# fortismere

# Year 9 Options Evening

2024

**Deadline** 

Midday on Monday 19th February, 2024.

# **Options Timeline**

Date	Time	Location	Action
Thursday 21/12/23	PM	Online	Options booklet available on website click
Monday 15/1/24	Tutor Time	Tutor Rooms	Tutor time dedicated to videos from subjects on- line, all week.
Wednesday 10/01/24	Tutor Time & Period 5	Music Concert Hall	Assembly 1 - Introduction to Options     Timeline- ICU     What and How- DBA     Sixth Form - DRO
Thursday 18/1/24	Tutor Time & Period 5	Music Concert Hall	Tutor Time/Period 1 Assemblies Tutor time and Period 5 HOD subject talks  Options presentations from new subjects:  1. Health and Social Care [JAR] 2. Sociology 3. Business Studies [MRE] 4. Economics 5. Music Technology [EJE] 6. Music 7. Media Studies [PHE] 8. Photography [MPO] 9. Art 10. Geography 11. Religious Studies 12. Science

Things we have already done...

utor Time	Masic	i. Thistory [Ei ii]
	Concert Hall	<ol><li>Sports Studies [MHA]</li></ol>
eriod 5		3. GCSE PE
		<ol><li>Creative Media Production [MYA]</li></ol>
		5. Computing
		<ol><li>Modern Languages [PRA]</li></ol>
		7. Drama [LOV]
		<ol><li>B. DT Product Design [DLI]</li></ol>
		9. Engineering [DLI]
		10. Textiles [DLI]
		11. Hospitality and Catering [DLI]

History [LHI]

Tutor Time Music

# Things still to come...

Wednesday 24/01/24	Evening Event 5-6.30	North Wing Hall	Options Evening – 5.00-6.30		
Monday 29/1/24	Science Exam Period 1 [MFL, PE] +2 [PE, DT, Linear] 75 minutes South Wing Hall, South Wing Gym & S12				
Monday 5/2/24	Science data released to parents via SIMS Online  Options forms go live ONLINE				
Tuesday 6/02/24	All Day	In School or Online	Career Guidance Meetings – Morning online appointments, afternoon in person. Appointments confirmed in January.  10 minute appointments for all students To be led by tutors, LINC, HOY, DHOY, SLT		
DEADLINE FOR OPTIONS FORMS					

Midday on Monday 19/02/24



# Mr Barsby



## What happens in Key Stage 4?

Key Stage 4 is the time at school where students study for and take their Level 2 qualifications.

This includes the following qualifications

- GCSE
- BTEC and
- NCFE
- Key Stage 4 is a critical time of a young person's life where they start to take important steps towards the career of their choice.
- Students have a greater responsibility to work hard and perform in their subjects.

#### Level 2 Courses

- In recent times the Department for Education have brought the difficulty of all qualifications in line.
- Meaning that all types of course are now worth the same as each other. [GCSE, BTEC, NCFE].
- In doing this they have also made them all more challenging.



# Level 2 Courses have become more challenging!

- Specification content has become more challenging and also there is more of it
- Old Level 3 content is now in Level 2 Courses
- The assessments are more rigorous
- Greater Percentage of Final Grade placed on final examinations
- Highest ever percentage awarded for SPaG

# How are the courses different from each other?

Mainly through Assessment Method

#### Most GCSE's

- Largely Exam based
- With final assessments sat at the end of Year 11

Some GCSE's
Use NEA's and an exam
[Drama, PE, DT,
Engineering]

Art and Photography use a

portfolio of work

#### BTEC/NCFE

Both of the above style of courses contain a smaller exam with more emphasis on the NEA.

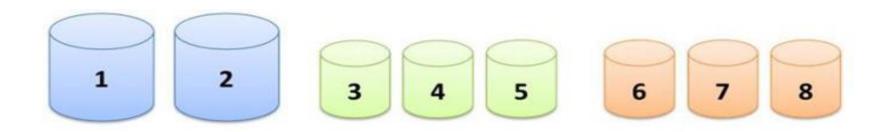
These includes:

Music Tech, Hospitality &Catering, Health and SC, CMP

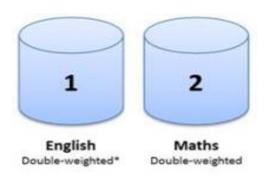


## Selecting your Options

# Achieving the English Baccalaureate









(sciences, computer science, geography,

history and languages)

