



SUTTON COLDFIELD
GRAMMAR SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

Parents' Guide to GCSE Courses 2023-2025



GCSE SUBJECTS

There will be a Progress Review issued at the end of the autumn term. The Year 10 Progress Evenings are on Tuesday 30th January and 6th February 2024 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
OCR
www.ocr.org.uk Gateway Science Biology A J247
Gateway Science Biology A J247

Date	Module	Assessment/ Independent Study
Year 10 Term 1	B3 Organism Level Systems	Mid unit tests.
Year 10 Term 2	B3 Organism Level Systems B4 Community Level Systems	End of unit test. Mid unit tests.
Year 10 Term 3	B4 Community Level Systems B5 Genes, Inheritance and Selection	Year 10 Exam
Year 11 Term 1	B5 Genes, Inheritance and Selection	Mid unit tests. End of unit test. Mock examination
Year 11 Term 2	B6 Global Challenges	Mid unit tests.
Year 11 Term 3	B6 Global Challenges Revision	End of unit test Terminal examinations

Examination requirements and weighting

Modules B1 and B2 were covered in Year 9.
(paper 1 and 2 are foundation tier)

- Paper 3 (Higher tier) J247/03 50%
- Paper 4 (Higher tier) J247/04 50%

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

Ms C Jarvis
AQA
www.AQA.org.uk
GCSE Chemistry 8462

Date	Module	Assessment/ Independent Study
Year 10 Term 1	Completion of Organic Chemistry Chemical Changes Electrolysis	Assessments 1 and 2
Year 10 Term 2	Chemical Calculations	Assessment 3
Year 10 Term 3	Energy Changes The Atmosphere	Assessment 4 Year 10 Exam
Year 11 Term 1	The Atmosphere (cont) Rates of Reaction Equilibrium	September Assessment Mock Exams
Year 11 Term 2	Earths Resources Using Resources Analysis	Spring Assessment
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.
- Boardworks in shared area/science.
- Resources on science website.
- Workbooks issued to students.
- CD of textbook available from the library.

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.

- CD of textbook available from the library.

PHYSICS

Head of Department
Examination board
Web-link to syllabus
Overview

Miss B Thompson
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 4.5 Forces and their interactions	Summary Assessment Year 10 examination
Year 11 Term 1	4.7 The motor effect and electromagnetic induction. 4.5 Forces, work and pressure.	Summary Assessment Mock examinations
Year 11 Term 2	4.7 Induced electrical potential 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
www.aqa.org.uk Specification 8658

Date	Module	Assessment/Independent Study
Year 10 Term 1	AQA GCSE French 1-9 Theme 1: Identity and culture Unit 1: Me, my family and friends Unit 2: Technology in everyday life Unit 3: Free-time activities	Formal Assessment 1 Formal Assessment 2
Year 10 Term 2	Theme 1: Identity and Culture Unit 3: Free-time activities Unit 4: Customs and festivals Theme 2: Local, national, international and global areas of interest Unit 5: Home, town, neighbourhood and region	Formal Assessment 3 Formal Assessment 4
Year 10 Term 3	Theme 2: Local, national, international and global areas of interest Unit 6: Social issues	Formal Assessment 5 Formal Assessment 6 Year 10 Internal Summer Examination Speaking Assessment
Year 11 Term 1	Theme 2: Local, national, international and global areas of interest Unit 6: Social issues Unit 7: Global issues Unit 8: Travel and tourism	Formal Assessment 1 Formal Assessment 2 Year 11 Mock Examination
Year 11 Term 2	Theme 3: Current and future study and employment Unit 9: My studies Unit 10: Life at school and college Unit 11: Education post-16 Unit 12: Jobs, career choices and ambitions	Mock Speaking Exam Formal Assessment 3 Formal Assessment 4
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
www.aqa.org.uk 8698

Date	Module	Assessment/ Independent Study
Year 10 Term 1	AQA GCSE Spanish 1-9 Theme 1: Identity and Culture Unit 1: Me, my family and friends Unit 2: Technology in everyday life Unit 3: Free-time activities	Formal Assessment 1 Formal Assessment 2
Year 10 Term 2	Theme 1: Identity and Culture Unit 3: Free-time activities Unit 4: Customs and festivals Theme 2: Local, national, international and global areas of interest Unit 5: Home, town, neighbourhood and region	Formal Assessment 3 Formal Assessment 4
Year 10 Term 3	Theme 2: Local, national, international and global areas of interest Unit 6: Social issues	Formal Assessment 5 Formal Assessment 6 Year 10 Internal Summer Examination Speaking Assessment
Year 11 Term 1	Theme 2: Local, national, international and global areas of interest Unit 6: Social issues Unit 7: Global issues Unit 8: Travel and tourism	Formal Assessment 1 Formal Assessment 2 Year 11 Mock Examination
Year 11 Term 2	Theme 3: Current and future study and employment Unit 9: My studies Unit 10: Life at school and college Unit 11: Education post-16 Unit 12: Jobs, career choices and ambitions	Mock Speaking Exam Formal Assessment 3 Formal Assessment 4
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

Mr. M. Davis
 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 3.6 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 Mock examination
Year 11 Spring Term	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
Year 11 Summer Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revision programme 	Final GCSE Examination.

