

English Language:

CGP Guide to Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar for GCSE ISBN: 178294219X; OCR 9-1 English Language Books 1 and 2 – available from the library (ISBN-10: 0198332793 and ISBN-13: 978-0198332794). Practice writing formal letters, speeches and articles. Read quality non-fiction including journalism such as “The Guardian” and “The Times”. Work on punctuation, grammar and spelling skills using sites like BBC Bitesize. Write practice essays in a quiet workplace. Google Classroom English Site: 7bzebr

Maths

MyMaths Website + MathsWatch Website (Watch videos for relevant grades). Online textbook [through Kerboodle.com website]. Use Revision Guides: New GCSE Maths Edexcel Revision Guide and Workbook (all in one) : Foundation - For the Grade 9-1 Course. New GCSE Maths Edexcel Revision Guide and Workbook (separate): Higher - For the Grade 9-1 Course.

English Literature

Study guides such as CGP guides for Edexcel and York Notes, Cliffs Notes and other published guides on set texts: 'Macbeth'; 'An Inspector Calls'; 'Great Expectations' and 'Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde'. The 'No Fear Shakespeare: Macbeth' to have a modern version next to the Shakespearean English. Use websites such as 'Universal Teacher.org.uk' for excellent 'An Inspector Calls' and 'Macbeth' guides. Read and re-read their set books. Display key quote posters in their bedroom or workspace to aid rote learning of quotes. Read a range of critical guides. It's good to get more than one guide to a text to cross compare ideas. Use a range of YouTube guides to the Conflict Poetry but again, use these in combination with in class notes and essays. There's no one failsafe place for English revision. Time, space and quiet to write essays which require concentration. Revise theme or character you feel unsure about. You may know lots about Lady Macbeth but are you as confident on Banquo? If not, then that's where to start revising.

Google Classroom English Site: 7bzebr

Science

MyGCSE Science website – video tutorials
Google Classroom revision content and other revision material shared by individual teachers on Go

CGP revision books for AQA. The AQA website has a number of past papers available for download. They also have the mark schemes and examiners notes. Complete a paper under exam conditions. For revision also use: Kerboodle for resources and checklists; exercise books and classwork.

Dance

Revision packs / notes, folders, mock exam papers and exercise books.

DT

AQA GCSE Design & Technology Graphic Products ISBN 978-1-4085-0274-7
GCSE Design & Technology Graphic Products AQA Revision Guide ISBN 978-1847623560
GCSE D&T Graphic Products AQA Exam Practice Workbook ISBN 978-1847623928
AQA GCSE Design & Technology Product Design ISBN 9781408502761
GCSE Design & Technology Product Design AQA Revision Guide ISBN 978-1847623546
GCSE D&T Product Design AQA Exam Practice Workbook ISBN 978-1847623904
AQA GCSE Design & Technology Resistant Materials ISBN 978-1408502730
GCSE D&T Resistant Materials AQA Exam Practice Workbook CGP Books ISBN 978-1847623898
GCSE Design & Technology Resistant Materials AQA Revision Guide CGP Books ISBN 978-1847623539
AQA website has past papers.

History

Revise one section of the History course a week from January, following the timetable below. Effective revision is active revision – they will not remember if they simply ‘read over’ their notes. Teachers will be posting suggested revision activities each week on Google

Classrooms and a complete list of these activities will be sent home to parents following the mock exams. Sample activities include: making timelines, making a glossary of key people and terms with a sentence for each, and planning and writing practice exam questions to show to teachers. Further supporting materials, such as practice exam question lists and question technique guides, are also available via Google Classrooms.