6 7 8

# 'Open group' Remaining EBacc qualifications and other approved qualifications

(GCSEs and other approved academic, arts or vocational qualifications)

#### Section 1

- English
- Double weighted
- Maths
- double-weighted

#### Section 2

- Three EBacc qualifications
- Sciences
- Computer science
- Geography
- History or
- Languages

#### Section 3

- Three "other" slots
- Any remaining Ebacc qualifications
- Other approved academic, arts or vocational qualifications
- Also the English that is not used in Bucket 1

<sup>\*</sup>Higher score of English Language or English Literature double-weighted if a student has taken both qualifications

# **English Baccalaureate**

The EBacc is a set of subjects at GCSE that keeps young people's options open for further study and future careers.

#### The EBacc consists of:

- English Language and Literature
- Maths
- the Sciences
- Geography or History

It is not a qualification in its own right, it's a combination of GCSE subjects, including a language, that offer an important

#### The Ebacc continued...

The *English Baccalaureate* is not a qualification; it is a performance measure for schools.

However, by taking the subjects outlined in the English Baccalaureate, you will be giving yourself the best options and opportunities for further education, by ensuring you have the broad base of core academic subjects that universities and colleges prefer.

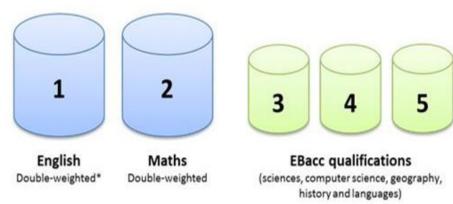
#### How to fill the buckets 'at Fortismere'



#### Compulsory Subjects at Key Stage 4?

- The 'Core Subjects' are the subjects that all students across the country study in Key Stage 4. The core subjects are:
- English Literature
- English Language
- Mathematics
- Separate or

**Combined Science** 



\*Higher score of English Language or English Literature double-weighted if a student has taken both qualifications

Students also participate in PSHE/PRE and Core
 Physical Education, but they are not assessed nationally in this.



### **Option Subjects**

#### **Humanities**

History or Geography

#### **Modern Foreign Languages**

Spanish, French, Mandarin

[+MEP]

**Sciences** 

**Computer Science** 



#### **EBacc qualifications**

(sciences, computer science, geography, history and languages)

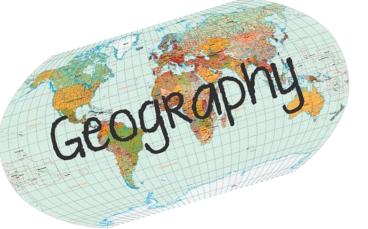
### Open 'Bucket'

Art and Design (Fine Art)	BTEC: Health and Social Care	
Photography	BTEC: Creative Media Production	
Drama	BTEC: Sports Studies	
MED	GCSE: Physical Education	
Media Studies	DT: Product Design	
Economics	DT: Engineering	
Religious Studies	DT: Textiles	
Sociology	DT: Hospitality and Catering	
GCSE: Music	Business	
BTEC: Music Technology	ASDAN CoPE	

Modern fortismere | Language? History, Geography, Science can all count in here when buckets 3,4,5 are already full 6 'Open group Remaining EBacc qualifications and other approved qualifications (GCSEs and other approved academic, arts or vocational qualifications)

Students involved in the LINC Options will be approached by LINC in advance of the Options Process/Deadline

These two will be taken care of by the last 2 Options and the lowest scoring English grade



# What does all this mean?



Students should choose either History or Geography [or



Students should strongly consider a Language Subject



Other than that, students are free to choose their preferred subjects



## New Subjects

- ASDAN
- Business
- Creative Media
   Production
- Computing
- Economics
- Engineering
- Health and Social Care
- Hospitality and Catering



- Music Technology
- Photography
- GCSE Physical Education
- Product Design
- Religious Studies
- BTEC Sport
- Sociology
- Textiles



# ASDAN, EHCP Support, Additional English & MEB [N16]

- Both of these courses support students who may find ten courses more challenging.
- They stand for:
  - Maths English Booster
  - ASDAN Personal Effectiveness
- Selected students will be contacted personally about either or both of these courses.
- These courses replace an 'Option'.
- If selected for these courses they are more of a 'direction' than an 'Option'.
- You will be contacted in the coming days regarding these courses.



# Mandarin Excellence Programme

- Students already on the programme who went through the rigorous selection process in Year 7 are required to select the MEP as an option, in the top 4!
- This is part of the five year programme of study previously selected in Year 7.

