



SUTTON COLDFIELD
GRAMMAR SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

Guide to GCSE Courses 2024-2026



GCSE SUBJECTS

There will be a Progress Review issued at the end of the autumn term. The Year 10 Progress Evenings are on Tuesday 28th January and 11th February 2025 when you will be able to meet subject staff. There will be a further Progress Review at the end of the spring term. In the summer term there will be internal school examinations in all GCSE subjects. There will be an end of year report issued in July.

We hope that you will find the following information helpful. There will, of course, be much more information given in lessons over the two year course.

If you require any other assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.

HELPING STUDENTS WITH STUDYING

Students who do best in GCSE examinations work hard throughout Years 10 and 11 rather than those who rely on last minute revision. Revision is cumulative so each time your child revises for assessments, the Year 10 summer examinations and mock examinations in Year 11, her retention of information for the final examinations will increase.

You can help by:

- ◆ encouraging students to ask the teacher if there is work not understood or grasped the first time;
- ◆ helping to organise students' time and out of school activities to gain a good balance;
- ◆ helping to draw up a realistic revision timetable;
- ◆ encouraging planned relaxation time;
- ◆ praising hard work;
- ◆ checking how students are doing by letting them explain something just learned. It is a good rule of thumb that if you can follow the explanation then students will be able to
- ◆ produce a good answer to a question on that topic;
- ◆ emphasising the need for plenty of sleep and a healthy diet, particularly at examination times;
- ◆ providing somewhere quiet to work where work can be kept safe, and asking the family to help by not disturbing students when they are working;

Useful revision tips

- ◆ Plan for half-hour sessions at the most. Any longer and it is likely that little more will sink in. Take a short break between sessions and have a glass of water; re-hydration is essential for optimum brain function;
- ◆ In the evenings after school plan to revise one or two subjects only. Leave some time for relaxation;
- ◆ Plan to revise specific topics in each subject, not everything at once;
- ◆ Make revision cards for each topic
- ◆ Ensure that each session starts with tackling the most difficult bits;
- ◆ Plan to cover each subject several times and revisit each one near to the exams;
- ◆ Revising with the television or radio on or with loud music is not a good idea. Having their favourite music in the background may help;
- ◆ Reading is not enough. Making brief notes on cards with words in colours and pictures helps them to remember. Many students find mind maps useful;
- ◆ Have all books and notes to hand so they are not distracted by looking for things;
- ◆ Working with a friend can also be useful because it allows them to test each other and to talk about the work.

ENGLISH

Head of Department
Examination board
Course titles

Mrs J. Manning
AQA
GCSE English Language and Literature
A coherent programme of English leading to two
separate
qualifications

There is no coursework for either GCSE English Language or English Literature.

Date	Module	Assessment/Independent Study
Year 10 Term 1	Literature: "An Inspector Calls"	Teacher assessment
	Language: Paper 1	Teacher assessment
Year 10 Term 2	Literature: "The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde"	Teacher assessment
	Language: Paper 2	Teacher assessment
Year 10 Term 3	Examination preparation and revision.	Internal examination.
	Literature: Introduction to Poetry Cluster – Worlds and Lives Language: Speaking and Listening Formal presentation and Q&A	Teacher assessment Recorded and submitted to AQA
Year 11 Term 1	Literature: "Macbeth"	Teacher assessment / Mock examinations.
	Language: Reading and writing.	
Year 11 Term 2	Literature: Poetry.	Exam practice.
	Consolidation of skills and knowledge	
Year 11 Term 3	Language: Revision and examination practice.	External examinations.

Examinations are "closed book" and for this reason we recommend that students have their own copy of "An Inspector Calls", "The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde" and "Macbeth" to annotate in lessons and revise from.