8/1 Anglo-Saxon England and Norman Conquest
15/1 Norman Power and Control
22/1 Life in Norman England
29/1 Medieval Crime and Punishment
19/2 Early Modern Crime and Punishment
26/2 18th/19th century Crime and Punishment
5/3 Modern period Crime and Punishment
12/3 Whitechapel, 1870-1900
19/3 Weimar Germany
26/3 The Rise of the Nazis
16/4 Nazi Dictatorship
23/4 Life in Nazi Germany
30/4 Origins of the Cold War
7/5 Cold War Crises
14/5 End of Cold War
21/5 Exam skills

Geography

Resources students already have access to:

- One of the core text books is on Kerboodle – within this book there is exam technique advice which is very useful
- A copy of the CGP revision books which were given out before the last mocks
- Their own mock papers for Year 10 and 11 mock examinations. Students have corrected these in green pen and should be clear about areas for improvement
- Students will also have numerous assessments for all topics which have also been corrected by themselves and their teachers. These are also essential for exam technique improvement.

Additional resources that may be useful:

- Information about the specification and some sample assessment papers (please be aware there are only two as this is a new specification) can be found

on the exam board website
<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/geography-b-2016.html>

- Any revision guides and work books for the specification above will be useful, for example:
https://www.amazon.co.uk/Revise-Edexcel-Geography-Revision-Workbook/dp/1292133767/ref=pd_cp_14_4/260-5804145-1135813?_encoding=UTF8&psc=1&refRID=F51D5VYRG284B0RQDHAT

Students will also be given additional revision packs and advice sheets in the run up to the exam

RS

Complete all of the independent homework tasks that are in your spiral bound booklet. Go onto google classrooms and work through the PowerPoints, past exam questions and booklets. Go to GCSE Bitesize and read the topics that are relevant for this year of study. Go back through the religion booklets that you were given in July and continue to make your own revision notes / mind maps / quizlets of 2 religions of your choice. Read the news daily and make links between issues in the news and those issues in the GCSE.

Sociology

Revise key words ensuring you know the definitions well. Read the news, especially with regard to education, youth, mass media and crime. Make your own mind-maps and connections including sociological theory and key thinkers. Timed essay practice.

Business Studies

Extensive GCSE Business revision resources for Units 1 and 3 are on Go4schools (See this week's homework) Link to past papers is also attached

Economics

Students have already been provided with Q&A past papers (broken down by topics) for Units 1, 2 and 3. Unit 3 Mock mark scheme to be provided before March 29

Music

Music rooms are open every day during the school week for students to work independently or individual slots can be booked with Ms Ogilby via email or in person sogilby@fortismere.org.uk. Purchase the GCSE A5 Revision Guide Edexcel, published by Rhinegold, and complete a MADTSHIRT summary for each of the 8 set works. Key words are essential and you should learn the glossary/vocab list distributed in class (A4 booklet). Use a highlighter or underline key words when you revise, and/or create flashcards. You should have a set of MADTSHIRT flashcards for each of the 8 set works. Listen to the set works regularly and ideally save mp3s.

BTEC MUSIC

Ensure all Google Classroom logbooks are up to date. All performance students should try to complete regular practice in preparation for their performance recital. Make sure that you use evaluative writing in your logbook to get the best marks. Use the Easter holidays to complete your music industry workbook.

ICT

Use revision guides, work books and past papers. All resources are on google classroom. Past papers and mark schemes are also on OCR website.

Computing

Download Python version 3.5 to practice coding. <https://www.codecademy.com/learn/python> - practise online tutorials to learn the basics of coding. Use revision guides. All resources are on Google classroom. Past papers and mark schemes are also on OCR website.

Media

The exam topic for 2018 is serial television drama. Aim to watch a good variety of these shows. Serial television drama is defined as any television drama that is organised into a series of episodes – as opposed to one-off dramas.

Soap operas do not count as part of this unit. You need to become familiar with the style and content of serial television dramas. The genre is broad and many sub-genres exist. However, there is a typical style and accepted set of conventions that ensure they appeal to audiences. You will also need to consider who makes serial television drama and why these dramas have remained so popular with audiences. Representation is also an area that students should focus on. Considering how these types of dramas present different groups of people in terms of age, gender, ethnicity and class will be essential exam preparation. Aim to regularly read the media sections of The Guardian, The Telegraph and The Independent websites to keep up to date with media industry news.