## **Subject Combinations**

#### Things you **CANNOT** do:

- Textiles and Product Design
- GCSE PE and BTEC Sport
- Art and Photography

#### Things you CAN do

- Geography and History
- Music and Music
  - Technology
- Business and Economics

#### Things you **SHOULDN'T** do:

- Engineering and Product Design
- Computing and CMP

# TOP TIPS FOR PICKING YOUR OPTIONS

#### How to make decisions on which course to take?

- What subjects do you enjoy?
- What does the mix of subjects look like? Think about your timetable!
- What subjects are you doing well in?
- What Career Path would you like to follow?
- What University Course do you want to do?
- What College Course do you want to do?



- You like a teacher.
- Your friends are picking it.
- You think it will be easv.









## In school support

- Tutors
- Subject teachers, especially subjects they haven't studied.
- All students in Year 9 will meet with their tutor in form time to discuss their options.
- Options Videos
- School careers advisor Ms A Andreou
- Careers Meeting on Tuesday 6th February
- Parents and students will be able to book a meeting with Form Tutors [or another assigned teacher] during the day to discuss Options, receive guidance and populate draft version of form.

# Submitting your Options

The deadline for this is

Midday on Monday 19th February, 2024.

Students will need to select six subjects from the list.

The selections should be in rank order.

- 1 should be your absolute favourite subject
- 2 should be your second favourite subject
- 3 should be your third favourite subject
- 4 should be your fourth favourite subject

Number 5 and 6 should also be genuine contenders [these are entered a R and S in the system, Reserve and Second Reserve]

This is not on a first come, first served basis

#### **School Website**

HOME

**OUR SCHOOL** 

**NEWS AND EVENTS** 

**SECONDARY TRANSITION** 



SIXTH FORM



THE RECOVERY CURRICULUM

ASSESSMENT, STUDY SKILLS AND REVISION

**INCLUSION LINC** 

EMOTIONAL SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS: PLACE2BE

EXTRA-CURRICULAR **DEPARTMENTS** 

THE OPTIONS
PROCESS (YR9
INTO YR10)

RELATIONSHIP AND SEX EDUCATION

LIBRARY

#### THE OPTIONS PROCESS (YR9 INTO YR10)

#### CHOOSING OPTIONS

In Key Stage 4 students study up to 10 GCSEs, depending on their ability. The varied options system allows for the study of three separate sciences, as well as two languages and a range of courses, including vocational options. We have produced lots of information to help parents/carers and students make decisions about their Options. On this page you will find:

- Options Timeline
- Options Booklet
- Department Option Videos
- Submit Your Options
- Additional Information
- + Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG)
- Important Names

## Options Submission via TOOLS

- Students will receive an email from studentoptions@fortismere.org.uk
- This email contains the students username and

**Submit Your Options** THE OPTIONS PROCESS (YR9 INTO YR10) **CHOOSING OPTIONS** In Key Stage 4 students study up to 10 GCSEs, depending on their ability. The varied options system Students will be emailed their username and password to their Fortismere School email allows for the study of three separate sciences, as well as two languages and a range of courses, including vocational options. We have produced lots of information to help parents/carers and address. This will go live on 1st February 2023 after the guidance meetings. students make decisions about their Options. On this page you will find: T.O.O.L.S **Options Timeline** TimeTabler Options On-Line System Click this link to access the options website Options Booklet **Department Option Videos** Students need to submit six options in order of preference. **Submit Your Options** Collecting Student Choices On-line Additional Information Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) **Important Names** Username: Submit Password:

Start > Free choice (with reserves) > Confirmation

Please enter your 4 choices by entering 1, 2, 3, etc. in the box by your chosen subjects.

To mark your Reserve choice, put 'R' by that subject.

To mark your Second reserve choice, put 'S' by that subject.

Subject Choice Art and Design (ART) ASDAN (ASD) Business (BUS) Creative Media (CMP) Computer Sc\* (COM) Drama (DRA) D&T Engineering (DTE) Hosp & Catering (DTH) D&T Product Des (DTP) D&T Textiles (DTT) Economics (ECO) French\* (FRE) Geography\* (GEO) GCSE PE (GPE) History\* (HIS) Health& Social (HSC) Mandarin\* (MAN) LINC MEB (MEB) Media Studies (MED) Mandarin EP\* (MEP) Music Tech BTEC (MTE)

- Students enter their top 4 choices by entering 1, 2, 3 or 4 in the box by the chosen subjects.
- To mark the Reserve choice, put 'R'
- To mark your
   Second reserve
   choice, put 'S'.
- All must be completed
- Click Submit to enter

Submit Reset this form Clear this form

Music (MUS)
Photography (PHO)
Sociology (SOC)
Spanish\* (SPA)

# **Assigning Subjects**

After the deadline specialised software assigns students to subjects according to their preferences and the restrictions placed upon it by the whole school timetable.