English Language - (Separately certificated) Non-examination assessment: Spoken Language **0%**

Examination requirements

English Literature – Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th Century novel **40%**
Paper 2: Modern Texts and Poetry **60%**

English Language – Paper 1: Explorations into Creative Reading and Writing **50%**
Paper 2: Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives **50%**

MATHEMATICS

Head of Department
Examination board

Mrs E. Bubb
Edexcel (9-1) GCSE Mathematics

Date	Content
Year 10 &11	<p><u>Number</u> Upper and lower bounds of rounded or truncated numbers; Calculations with numbers in standard form; Recurring decimals</p> <p><u>Algebra</u> Quadratic equations and inequalities; Surds; Graphs of quadratic functions; Algebraic Fractions; Rearranging formulae; Equations with indices; Parallel and Perpendicular graphs; Tangents to curved graphs; Approximate areas under curved graphs; Equations of circles; Simultaneous equations where one is a quadratic or a circle; Types of sequences; Iteration; Proofs</p> <p><u>Ratio, Proportion and Rates of change</u> Repeated percentage changes and reverse percentages; Graphs of variables that are in proportion; Compound measures</p> <p><u>Geometry and Measures</u> Pythagoras and trigonometry in 3 dimensions; Graphs of the trigonometrical functions; Sine, cosine and tangent of 30°, 60°, 45°; Circle theorems; Sine rule, cosine rule, area of a non right-angled triangle; Sectors and segments; Volumes and surface areas of spheres, cones, pyramids; Areas and volumes of similar shapes</p> <p><u>Statistics</u> Display of data, including cumulative frequency, box and whisker diagrams, histograms, scatter diagrams; Calculating averages and measures of spread for grouped data; Comparison of two sets of data using average and spread; Methods of sampling, questionnaires and biased samples</p> <p><u>Probability</u> Use of tree diagrams and Venn diagrams to calculate probabilities; Conditional probability</p>

Examination : Three 1 1/2 hour papers - (1MA1/1H) is non-calculator; the second two papers (1MA1/2H and 1MA1/3H) are calculator papers

Candidates are expected to commit formulae and conversions to memory (with the exception of the formula for both surface area and volume of cones and spheres).

BIOLOGY

Head of Department
Examination board
Web-link to syllabus
Overview

Mr D. Pockson
AQA
www.aqa.org.uk AQA GCSE Biology 8461
AQA GCSE Biology 8461

Date	Module	Assessment/Independent Study
Year 10 Term 1	Completion of Topic 3: Infection and response Topic 4 Bioenergetics	Assessments 1 and 2
Year 10 Term 2	Topic 4 Bioenergetics Topic 7 Ecology	Assessment 3 and 4
Year 10 Term 3	Topic 7 Ecology Topic 5 homeostasis and response	Year 10 Exam
Year 11 Term 1	Topic 5 homeostasis and response Topic 6 Inheritance, variation and evolution	September Assessment Mock Exams
Year 11 Term 2	Topic 6 Inheritance, variation and evolution Revision	Spring Assessment
Year 11 Term 3	Revision	Exam revision questions

Examination requirements and weighting

Topics 1, 2 and the first part of topic 3 were covered in Year 9.
The GCSE Biology qualification is assessed by written examinations at the end of Year 11.
There will be two examinations of 1 hour and 45 minutes for GCSE Biology.
Paper 1 covers topics 1-4 and Paper 2 covers topics 5-7 (each paper is worth 50% of the final mark).
There will also be questions on practical work in the examination papers.

Other notes

- Textbooks available in school.
- Lots of resources in shared area/science and shared with classes via Microsoft Teams.
- There are eight practical tasks that must be completed during the course. These must be completed as part of the GCSE and may form the basis of some questions within the written papers.

CHEMISTRY

Head of Department
Examination board
Web-link to syllabus
Overview

Miss C Duley
AQA
www.AQA.org.uk
GCSE Chemistry 8462

Date	Module	Assessment/Independent Study
Year 10 Term 1	Organic Chemistry Chemical Changes	Assessments 1 and 2
Year 10 Term 2	Chemical Calculations	Assessment 3 + 4
Year 10 Term 3	Energy Changes	Year 10 Exam
Year 11 Term 1	The Atmosphere Rates of Reaction Equilibrium	Assessment 1 Mock Exams
Year 11 Term 2	Earths Resources Using Resources Chemical Analysis	Assessment 3
Year 11 Term 3	Revision	Past examination paper questions

Examination requirements, including deadlines and weighting

Paper 1 units 1 - 5 worth 50% of GCSE
Paper 2 Units 6 - 10 worth 50% of GCSE

Other notes

- Textbooks available in school.
- Resources on Microsoft Teams.

