



# Introduction to GCSEs and Work Experience

## TOP TIPS



# Aims of this evening

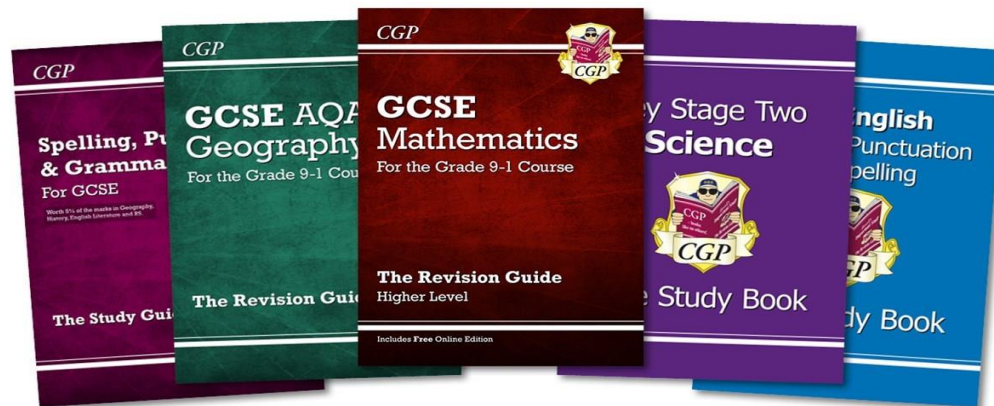
- ▶ Introduce key information about GCSEs
- ▶ Introduce GCSE study in English, Maths and Science
- ▶ To look at how students can be best prepared for their GCSEs
- ▶ Introduce and launch our Work Experience programme

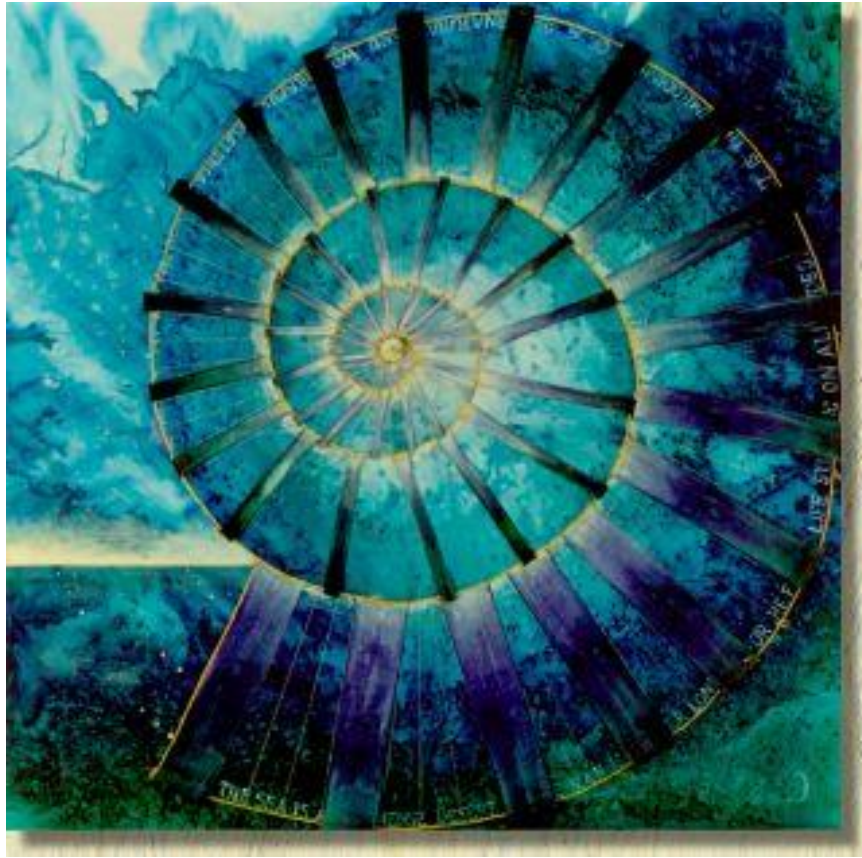
- ✓ Broad and balanced curriculum for all students
- ✓ Students approached their options choices extremely well
- ✓ Reminder that students will complete all subjects
- ✓ GCSEs are graded 9-1

New grading structure	Old Grading Structure
9	A*
8	A
7	A
6	B
⑤ <b>STRONG PASS</b>	
④ <b>STANDARD PASS</b>	C
3	D
2	E
1	F
	G
U	U

# Revision Guides

- ▶ Information will come out via Parent Mail
- ▶ Available to order centrally from the school
- ▶ Allows us to pass on discounts
- ▶ Do not replace effective revision strategies
- ▶ Do offer students access to key information
- ▶ If you have any concerns please, as always, contact your child's Tutor in the first instance.