Once this has happened the final model is tested against the school timetable requirements.

After all this has taken place we share the information with students and parents, this is usually in May/June.

Moving subjects after the deadline is tricky, so please make sure they are correct before submitting

#### School Cloud – Careers Meeting 6/2/2024

Fortismere Sch	ool	
		system. Appointments can be amended via a link from correct.
Your Details		
Title First	Name	Surname
Email		Confirm Email
Student's Details		
First Name	Surname	Date of Birth  1   January   2010
Log in		

- Same software as Parents Evenings
- When you log in you will have an assigned teacher to book your appointment with.
- There is one teacher for every student.
- Log in and book your appointment.
- There is no school for Year
   9 on this day, just the one compulsory meeting.

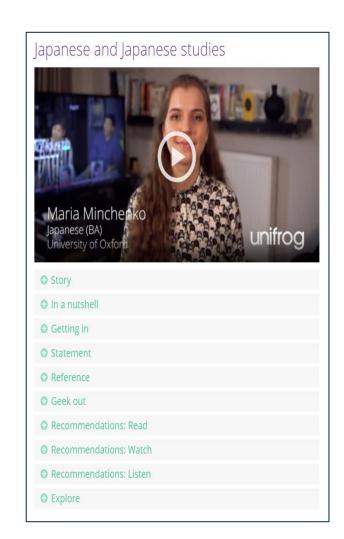
# unifoo

- Unifrog provides a one-stop-shop where students can explore their interests, then find and successfully apply for their best next-step after school.
- Unifrog is aimed at all students from Year 7-13.
- Students have all been sent a login email from Unifrog.
- Students should follow the link to enter
- Here is a <u>link</u> to a video (3 mins) explaining Unifrog!

## **Unifrog Subjects library**

Each subject profile will have all the information you need to see whether it is right for you.

- Interviews with university students studying that subject
- An explanation of the subject
- How to get into that subject at a UK university
- Example personal statements
- Recommended reading, watching, and listening



# Future Skills Questionnaire [FSQ]

All students have been sent a link [today] to the FSQ. The Future Skills Questionnaire gives learners the opportunity to reflect on their career-related knowledge and skills.

The FSQ covers careers knowledge and skills and skills for life and work, with versions tailored for key transition points throughout secondary education.

The data collected will assist the school in providing CEAIG for all students

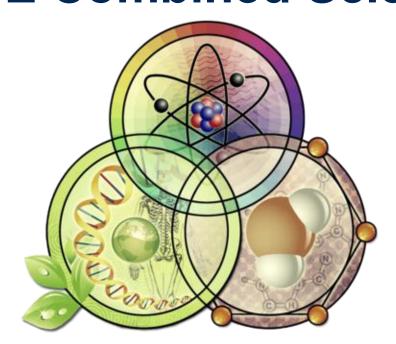
Please complete this asap but before 9th February 2024

## Deadline

# Midday on Monday 19th February, 2024.

## fortismere |

# Science GCSE Pathways: GCSEs in Separate Sciences GCSE Combined Science



Mr. Hann Head of Science

## Science GCSE Pathways: GCSEs in Separate Sciences GCSE Combined Science

- Two pathways: Separate Sciences and Combined Science
- 4 courses:
  - GCSE Biology
  - GCSE Chemistry
  - GCSE Physics
  - GCSE Combined Science
- Expanded access to separate sciences ("Triple")

## Science GCSE Pathways: GCSEs in Separate Sciences GCSE Combined Science

- Increasing choice in GCSE curriculum
- Listened to parents and students about access to the course
- Increased teaching time will allow a wider range of prior attainment

#### Two pathways through GCSE Science

#### GCSE in Separate Sciences

- Separate single grade awarded per subject
  - Biology (8461)
  - Chemistry (8462)
  - Physics (8463)

GCSE Combined Science (8464)

 Double grade award for Combined Science and worth 2 GCSEs

#### Two pathways through GCSE Science

#### GCSE in Separate Sciences (8461;8462;8463)

- Students study, and are assessed on, more content than GCSE Combined Science and receive separate grades in Biology, Chemistry and Physics.
- Stretches students across a wider breadth of topic areas and will suit those who thrive on challenge or enjoy science
- Still considered a demanding course so unfortunately not a suitable course for some students

#### Two pathways through GCSE Science

#### GCSE Combined Science (8464)

- Designed to ensure that students attain a good level knowledge in science which will support access to other subjects eg. psychology
- For many schools it is the principal curriculum offer for the majority of their students.
- Supports those students who have previously found Science difficult, as well as challenging those who wish to take their science studies to a higher level.