There are eight practical tasks that must be completed during the course. These must be completed as part of the GCSE, but they make no contribution to the final mark or grade.

PHYSICS

Head of Department
Examination board
Web-link to syllabus
Overview

Miss B Thomson
AQA
www.AQA.org.uk
GCSE Physics 8463

Date	Module	Assessment
Year 10 Term 1	4.6 Light and the EM spectrum 4.3 The Particle Model 4.4 Radioactivity and atomic structure	Two assessments
Year 10 Term 2	4.4 Radioactivity and atomic structure 4.2 Electricity	One assessment
Year 10 Term 3	4.2 Electricity in the Home	Summary Assessment Year 10 examination
Year 11 Term 1	4.7 The motor effect and electromagnetic induction 4.5 Forces and their interactions	Summary Assessment Mock examinations
Year 11 Term 2	4.5 Forces, work and pressure 4.8 Space	Practice examination questions
Year 11 Term 3	Review and Revision	GCSE examinations

Examination requirements and weighting

- Paper 1 Energy Particles, Atomic Structure, Electricity weighting 50%
- Paper 2 Forces, Waves, Light, Electricity & Magnetism, Space weighting 50%

Other notes

There are core practical tasks that must be completed during the course. Questions on these tasks in the final examination will be more detailed than questions on other practical work.

FRENCH

Head of Department
Examination board
Web-link to syllabus

Miss E Franklin
 AQA
[AQA | Languages | GCSE | French](#) Specification 8652

Date	Module	Assessment/Independent Study
Year 10 Term 1	Theme 1: People and lifestyle Unit 1 – Identity and Relationships with others Unit 2 – Healthy Living and Lifestyle	Assessments 1+2
Year 10 Term 2	Theme 1: People and Lifestyle Unit 3 – Education and Work Theme 2: Popular Culture Unit 1 – Free-time activities	Assessments 3+4
Year 10 Term 3	Theme 2: Popular Culture Unit 2 – Customs, festivals and celebrations Unit 3 – Celebrity Culture	Summary Assessment Y10 exams
Year 11 Term 1	Theme 3: Communication and the world around us Unit 1 – Travel and tourism, including places of interest Unit 2 – Media and technology	September Assessment Mock Exams
Year 11 Term 2	Theme 3: Communication and the world around us Unit 3 – The environment and where people live	Mock Speaking Exams Spring Assessments
Year 11 Term 3	Revision and preparation for final exams.	Final examinations in all 4 skills.

Examination Requirements and Weightings

GCSE French has a Foundation Tier (grades 1–5) and a Higher Tier (grades 4–9).
 Students must take all four question papers at the same tier at the end of the 2-year course. Each paper has a weighting of 25% of the final mark.

Paper 1: Listening.
 Paper 2: Speaking.

Paper 3: Reading
 Paper 4: Writing

SPANISH

Head of Department
Examination board
Web-link to syllabus

Miss E Franklin
AQA
[AQA | GCSE | Spanish | Specification at a glance](#) 8692

Date	Module	Assessment/Independent Study
Year 10 Term 1	Theme 1: People and lifestyle Unit 1 – Identity and Relationships with others Unit 2 – Healthy Living and Lifestyle	Assessments 1+2
Year 10 Term 2	Theme 1: People and Lifestyle Unit 3 – Education and Work Theme 2: Popular Culture Unit 1 – Free-time activities	Assessments 3+4
Year 10 Term 3	Theme 2: Popular Culture Unit 2 – Customs, festivals and celebrations Unit 3 – Celebrity Culture	Summary Assessment Y10 exams
Year 11 Term 1	Theme 3: Communication and the world around us Unit 1 – Travel and tourism, including places of interest Unit 2 – Media and technology	September Assessment Mock Exams
Year 11 Term 2	Theme 3: Communication and the world around us Unit 3 – The environment and where people live	Mock Speaking Exams Spring Assessments
Year 11 Term 3	Revision and preparation for final exams.	Final examinations in all 4 skills.

Examination Requirements and Weightings

GCSE Spanish has a Foundation Tier (grades 1–5) and a Higher Tier (grades 4–9).

Students must take all four question papers at the same tier at the end of the 2-year course. Each paper has a weighting of 25% of the final mark.