## The Sixth Form



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Based on 7 Day Print Price

## Countdown to clearing

### Student guide and advice special Pullout inside

Student guide and advice special Pullout inside

## Economists question credibility of Truss plan to cut taxes

When inflation was at record levels and not to exceed 9 per cent this year, it forecast that interest payments on the UK's debt would reach £40 billion next year, twice that expected in March. Although interest payments are expected to fall the following year, the bill for benefits and the state pension is set to rise from £250 billion to £275 billion in 2023-24, and £300 billion in 2025.

Truss, the foreign secretary, has put a £30 billion package of tax cuts at the heart of her campaign to be the next Conservative leader. Her plans include reversing the rise in national insurance payments and scrapping plans to increase corporation tax.

She has gone significantly further than her rival, Rishi Sunak, with her pledge. However, the IFS issued its stark warning to both leadership candidates about their tax plans.

Sunak has pledged to start cutting basic income tax from 2024 but claimed that further reductions at a time of soaring inflation would be "immoral". Yesterday official figures revealed that inflation passed 10 per cent last month, hitting a 45-year high. It is poised to rise to 11.5 per cent in the autumn when the energy price cap increases to over £1,300. The cap is predicted to rise to nearly £1,500 in April.

The state pension, which under the "triple lock" rule will track inflation, is set to hit £200 a week for the first time from April. Pensioners will see their income rise by almost £1,000 next year. Carl Emmerson, deputy director of the Institute for Fiscal Studies (IFS) said permanent tax cuts were not plausible when inflation was at record levels and not to exceed 9 per cent this year. It forecast that interest payments on the UK's debt would reach £40 billion next year, twice that expected in March. Although interest payments are expected to fall the following year, the bill for benefits and the state pension is set to rise from £250 billion to £275 billion in 2023-24, and £300 billion in 2025.

## Generation Covid faces university rejection

### Tough A-level grades mean 40,000 could lose out

Tens of thousands of teenagers are expected to miss out on their first-choice university as the most disrupted school leavers since the Second World War receive their exam results today.

The first pupils to sit traditional exams since the start of the pandemic are expected to be rejected by their first choice university as the most disrupted school leavers since the Second World War receive their exam results today.

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Going the lightning Young women split for cover as storms hit London following the recent heatwave Reports, pages 16-17

## Work getting you down? Try standing up

Standing desks boost the health and happiness of office workers while reducing the time they spend sitting by one hour a day, researchers found.

Their trial suggested that introducing other measures, such as moving printers or bins far away from workstations, also cuts the time staff spend slumped in front of a computer and reduces stress and muscle pain.

Spending too long sedentary during the day has been linked to health problems, including type 2 diabetes.

The study from the University of Leicester recruited 756 local council workers in Leicester, Manchester and Liverpool, and divided them into three groups. The first were given standing desks and followed an office-based programme called Smart Work and Life (SWAL), which encourages movement and breaks during the workday.

The second group followed the SWAL programme but had no standing desks, while the third worked as normal.

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## Every student gains a place at their first choice university

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# The Sixth Form

- ▶ **Excellent teaching**
- ▶ **Strong outcomes**
- ▶ **Something for everyone – a range of courses**
- ▶ **Dedicated Tutors and Mentors**
- ▶ **Personalised support and guidance – Student Progression Officer**
- ▶ **A blend of the familiar and the new**
- ▶ **A balance of support and independence**
- ▶ **Opportunities beyond the classroom.**

# GCSE Maths

**Miss Coleman**

**Head of Maths**

**[BColeman@beaminster.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:BColeman@beaminster.dorset.sch.uk)**



# 9-1 Maths GCSE

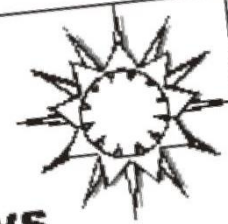
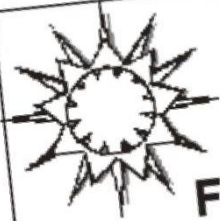
- ▶ **First examined June 2017**
- ▶ **Graded 9-1, with 9 being the highest.**
- ▶ **Currently approximately 3.5% of those who take the GCSE**
- ▶ **Still Higher and Foundation tiers**
- ▶ **Sets 1 & 2 Higher Grades 9-5**
- ▶ **Sets 3-5 Foundation Grades 5-1**
  