#### Two pathways through GCSE Science

- Separate Sciences is now an option block choice
- Previously students had no choice up to 70% were not able to do it.
- This year we will open the CHOICE to far more students.
- We expect science to be oversubscribed:
  - If you want to do sciences then you need to put us near the top of your options list.

52





# Two pathways through GCSE Science Why choose separate sciences:

- Go further with the REALLY interesting bits!
- More outside speakers, competitions and visits
  - Science 4 Schools experimentation competition
  - Physics Olympiad Junior and Intermediate Challenges
  - Biology Olympiad Challenge
- Be better prepared for A Level!
- Extensive 'wraparound' support with homework clubs

#### Two pathways through GCSE Science

#### **Choosing Separate Sciences benefits students:**

- Who have aspirations to study a science at A-level or aspire to a future career related to the sciences.
  - medicine; engineering; psychology; computer science; astrophysics; geology).
- Who just really like science and want to learn about topics not covered in the standard National Curriculum
  - o for example, space and The Universe; cloning.
- Better preparation for studying a science A-level.
- More likely to get higher grades in A-level sciences.
- Gives extra teaching time for practical work and to explore the ideas that explain our lives.

## Two pathways through GCSE Science Choosing Separate Sciences benefits students:

The question you may want to ask yourself is:

'Do I enjoy science?'

 If you do enjoy science and are prepared to put the effort in then it is a fantastic course that will make you a better scientist and a better all-round student.

#### What you will study (SepSci)

## GCSE Biology

Cell biology

Organisation

Infection and response

Bioenergetics

Homeostasis and response

Inheritance, variation and evolution

**Ecology** 

## GCSE 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

#### GCSE Physics

Energy

Electricity

Particle model of matter

Atomic structure

**Forces** 

Waves

Magnetism and electromagnetism

Space physics

## fortismere What you will study (Combined)

#### **GCSE Combined Science (2 GCSEs)**

#### **Biology**

Cell biology

Organisation

Infection and response

Bioenergetics

Homeostasis and response

Inheritance, variation and evolution

**Ecology** 

#### **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

#### **Physics**

Energy

Electricity

Particle model of matter

Atomic structure

**Forces** 

Waves

Magnetism and electromagnetism

#### Required Practicals

## Biology

Microscopy

Microbiology (SS)

**Osmosis** 

**Food Tests** 

Enzymes

Photosynthesis

Reaction time

Plant responses (SS)

Field Investigations

Decay (SS)

#### Chemistry

Making salts

Neutralisation (SS)

Electrolysis

Temperature Changes

Rates of Reaction

Chromatography

Identifying ions (SS)

Water purification

#### **Physics**

**Specific Heat Capacity** 

Thermal Insulation (SS)

Resistance

I-V characteristics

Density

Force & Extension

Acceleration

Waves

Light refraction (SS)

IR Radiation & Absorption

#### What you will study (school website <u>link</u>)

HOME **OUR SCHOOL NEWS AND EVENTS PASTORAL CURRICULUM** SIXTH FORM There are two possible routes that you will follow for your GCSE course in Science. You will either follow the Combined Science Trilogy course or the Separate Sciences route. If you are on the Separate Science route you will study towards a separate GCSE in Biology, Chemistry and Physics, meaning you will have three science GCSEs at the end of year 11. For Combined Science Trilogy you will study towards a qualification worth two GCSE grades, which will cover Biology, Chemistry and Physics content. No decision is made by the Science Department regarding the pathway a student follows until the end of Year 9. All students in Year 9 study the same topics.. KS4 SEPERATE SCIENCES CURRICULUM KS4 COMBINED SCIENCE TRILOGY CURRICULUM KS5 CURRICULUM

#### **Structure of Exams - Separate Sciences**

GCSE Biology (8461); GCSE Chemistry (8462); GCSE Physics (8463)

- 6 papers (2 biology, 2 chemistry and 2 physics, leading to 3 separate
   GCSEs)
- Each 1 hour 45 minutes
- Each paper is worth 50% of the GCSE
- 100 marks on each paper

#### All papers

- Contains multiple choice questions, structured questions, closed short answers questions and open long response questions
- 15% based on required practical's
- Maths requirement vary by subject
- 10% of the marks in biology, 20% of the marks in chemistry and 30% of the marks in physics.

