic content as you can. You need to immerse yourself in the language you are learning. TV, YouTube, radio and subtitled films can all help.
- Pay special attention to distractors and negative statements (these may appear in Listening and Reading)
- Use Vocab Express to revise vocabulary before attempting a Listening or Reading paper.