Art

Students should regularly check the department website for all course resources. <http://fortismereartdepartment.weebly.com/gcse-art.html>. Regularly visit exhibitions. Websites we recommend to check listings are: www.timeout.com/london/art and newexhibitions.com. Regularly visit Art blogs / on line magazines which are extremely useful for gathering ideas. www.art2day.co.uk, www.thisiscolossal.com, www.aestheticamagazine.com. Create a pinterest account to pool ideas and their own resources for the separate projects and for future reference.

Photography

Students should regularly check the department website for all course resources. <http://fortismereartdepartment.weebly.com/gcse-photography1.html>. Regularly visit exhibitions. Websites we recommend to check listings are: www.timeout.com/london/art and newexhibitions.com. Regularly visit Art blogs / on line magazines which are extremely useful for gathering ideas. www.art2day.co.uk, www.thisiscolossal.com, www.aestheticamagazine.com. Create a pinterest account to pool ideas and their own resources for the separate projects and for future reference.

Languages

For the speaking exam, practise the role plays & picture cards from your speaking booklet, and prepare answers to potential conversation questions. Make lists of vocabulary from your notes / exercise books and test yourself regularly on the words.

Look over the work in your exercise book, especially assessed work, with a focus on accuracy and the targets set by your teacher. Make vocabulary flashcards and yourself, with English on one side and the target language on the other. Complete the many interactive exercises and past paper-style assessments on Kerboodle. Stick vocabulary post-it notes around the house. Practise listening on <http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize> and www.thisislanguage.com. Do specimen papers and exemplar materials on www.aqa.org.uk. Revise tenses and grammar (from eg www.languagesonline.org.uk, www.vocabexpress.com or www.thisislanguage.com) and test yourself on them. Build vocabulary on www.memrise.com, www.quizlet.com, www.thisislanguage.com & www.linguascope.com (username: Fortismere password: northwing). Borrow, purchase or see department about the AQA Revision Guide and AQA Revision Workbooks.

PE

Use the revision guide and practice exam question workbook. Complete the workbook questions. Learn key words and terms as outlined in the revision summary document. Use a combination of the resources provided PLUS their folders to revise from: DO NOT rely on one resource only.

Drama

It is compulsory to attend after school rehearsals and weekend technical rehearsals in preparation for your performance of 2 extracts from the play. It is vital to be punctual and reliable as your actions directly affect your grade and the grade of those in your group. To improve your practical work, listen to direction from your teacher, make notes on your script, learn your lines thoroughly and rehearse, rehearse, rehearse! Revision materials are available in students' Drama booklets, on Go4Schools – search for previous Y11 homework set and googleclassrooms. For your written exam, you may want your own copy of the set text "Blood Brothers" by Willy Russell (Methuen Student Edition). If taking your own copy into the exam, it must be free from annotations and post-it notes.

Revision

Plan your revision:

- Time: revision timetable and include social times and breaks and meals
- Mix subjects so you don't get bored
- Target: tick them off when you accomplish them and reward yourself
- Support: ask for help if you need it (teacher, friend, parent...)
- Space: suitable space and quiet.
- Exams dates: put them in a revision timetable
- Exam papers: get them!

Revision techniques

- Remember: it's revision not vision.
- Organise your notes, folders etc into the right place in the right order
- Identify key words, facts; highlight and underline.
- Rewrite these onto postcards or cue cards as a list of bullet points.
- Carry the cards with you and reread them whenever you can
- Condense these to a few words for each topic.
- Talk (to yourself or others)
- Test and support your friends.
- Test (yourself with past papers)
- Time yourself when doing it

Revising successfully

- Do it yourself: make your own revision notes: you will learn as you write
- Be brief: key areas covered
- Don't overdo it (no more than 45 minutes in one go)
- Variety: experiment different techniques
- Confidence: be positive you CAN do this!