#### **Structure of Exams - Combined Science**

#### GCSE Combined Science (8464)

- 6 papers (2 Biology; 2 Chemistry; 2 Physics)
- Each 1 hour 15 minutes long
- 70 marks per paper
- Grade determined by total marks awarded across all 6 papers
  - Higher Tier: Grades 9/9-4/4
  - Foundation Tier: Grades 5/5-1/1

#### All papers

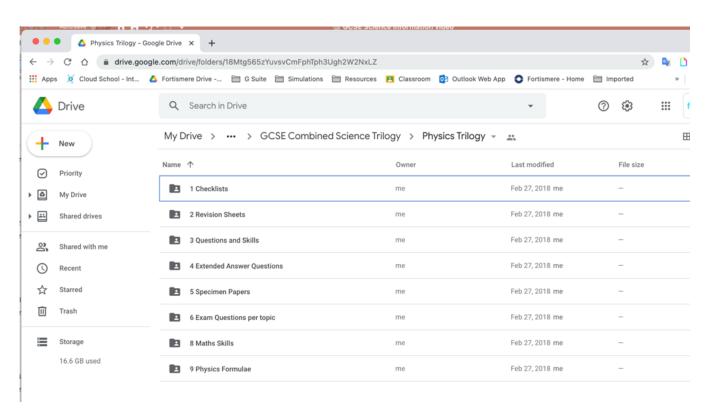
- Contains multiple choice questions, structured questions, closed short answers questions and open long response questions
- 15% based on required practical's
- Maths requirement vary by subject
- 10% of the marks in biology, 20% of the marks in chemistry and 30% of the marks in physics.

## Support outside the lesson

- For the last 6 years Science has had dedicated Biology,
   Chemistry and Physics homework clubs that are 'drop in'.
- Where and when (currently):
  - Biology: Mondays in Lab 5 after school
  - Chemistry: Friday lunchtimes in Lab 2
  - Physics: Tuesdays in Lab 10 after school
- For students who struggle to get time online at home (eg. shared laptops and mobile devices) we have class sets of Chromebooks available at the sessions to use the online resources we recommend.
- Twice a year: short series of 'by invitation' revision clubs.

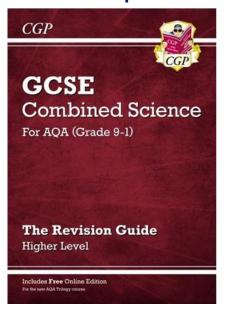
#### Support outside the lesson

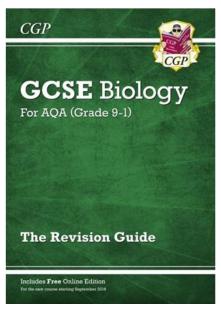


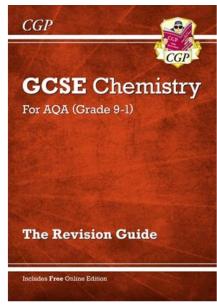


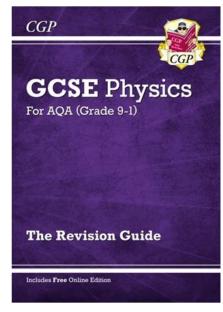
## Support outside the lesson

- Revision guides: most students prefer CGP
- The best guide is the one the student will actually use.
- There are course specific guides available from OUP that compliment our textbook.









#### Two pathways through GCSE Science

- Separate Sciences is now an option block choice.
- Both courses prepare students to potentially study A Levels in the sciences.
- Access is wider this year.
- The most significant source of evidence is the Year 9 January exam.
- All students in Year 9 are studying the same topics.

#### **Preparing for the Year 9 Assessment**

- The assessment is the most significant evidence used by the department when deciding
  - GCSE pathway advice
  - Organisation and structure of teaching sets
- All three sciences (Biology; Chemistry and Physics) will be assessed in the same 75 minute examination.
- The examination will cover only content related to Y9 teaching so far.