Paper 1: Listening.
Paper 2: Speaking.

Paper 3: Reading
Paper 4: Writing

ART

**Head of Department
Examination board
Web-link to syllabus**

Mrs S Parkes
AQA
www.aqa.org.uk Specification 8201
Art and Design - Fine Art

Date	Module	Assessment/Independent Study
Year 10 Terms 1 & 2	<u>Component 1</u> - Portfolio of work Produce a selection of thoughtfully presented work in a variety of media. Foundation Projects 'Natural Forms' and 'Still Life' Deadline: Easter.	2 Formal Assessments on work done so far. Foundation Projects marked and grade given.
Year 10 Term 3	<u>Component 1</u> : Foundation Project 'Portrait' Demonstrate a sustained ability to produce practical work in a variety of media and approach.	Formal Assessment on work done so far.
Year 11 Term 1	<u>Component 1</u> : Personal Response Project The mock exam will take place at the end of this term. Deadline for Unit 1 is the end of December.	Mock exam (10 hours) Component 1 will be marked as a whole, marks fed back to students and improvements made where necessary.
Year 11 Term 2	<u>Component 2</u> : Externally Set Task is released and given out. Students are to select one starting point from the paper and develop a project where the final response is created under exam conditions.	Final exam (10 hours) will be marked and moderated both internally and externally along with coursework.

Component 1: Portfolio of Work

Non-examination Assessment , including deadlines and weighting

60% coursework;

One extended collection of work, or project which demonstrates an ability to sustain work from initial starting points such as 'Still Life & 'Portrait'. Unit 1 should comprise approximately 45 hours of non-examination assessment.

Component 2: Externally Set Assignment

Examination requirements, including deadlines and weighting

40% examination;

Question paper given in January in advance of exam which will be straight after Easter (10 hours over 2 days).

BUSINESS

Head of Department
Examination board
Web-link to syllabus

Mr M O'Rourke
 AQA GCSE Business Subjects [Specification code 8132]
<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/business-subjects/gcse/business-8132>

The course enables students to develop independent thinking skills, solve problems and develop decision-making whilst understand the dynamics of business activity and the influence this has on decision-making processes within a business.

External examination assessment

Paper 1– Influences of operations and HRM on business activity

- Topics assessed: Business in the real world, Influences on business, Business operations and Human resources
- External Assessment of 90 marks.
- 1 hour 45 minutes in length
- Worth 50% of GCSE grade

Paper 2—Influences of marketing and finance on business activity

- Topics assessed: Business in the real world, Influences on business, Marketing and Finance
- External Assessment of 90 marks
- 1 hour 45 minutes in length
- Worth 50% of GCSE grade

Date	Module	Assessment/Independent Study
Year 10 Autumn Term	3.1 Business in the real world <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purpose & nature of business • Business ownership • Setting aims & objectives • Stakeholders • Business location • Business planning • Expanding a business 	Assessment is based around examination style questions, projects visual presentations and research
Year 10 Spring Term	3.2 Influences on business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technology • Ethical & environmental considerations • The economic climate on business • Globalisation • Legislation • Competitive environment 	Assessment is based around examination style questions, projects, visual presentations and research
Year 10 Summer Term	3.4 Human resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organisational structures • Recruitment & selection of employees • Motivating employees • Training 	Assessment is based around examination style questions, projects, visual presentations and research End of year examination
Year 11 Autumn Term	3.3 Operations management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Production process • The role of procurement • The concept of quality • Good customer service 3.5 Marketing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifying & understanding customers • Segmentation • Market research • Marketing mix 	Assessment is based around examination style questions, projects visual presentations and research Mock examination
Year 11 Spring Term	3.6 Finance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sources of finance • Cash flow • Financial terms & calculations • Analysing the financial performance of a business 	Assessment is based around examination style questions, projects, visual presentations and research
Year 11 Summer Term	• Revision programme	Final GCSE Examination.

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Assistant Head of Department
Examination board
Web-link to syllabus

Mrs C Rudd
AQA GCSE Computer Science 8525
<https://bit.ly/4e4GAmS>

The AQA GCSE Computer Science course equips students with a deep understanding of how computer systems work, covering topics like programming, data representation, cybersecurity, and algorithms. It fosters problem-solving skills and logical thinking, preparing students for further study and careers in the rapidly growing tech industry.