Revising is not:

Sitting with your books open in front of you, while you:

- A) decide on a revision playlist
- B) have a quick game of Call of Duty
- C) design a carefully colour coded revision timetable
- D) go and check what's in the fridge
- E) offer to take the dog for a walk

Displacement activities are the enemy of revision! Be honest! You know if you are working or timewasting. If you are timewasting, don't waste more time feeling guilty. You need determination and resilience.

Stay Healthy:

- Eat healthily
- Stay hydrated
- Avoid caffeine especially after 7pm
- Stay fit
- Get plenty of sleep

Coping with anxiety

Adapted from Oxford University's advice for students.

Anxiety is normal and, for most of us, inevitable at examination time. Anxiety can be experienced as a range of feelings from uneasiness to severe panic. It is usually experienced in three ways:

- emotionally: with feelings of fear and nervousness
- physically: dry mouth, feeling sick or a churning stomach, heart beating faster than usual, sweating, shaking, wanting to go to the lavatory all the time, breathing difficulties
- cognitively: frightening thoughts, such as "I'm going to fail / make a fool of myself / losing control / I'm going mad" and so on.

At worst, anxiety and the fear of panic attacks can affect our life and behaviour in all kinds of ways: we may be unable to work or sleep or find ourselves avoiding people or places. Think about if there are any practical solutions you can adopt to reduce your anxiety. These could include prioritising your time, making a realistic plan of action; finding out information or getting feedback if you feel confused or unsure about something; trying to live a "balanced" life, spending time on different aspects of your life, eating well, sleeping, exercise, socialising as well as working.

Put your situation into perspective

Question negative thoughts which make you feel more anxious. The way we think about a stressful situation often makes it seem worse, as our emotional state can distort our thoughts. Try to stand back and evaluate things more realistically and calmly, to put your situation into perspective.

- Don't judge yourself too harshly: try to focus on your strengths and success as much as your failures and weaknesses; accept that no one is perfect, and don't expect too much of yourself.
- Don't "catastrophise": try not to see things in all-or-nothing terms, or assume failing in a situation would be the end of the world.
- Try not to worry excessively about the future: trying to predict what is going to happen in the future, when we have no means of knowing, can make us feel very anxious; concentrate on dealing with present realities.
- Try not to compare yourself to others: it's easy to assume everyone else is doing fine except you; actually, you don't really know how others are feeling or coping.

Reassure yourself and learn to relax. If you become very anxious, try one of the following:

- relaxation – a hot bath, chatting to friends, listening to music, yoga, meditation or a relaxation tape
- distraction – this means anything that you can get involved in and that takes your mind off your anxieties, for example, TV, cinema, a good novel, sport or exercise
- think positively. When we are anxious, we tend to focus on our negative thoughts and this can increase our anxiety.

Insomnia

Many students find their sleep is disturbed around examination time. If you are having difficulty sleeping try some of these simple techniques. Expect improvement to be gradual rather than immediate.

- Do not drink tea, coffee, chocolate drinks or alcohol too close to bedtime. Herbal teas, especially camomile and dill, are thought to help relaxation and sleep.
- Do not take any naps or extra sleep during the day even if you are tired from the night before.
- Develop a regular night time routine. Stop work at least an hour before you intend to go to bed and prepare for bed gradually. Try to do something relaxing before you go to bed. Aim to go to bed at approximately the same time every night and get up at the same time each day.
- Doing some exercise in the day may help you to sleep.
- If something is worrying you, try writing it down and telling yourself you will deal with it the next day.
- If you can't get to sleep within 30 minutes of going to bed, get up and do something else. After 15 minutes, go back to bed and try to go to sleep again. If you still can't fall asleep, get up again and do some other relaxing activity. Repeat this process until you do fall asleep.
- Aromatherapists recommend essential oil of lavender as an aid to relaxation.
- Make sure your bed and bedroom are comfortable.