#### **29TH JANUARY**

#### **Preparing for the Year 9 Assessment**

The message we always tell our students is:

"All we expect from you is that you work hard and do your best."

We would like to thank you in advance for your support reinforcing this message.

#### Preparing for the Year 9 Assessment

#### Where to find links to resources?

- Posted in every Google
   Classroom before the
   assessment is a document
   containing useful revision
   links.
  - Year 9 RevisionResources
- Students should use the ones that they personally find most accessible.

Biology	Chemistry		Physics
B1 Cell structure and transport  Kerboodie book & chapter  Biology for Combined Sciences: Trilogy  B1 Cell structure and transport	C1 Atomic structure  Kerboodle book & chapter Chemistry for Combined Sciences: Trilo C1 Atomic Structure		P1 Conservation and dissipation of energy  Kerboodle book & chapter Physics for Combined Sciences: Trilogy P1 Conservation and dissipation of energy
How it's assessed  Written exam: 1 hour 15 mi Link to copies of Knowled;	nutes 75 marks (27 Biolog		hemistry; 23 Physics)
Revision resource	Website(s)	ii .	How do I login?
Kerboodle interactive textbook & digital resources	https://www.kerboodic.com	Username: school username e.g. jsmith1.309 Password: (First login) school username e.g. jsmith1.309 Code - phm6 Forgotten password: click trouble logging in? Enter, school email. e.g. ismith1.309@fortismere.school	
BBC bitesize	Follow the link below:  • Blology • Chemistry • Physics Link J Link 2	No login required but helpful to access full range of features.	
Physics Math Tutor - topic exam guestions and related notes	PMT	No login required	
Grade gorilla - exam quizzes	Grade Gorilla (Biology) Grade Gorilla (Chemistry) Grade gorilla (Physics)	No login required but helpful to access full range of features.	
Cognito - video lessons for science	Cognito You Tube	No login required	
Fortismere Revision Google drive – revision sheets/notes, checklists, and exam questions/ past papers	Follow the link to the following subject area (select only the topics relevant to the topics on the assessment):  Biology Chemistry Physics	Legin to your school google account on your browse to access.  Username: school email address e.g. jamith1.399@fortismere.school  Password: school password	
Required Practicals - Malmesbury Education	Youtube channel of required practicals	No login required Only necessary to view the practicals in topics assess in test.	

#### Preparing for the Year 9 Assessment

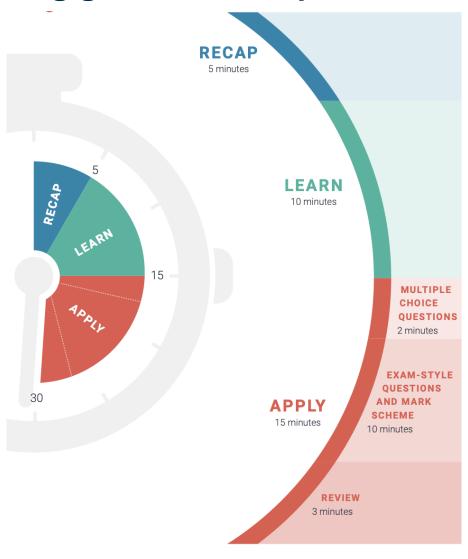
#### Supporting good revision practices at home

Where to go for revision practice and questions?

BBC Bitesize	Biology
	Chemistry
	Physics Link 1 Link 2
Physics math tutor - topic exam questions and related notes	PMT Biology PMT Chemistry PMT Physics
Grade gorilla - exam quizzes	Grade Gorilla Physics Quizzes Grade Gorilla Chemistry Quizzes Grade Gorilla Biology Quizzes

#### Preparing for the Year 9 Assessment

#### Supporting good revision practices at home



## Preparing for the 'GCSE Years'



- Don't panic!
- Students think that there will be a massive jump in difficulty from KS3 to KS4.
- This is not the case!
- The content might be more challenging than what you've come across in KS3, but you will not be thrown into the deep end.
- If you have studied the subject in KS3/Y9, all you'll be doing is building upon what you already know!

## Preparing for the 'GCSE Years'

- You won't start your GCSE years being examready, which is entirely normal.
- Instead, the main focus for starting GCSEs will be digesting all the new topics and approaches that you'll be introduced to. This means you should try your best to focus in lessons and ask questions when you need to.
- By making the most of your lesson time, you'll spend less time having to catch up at exam time and revising will be so much easier.