Date	Module		Assessment
Year 10	Autumn	Paper 1: Programming Skills - 3.1 Fundamentals of Algorithms - 3.2 Programming Paper 2: Computing Concepts - 3.3 Fundamentals of data representation	End of unit assessments for every half term. Two examination papers: Paper 1: Computational Thinking and Programming Skills (3.1 & 3.2) - Written Exam - 2hrs - 90 marks - 50% of GCSE Paper 2: Computing Concepts (3.3 – 3.8) - Written Exam - 1hr 45mins - 90 marks - 50% of GCSE
	Spring	Paper 1: Programming Skills - 3.2 Programming Paper 2: Computing Concepts - 3.4 Computer Systems - 3.5 Fundamentals of Computer Networks	
	Summer	Paper 1: Programming Skills - 3.2 Programming Paper 2: Computing Concepts - 3.6 Cyber Security	
Year 11	Autumn	Paper 1: Computational Thinking and Programming Skills - 3.2 Programming Paper 2: Computing Concepts - 3.7 Relational Databases and Structured Query Language (SQL) - 3.8 Ethical, legal and environmental impacts of digital technology on wider society, including issues of privacy.	
	Spring	Paper 1: Computational Thinking and Programming Skills - 3.2 Programming Revision	
	Summer	Revision	

DRAMA

Head of Department
Examination board
Web-link to syllabus

Mrs K Downie
OCR
www.ocr.org.uk Specification J316

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Year 10	Introduction to Drama course. Practical & written exploration of Blood Brothers. Section A of Performance and response.	Devising and performance techniques explored.	Mock component 1 (Devising)+ mock portfolio	Mock component 1 (Devising)+ mock portfolio completed	Performance and Response Section A (set text performance and study) MOCK written EXAM	Mock component 2 presenting+ performing texts introduced. Concept pro forma completed.
Year 11	Component 1 + portfolio. Performance and Response Section A and Section B.	Component 1 + portfolio complete INTERNAL EXAM FOR C.1 MOCK EXAM	Component 2 Presenting and performing texts + concept Pro forma prepared.	Component 2 + concept pro forma complete and sent to examiner. EXTERNAL EXAM FOR C.2	Performance and response - Section A and B EXTERNAL EXAM	

Assessment Objectives

- AO1** Create and develop ideas to communicate meaning for theatrical performance.
- AO2** Apply theatrical skills to realise artistic intentions in live performance.
- AO3** Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of how drama and theatre is developed and performed.
- AO4** Analyse and evaluate their own work and the work of others.

Content Overview	Assessment Overview	Percentage of GCSE
Learners will research and explore a stimulus, work collaboratively and create their own devised drama. A detailed written portfolio is created to document their journey.	Devising drama (01/02) 60 marks Non-exam assessment	30% of total GCSE
Learners develop and apply theatrical skills in acting or design by presenting a showcase of two extracts from a performance text. Complete a written concept pro forma to support their extracts.	Presenting and performing texts (03) 60 marks Visiting examiner visits centre to assess work.	30% of total GCSE
Learners will explore practically a performance text to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of drama. Learners will analyse and evaluate a live theatre performance.	Drama: Performance and response (04) 80 marks Exam assessment 1 hour 30 minutes (Written paper)	40% of total GCSE

DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

Head of Department
Examination board
Web-link to syllabus

Mr J Perks
 AQA
www.aqa.org.uk Specification 8552

Date	Module	Assessment/Independent Study
Year 10 Term 1	Key ideas in Design and Technology.	Internal assessments Homework assignments
Year 10 Term 2	Introductions to materials and systems.	Internal assessments Homework assignments
Year 10 Term 3	More about materials. Designing and making principles. Residential at Centre for Alternative Technology in Machynlleth, Wales. Non-Examination Assessment (NEA) design and make project started.	Internal assessments Homework assignments
Year 11 Term 1	Non-Examination Assessment (NEA) design and make project completed. Day visit to IKEA. Designing and making principles. Study of specialist materials.	Internal assessments Homework assignments Year 11 Mock examination
Year 11 Term 2/3	Preparation for written exam paper.	Internal assessments Homework assignments

GCSE Design and Technology allows students to engage with the most exciting developments in the world of Designing and Making, in a very hands-on way. Every career needs students to apply what they have learnt in school in a practical way. GCSE Design and Technology prepares students to participate confidently and successfully in an increasingly technological world, or simply enjoy this practical subject in its own right.