Examination preparation

On the day of the examination:

- arrive on time but not too early
- use any time before you are allowed to look at the paper to take a few deep breaths and relax as much as possible
- take your time to read through the paper and select the questions you will answer
- some people like to plan all their answers before beginning to write but others plan and write each answer in turn

- make sure you answer the question you are asked, not the one you would prefer
- keep a firm eye on the time and answer the required number of questions. Two brilliant answers will not get you as many marks as three average ones
- write legibly.

There is very little point in conducting a detailed post-mortem. Once the examination is over there is nothing you can do to change what you have written and it may only make you more anxious in the next examination if you focus on faults and omissions. A period of rest or relaxation or even exercise should help you to unwind before you begin preparing for the next.

Panic

Whilst revising or in examinations students sometimes become very anxious and feel they are having a panic

attack. Usually this means that you will be breathing very fast and may feel dizzy, nauseous, sweating, shaky or faint. These feelings can be very unpleasant but they are not dangerous. Try to control them by pausing and slowing down your breathing. Breathe in slowly and smoothly and breathe out slowly too. You should aim for smooth, slow, regular but fairly shallow breathing. Let your body relax and reassure yourself that you are not going to lose control or collapse. As you begin to feel better, try to focus on one question on the examination paper that you feel able to answer and begin to plan and write the answer to this question. Your anxiety should continue to decrease as you write. However bad you feel, do not leave the examination as your anxiety level will fall in a short time and you will begin to feel better.

Exam Rules

- 1.No electronic gadgets like mobile phones, I pads, I phones, MP3 players, ear phones, head phones etc. will be allowed inside an examination room. Pupils will be asked to leave all their belongings outside the exam venue. If a hidden mobile phone goes off during an exam, it will be confiscated and the pupil will be reported to the examination board. This may lead to disqualification from that paper/ subject or any future public exams. Pupils are reminded to switch off any alarms scheduled on their phones as these can go off even when the phone is switched off.
- 2.No exam equipment will be provided by the school. Pupils must bring their own pens, pencils, erasers, sharpeners, rulers, calculators, etc. for the exam. Pupils must be aware of the materials they require for the exam they sit. If in doubt, please ask the subject teacher.
- 3.Hooded tops and outdoor jackets will not be allowed inside the exam venue. Due to cold weather pupils must arrange for warm clothing that does not have a hood. Pupils will be sent home to change or will be asked to wait at the reception until someone from home brings appropriate clothing for them.
- 4.Pupils must not wear accessories that conceal their wrists and must not write anything on their hands. Pupils will be asked to remove any jewellery that does not allow a clear view of their hands. Only watches will be allowed.
- 5.Pupils must behave responsibly once inside the exam venue. Inappropriate behaviour will not be tolerated and pupils will be reported to the exam board and banned from any future public exams. Pupils must follow instructions given to them by the invigilators.
- 6.Pupils will only be allowed to take a bottle of water to their exam desks. No other drink or food items will be allowed unless they have a medical condition that the school has been made aware of in advance. Pupils must remove the label on their bottle before they take it to their seat.
- 7.Pupils must only bring see through pencil cases to their desks. Any other fancy pencil cases that do not allow a clear view of the items inside; will not be allowed inside the exam venue.
- 8.Pupils must arrive at their exam venue at 08:45 AM and 13:15 PM for the morning and afternoon sessions respectively. Lateness will lead to pupils not being given their lost time.
- 9.Pupils must wear their lanyards at all times in the exam venue as this is the only proof of identification they are allowed to bring in. This is an exam board requirement so that invigilators can identify that pupils are sitting at the right desks. Pupils will not be allowed inside the exam venue without their lanyards.

Exam Timetable

When you have your exam timetable, you can enter them here.

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|-----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 14 May | 15 May | 16 May | 17 May | 18 May |
| 21 May | 22 May | 23 May | 24 May | 25 May |
| Half Term | | | | |
| 4 Jun | 5 Jun | 6 Jun | 7 Jun | 8 Jun |
| 11 Jun | 12 Jun | 13 Jun | 14 Jun | 15 Jun |
| 18 Jun | 19 Jun | 20 Jun | 21 Jun | 22 Jun |