# GCSE English Language & GCSE English Literature

- Two separate GCSEs, both compulsory core subjects.
- No non-exam assessment (coursework) all examined.
- One Spoken Language Endorsement marked internally.
- No sets in English: students taught in mixed ability groups.

Paper 1: Section A	(Reading)
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- One given fiction source
- Section A: Reading Four questions:
  - List four things [4]
  - Language analysis [8]
  - Structural analysis [8]
  - Evaluative analysis responding to a statement [20]

#### Paper 2: Section A (Reading)

- Two given non-fiction sources:
- Section A: Reading. Four questions:
  - Select true statements [4]
- Summary of differences [8]
  - Language analysis [12]
  - Comparing viewpoints and perspectives. [16]

#### Paper 1: Section B (Writing)

 Write creatively responding to a prompt, title or image. [24 content + 16 technical accuracy]

#### Paper 2: Section B (Writing)

 Write an article responding to a given statement. [24 content + 16 technical accuracy]

#### Paper 1: Section A

- Macbeth: Question on presentation of character/ theme with given extract. [30 + 4]
- Students are required to write in detail about an extract from the play and then to write about the play as a whole.

#### Paper 1: Section B

- Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde: Question on presentation of character/ theme with given extract. [30]
- Students are required to write in detail about an extract from the novel and then to write about the novel as a whole.

#### Paper 2: Section A

- An Inspector Calls: Choice of two essay questions on presentation of character/ theme with no extract. [30 + 4]
- Students are required to write in detail about the play as a whole.

#### Paper 2: Section B

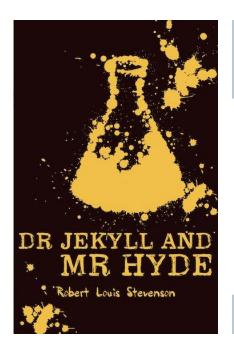
 'Power and Conflict' poetry anthology: comparative question on one named poem printed on the paper and one other poem from their chosen anthology cluster. [30]

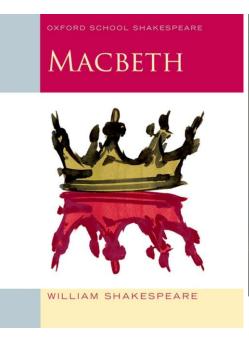
#### Paper 2: Section C

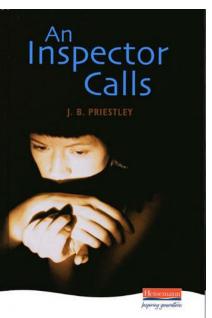
- Unseen poem and question asking 'how a poet presents...' [24]
- Second connected unseen poem to compare with first. [8]

## What you will study

English Literature is studied in half termly units and covers prose, poetry and plays over the course. Course overviews are available on the website.









## What you will study

English Language is also studied in half termly units and covers reading and writing both fiction and non-fiction. There is also a spoken language element where you make a speech about a topic of your choice! Reading and writing topic areas include:



#### Results

- Excellent exam results in English at Fortismere in 2023.
- English Literature: % grade 5 + % grade 7 +
- English Language: % grade 5 + % grade 7 +



## What you can look forward to

- Exploring a broad range of fiction and non-fiction
- Visits from theatre companies to bring texts to life
- Debating important issues raised by texts you read
- Learning about literature in its historical contexts
- Exploring ideas relevance to contemporary society
- Engaging in creative writing or poetry workshops

## Preparing for the course

- The very best preparation for the GCSE English courses is reading for pleasure. Read what you love: fiction and non-fiction, listen to audiobooks, read the news and discuss your reading with family and friends.
- Use the school library! The library catalogue is available via the school website.
- You are free to read the GCSE literature texts if you want to, but we actually recommend reading them during the course. Why not choose something else by the same author, or on a similar topic, or from the same time period?

## GCSE Mathematics (1MA1)

- Compulsory Core Subject, Edexcel
- Set 1 Set 4: Higher Tier
   Set 5: Foundation Tier (approx. 30 students)

Foundation tier - Grades 1 to 5 available

Higher tier grades – 4 to 9 available (Grade 3 allowed)

Tier of entry can change right up until April 2025!

#### **Content (more details on school website)**

Number

Algebra

Ratio, proportion and rates of change

Geometry and measures

**Probability** 

**Statistics** 

#### **Assessment**

Paper 1 - Non-calculator (80 marks)

Paper 2 - Calculator (80 marks)

Paper 3 - Calculator (80 marks)

240 marks for final grade (9-1)