The subject has theoretical and practical aspects as well as a six month "Design and Make" assignment. Skilled staff help and guide you through all aspects of the course.

The course is assessed through the NEA (Design and Make) assignment and also a written exam paper.

The NEA is worth 50% of the GCSE marks.
 The written exam paper is worth 50% of the GCSE marks.

FOOD PREPARATION AND NUTRITION

Lead Teacher
Examination board
Web-link to syllabus

Mrs J Holden / Mrs V Parker
 AQA
www.aqa.org.uk Specification 8585

Date	Module	Assessment/Independent Study
Autumn Year 10	Practical Skills Theory Content: Proteins Fats Oils	Assessment 1 Practice NEA 1 / 2
Spring Year 10	Practical Skills Theory Content: Milk and Dairy Carbohydrates	Assessment 2 Practice NEA 1 / 2
Summer Year 10	Practical Skills Theory Content: Vitamins and Minerals Food Preparation & Investigation assessment sample NEA tasks	Practice NEA 1
Autumn / Spring Year 11	Food Investigation assessment NEA Task (NEA1) Task release date: 1 September One task to be selected from three tasks set by AQA. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food Preparation assessment NEA task • Students will prepare, cook and present a final menu of three dishes within a single period of no more than 3 hours, planning in advance how this will be achieved. Food Preparation assessment NEA task (NEA2) Release date: 1st November <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysis and evaluation of the nutritional, cost and sensory properties of the three dishes. Preparation for examination	Recommended 10 hours to produce a report including photographic evidence. (1500-2000 words) Mock Examination Students will produce a concise portfolio.

GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition is an exciting and creative course which focuses on practical cooking skills to ensure students develop a thorough understanding of nutrition, food provenance and the working characteristics of food materials. At its heart, this qualification focuses on nurturing students' practical cookery skills to give them a strong understanding of nutrition.

Food preparation skills are integrated into five core topics:
 Nutrition and health. Food science. Food safety. Food choice. Food provenance.

GEOGRAPHY

Head of Department
Examination board
Web-link to syllabus

Mrs H Chiverton
 AQA
<http://www.aqa.org.uk>

Geography-8035

Date	Module	Assessment/Independent Study
Year 10 Autumn Term	Paper 1) Hazards - Tectonic	Regularly set homework
	Paper 2) Urban Issues & Challenges	Formal Assessment 1-2 Past examination questions and papers
Year 10 Spring Term	Paper 1) River Landscapes	Formal Assessment 3-4: Past examination questions and papers
	Paper 3) Physical Fieldwork	Day trip to Carding Mill Valley
Year 10 Summer Term	Paper 2) The Challenge of Resource Management	Formal Assessment 5: Summer Examination
	Paper 3) Human Field Work	Day trip to Digbeth
	Paper 1) Hazards – Extreme Weather & Climate Change	
Year 11 Autumn Term	Paper 1) Living World	Formal Assessment 1: Past examination questions and papers
		Formal Assessment 2 Mock examinations
Year 11 Spring Term	Paper 1) Coastal Landscapes	Formal Assessment 3 Past examination questions and papers
	Paper 2) The Changing Economic World	
Year 11 Summer Term	Paper 3) Issue Evaluation	<u>Externally Assessed Examinations</u>
	Geographical Skills Re-cap and revision of all units Practice examination questions	

Examination Requirements

Paper 1) Living with the Physical Environment	1hr30	35%
Paper 2) Living in the Human Environment	1hr30	35%
Paper 3) Geographical Applications	1hr30	30%

Fieldwork

A requirement of all GCSE Geography courses is that students undertake two days of fieldwork in both human and physical environments. This is provided through two fieldtrips; to Digbeth to study the impacts of regeneration and Carding Mill Valley to investigate river processes.