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Head of Department
Examination board
Web-link to syllabus

Mr. N Opong
OCR

<https://ocr.org.uk/Images/558027-specification-gcse-computer-science-j277.pdf>

Date	Module	Assessment
Year 10	Comp 2: Computational thinking, algorithms and programming <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2.1 Algorithms - 2.2 Programming fundamentals - 2.3 Producing robust programs - 2.4 Boolean logic - 1.2 Memory and Storage - 2.5 Programming languages and Integrated Development Environments 	<p>Two examination Papers:-</p> <p>Computer systems (01) 80 marks 1 hour and 30 minutes Written paper (no calculators allowed) 50% of the total GCSE</p> <p>Computational thinking, (02) algorithms and programming (02) 80 marks 1 hour 30 minutes Written paper (no calculators allowed) 50% of the total GCSE</p>
Year 11	Practical Programming Comp 1: Computer systems <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1.1 Systems architecture - 1.2 Memory and storage - 1.3 Computer networks, connections and protocols - 1.4 Network security - 1.5 Systems software - 1.6 Ethical, legal, cultural and environmental impacts of digital technology Revision	

The

GCSE (9-1) in Computer Science is a linear qualification. There are two externally examined components (01, 02) weighted at 50% each. Each examined component consists of an examination paper with a duration of 1 hour 30 minutes.

Practical Programming

All students will be given the opportunity to undertake a programming task, either to a specification or to solve a problem (or problems), during their course of study. Students will draw on some of the content in both components when engaged in Practical Programming.

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	Materials and their working properties Common specialist technical principles Designing principles	Externally assessed written examination. 2 hours 100 marks 50%
Year 10 Term 2	Making principles Chosen specialist technical principles New and emerging technologies NEA mini-project	Internal assessments
Year 10 Term 3	New and emerging technologies continued Energy, materials, systems and devices Non-Examination Assessment (NEA) design and make project started.	Internally assessed against examination board criteria Year 10 End of Year examination
Year 11 Term 1	Non-Examination Assessment (NEA) design and make project completed.	Internally assessed against examination board criteria Year 11 Mock examination
Year 11 Term 2/3	EXAMINATION PREPARATION <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Core Technical Principles• Specialist Technical Principles• Designing and Making Principles	Externally assessed written examination. 2 hours 100 marks 50%

GCSE Design and Technology will prepare students to participate confidently and successfully in an increasingly technological world.

Students will gain awareness and learn from wider influences on Design and Technology including historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic factors. Students will get the opportunity to work creatively when designing and making and apply technical and practical expertise.

This qualification allows students to study core technical and designing and making principles, including a broad range of design processes, materials techniques and equipment. They will also have the opportunity to study specialist technical principles in greater depth.

Weighting is as follows;
External Exam (50% of GCSE)

FOOD PREPARATION AND NUTRITION

Lead Teacher
Examination board
Web-link to syllabus

Mrs J Holden
 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 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 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	Time: Recommended 10 hours. Outcome: Written or electronic report including photographic evidence. (1500-2000 words) Mock Examination Students will produce a concise portfolio [Time: Photographic evidence of the three final dishes must be included]

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	Unit 1) Hazards—Extreme Weather & Climate Change Unit 2) Urban Issues & Challenges	Regularly set homework Formal Assessment 1-3 Past examination questions and papers
Year 10 Spring Term	Unit 2) Urban Issues & Challenges Unit 1) The Living World	Regularly set homework Formal Assessment 4: Past examination questions and papers
Year 10 Summer Term	Unit 1) River Landscapes Unit 3) Field Work	Regularly set homework Formal Assessment 5: End of Year Examination Residential fieldtrip for data collection in July
Year 11 Autumn Term	Unit 2) The Challenge of Resource Management	Regularly set homework Formal Assessment 1: Past examination questions and papers Formal Assessment 2&3: Mock examinations
Year 11 Spring Term	Unit 1) Coastal Landscapes Unit 2) The Changing Economic World	Regularly set homework Formal Assessment 4 & 5 Past examination questions and papers
Year 11 Summer Term	Unit 3) Issue Evaluation Geographical Skills Re-cap and revision of all units Practice examination questions	<u>Externally Assessed Examinations</u>

Examination Requirements

Unit 1) Living with the Physical Environment	1hr30	35%
Unit 2) Living in the Human Environment	1hr30	35%
Unit 3) Geographical Applications	1hr15	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 www.teoria.com 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 www.teoria.com 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 www.teoria.com 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 www.teoria.com 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 www.teoria.com 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 www.teoria.com 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. 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. Students must submit a score and recording for each composition.

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
What's assessed Applied anatomy and physiology Movement analysis Physical training Use of data	What's assessed Sports psychology Socio-cultural influences Health, fitness and well-being Use of data
How it's assessed Written exam: 1 hour 15 minutes 78 marks 30% of GCSE	How it's assessed Written exam: 1 hour 15 minutes 78 marks 30% of GCSE
Questions Answer all questions. A mixture of multiple choice/objective test questions, short answer questions and extended answer questions	Questions Answer all questions. A mixture of multiple choice/objective test questions, short answer questions and extended answer questions

Non-exam assessment: Practical performance in physical activity and sport

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.

How it's assessed

Assessed by teachers
 Moderated by AQA
 100 marks
 40% of GCSE

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.

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 Sikhism Beliefs and Teachings	Regularly set homework Formal end of unit assessments x 2
Year 10 Spring Term	Theme E: Religion, Crime and Punishment Theme C: The Existence of God and Revelation	Regularly set homework Formal end of unit assessment x 1
Year 10 Summer Term	Finish Theme C: The Existence of God and Revelation Begin Christianity Practices	Regularly set homework Formal end of unit assessment x 1 End of Year Examination
Year 11 Autumn Term	Finish Christianity Practices Sikhism Practices	Regularly set homework Formal end of unit assessments x 2 Mock examination
Year 11 Spring Term	Theme B: Religion and Life Theme A: Relationships and Families	Regularly set homework 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

Mr M Davis
 AQA
www.aqa.org.uk Specification 8204
 Art and Design - Textiles Design

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.

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.