HISTORY

Head of Department
Examination board
Web-link to syllabus

Mrs F Heeks
AQA
www.aqa.org.uk

Specification 8145

Date	Module	Assessment/Independent Study
Year 10 Term 1	International Relations 1918-1939.	Two Formal Assessments
Year 10 Term 2	Germany Depth Study 1890–1945.	Two Formal Assessments
Year 10 Term 3	Germany Depth Study 1890-1945 Elizabeth 1568-1603	Summer examination.
Year 11 Term 1	Historic Environment Power and the People 1170-present	Formal Assessment and mock examination
Year 11 Term 2	Power and the People 1170-present	Formal Assessment
Year 11 Term 3	Revision.	Timed question

Examination requirements, including deadlines and weighting

Paper 1 - 2 hours 50%
Paper 2 - 2 hours 50%

MUSIC

Head of Department
Examination board
Web-link to syllabus

Mr C Collet
Edexcel
www.qualifications.pearson.com
Course code 1MU0

Date	Module	Assessment/Independent Study
Year 10 Term 1	Component 1 - Practising performance skills (solo and ensemble) and familiarity with the marking criteria Component 2—Short composition exercises in preparation for free choice composition. Component 3 - Music theory and dictation skills. Analysis of vocal set works	Regular practise of pieces on instrument and ask instrumental teacher for guidance. Homework set around music theory and set works. Use of Auralia for dictation skills
Year 10 Term 2	Component 1 - Practising performance skills (solo and ensemble). Printed music for final recordings to be selected and submitted. Component 2—Free composition Component 3—Analysis of stage and screen set works	Regular practise of pieces on instrument. Homework set around music theory and set works. Use of Auralia for dictation skills
Year 10 Term 3	Component 1 - Practising performance skills (solo and ensemble) - 'mock' recording Component 2—Free composition to be completed. Component 3—Analysis of instrumental set works. Revision of all material covered to date and wider listening.	Regular practise of pieces on instrument. Homework set around music theory and set works. Use of Auralia for dictation skills
Year 11 Term 1	Component 1 - Final recordings made of solo and ensemble performances. Component 2—Select choice for 'composition to a brief'. Preparation then start composing Component 3— Analysis of fusion set works	Regular practise of pieces on Instrument. Homework set around music theory and set works. Use of Auralia for dictation skills
Year 11 Term 2	Component 2—Complete and submit 'composition to a brief' Component 3—Revision of set works and wider listening around the topics.	Homework set around music theory and set works. Use of Auralia for dictation skills
Year 11 Term 3	Component 3—Revision of set works and wider listening around the topics. Specimen questions	Homework set around music theory and set works. Use of Auralia for dictation skills

Component 1—Performing Solo performance (15%). Ensemble performance (15%) Total 30%
Component 2—Composing Free composition (15%). Composition to a brief (15%) Total 30%
Component 3—Appraising Examination in summer term of Year 11 worth 40% of final GCSE mark

Other notes

Component 1 performances must last a minimum of 4 minutes' combined duration and should be of at least Grade 4 standard (ideally Grade 5). Solo pieces should be of at least one minute in duration and may comprise of one or more pieces. Ensemble pieces should be of at least one minute in duration and may comprise of one or more pieces. The final recordings must take place in Year 11. Printed copies of the music must be submitted.

Component 2 compositions comprise of two pieces, each of which must be 1 minute in duration and in total should be of at least 3 minutes' combined duration. One composition is 'free', the other to a brief set by the exam board at the start of Year 11.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Head of Department
Examination Board
Web-link to syllabus

Mrs R. Hughes
AQA (9-1)
<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/physical-education>

Paper 1: The human body and movement in physical activity and sport	Paper 2: Socio-cultural influences and well-being in physical activity and sport
<p>What's assessed Applied anatomy and physiology Movement analysis Physical training Use of data</p>	<p>What's assessed Sports psychology Socio-cultural influences Health, fitness and well-being Use of data</p>
<p>How it's assessed Written exam: 1 hour 15 minutes 78 marks 30% of GCSE</p>	<p>How it's assessed Written exam: 1 hour 15 minutes 78 marks 30% of GCSE</p>
<p>Questions Answer all questions. A mixture of multiple choice/objective test questions, short answer questions and extended answer questions</p>	<p>Questions Answer all questions. A mixture of multiple choice/objective test questions, short answer questions and extended answer questions</p>
Non-exam assessment: Practical performance in physical activity and sport	
<p>What's assessed Practical performance in three different physical activities in the role of player/performer (one in a team activity, one in an individual activity and a third in either a team or in an individual activity). Analysis and evaluation of performance to bring about improvement in one activity.</p>	
<p>How it's assessed Assessed by teachers Moderated by AQA 100 marks 40% of GCSE</p>	
<p>Questions For each of their three activities, students will be assessed in skills in progressive drills (10 marks per activity) and in the full context (15 marks per activity). Students will be assessed on their analysis (15 marks) and evaluation (10 marks) of performance to bring about improvement in one activity.</p>	

You could consider opting for GCSE Physical Education if you enjoy Physical Education and Sport, have a high standard of practical performance in a least two practical activities and be willing to learn more about the theoretical aspects of the subject.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Head of Department
Examination board
Web-link to syllabus

Mrs A Shah
 AQA
www.aqa.org.uk

GCSE Religious Studies A 8062

Date	Module	Assessment/Independent Study
Year 10 Autumn Term	Christianity Beliefs and Teachings	Regularly set homework
	Sikhism Beliefs and Teachings	Formal end of unit assessments x 2
Year 10 Spring Term	Theme E: Religion, Crime and Punishment	Regularly set homework
	Theme C: The Existence of God and Revelation	Formal end of unit assessment x 1
Year 10 Summer Term	Finish Theme C: The Existence of God and Revelation	Regularly set homework
	Begin Christianity Practices	Formal end of unit assessment x 1 End of Year Examination
Year 11 Autumn Term	Finish Christianity Practices	Regularly set homework
	Sikhism Practices	Formal end of unit assessments x 2 Mock examination
Year 11 Spring Term	Theme B: Religion and Life	Regularly set homework
	Theme A: Relationships and Families	Formal end of unit assessments x 2
Year 11 Summer Term	Revision and examination practice	<u>Externally Assessed Examinations</u>

Examination requirements

Two written papers of 1 hour 45 minutes each, taken at the end of Year 11.

Component 1: The Study of Religions: Beliefs, Teachings and Practices

Component 2: Thematic Studies in Religion.

ART & DESIGN—TEXTILES

Head of Department
Examination board
Web-link to syllabus

Mrs S Parkes
AQA
www.aqa.org.uk Specification 8204
Art and Design - Textiles Design

Component 1: Portfolio of Work - Non-examination Assessment

60% coursework; One extended collection of work, or project which demonstrates an ability to sustain work from initial starting points. Unit 1 comprises approximately 45 hours of non-examination assessment.

Component 2: Externally Set Assignment

Examination requirements, including deadlines and weighting

40% examination;

Question paper given in January in advance of exam which will be straight after Easter (10 hours over 2 days).

Date	Module	Assessment/Independent Study
Year 10 Terms 1	<u>Component 1</u> - Portfolio of work Produce a selection of thoughtfully presented work in a variety of media. Foundation Project, 'Colour and Nature' Deadline: End of Term	Formal Assessments on work done so far. Foundation Projects marked and grade given.
Year 10 Term 2	<u>Component 1</u> : Foundation Project 'Mixed Media' Demonstrate a sustained ability to produce practical work in a variety of media and approach.	Formal Assessment on work done so far.
Year 10 Term 3	<u>Component 1</u> : Personal Response Project	Formal Assessment on a time project and grade given.
Year 11 Term 1	<u>Component 1</u> : Personal responses project continued - Deadline: End of Term	Mock exam (10 hours) Component 1 will be marked as a whole, marks fed back to students and improvements made where necessary.
Year 11 Term 2	<u>Component 2</u> : Externally Set Task is released and given out. Students are to select one starting point from the paper and develop a project where the final response is created under exam conditions.	Final exam (10 hours) will be marked and moderated both internally and externally along with coursework.

Examination requirements

Two written papers of 1 hour 45 minutes each, taken at the end of Year 11.

Component 1: The Study of Religions: Beliefs, Teachings and Practices

Component 2: Thematic Studies in Religion.