- ▶ **A-level Entry requirement is a Grade 7**
- ▶ **Level 3 Maths in Context requirement is a Grade 6/5**

► **Key changes:**

- 1. Three exam papers opposed to two**
- 2. One non-calculator paper**
- 3. Multiple choice questions included**
- 4. Adapted to focus primarily on solving problems which require multi-step solutions**
- 5. Maths is still tiered with an 'improved overlapping tiers model', with a foundation tier covering grades 1-5 and a higher tier covering grades 4-9**
- 6. Re-sit opportunities in November are available for English language and maths only**
- 7. New topics will also be introduced such as ratio and proportions**
- 8. Students will be expected to learn key mathematical formulae by heart**

# An example.....

Here is an advert for a summer holiday.



## Summer Sun Fantastic deals with Sunbreaks Holidays

Dates	7 nights	14 nights
1 April – 30 April	£315	£575
1 May – 6 July	£220	£400

### Notes

- Prices are for one adult (16 years and over)
- Children (less than 16 years) 75% of adult price
- 10% discount if booked online ([www.sunbreaks.co.uk](http://www.sunbreaks.co.uk))

- (a) Martha books a 14-night holiday in May.  
She books for herself, husband Billy and daughter Mary (aged 11).  
She books the holiday online.  
Explain clearly why the total cost will be £990.

# Another example.....

A coffee machine dispenses 130 millilitres of black coffee into cups with a capacity of 175 millilitres.

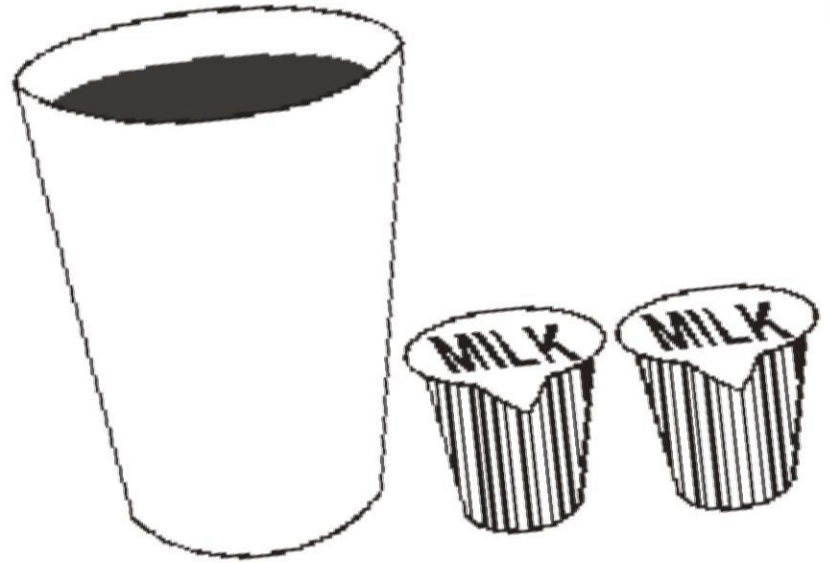
These values are accurate to 3 significant figures.

Milk is supplied in small cartons which contain 21 millilitres, accurate to the nearest millilitre.

Beryl likes milky coffee and always puts 2 cartons of milk in her coffee.

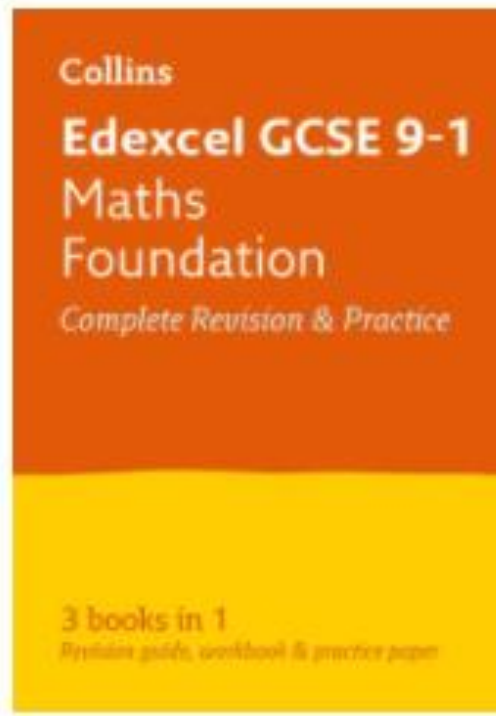
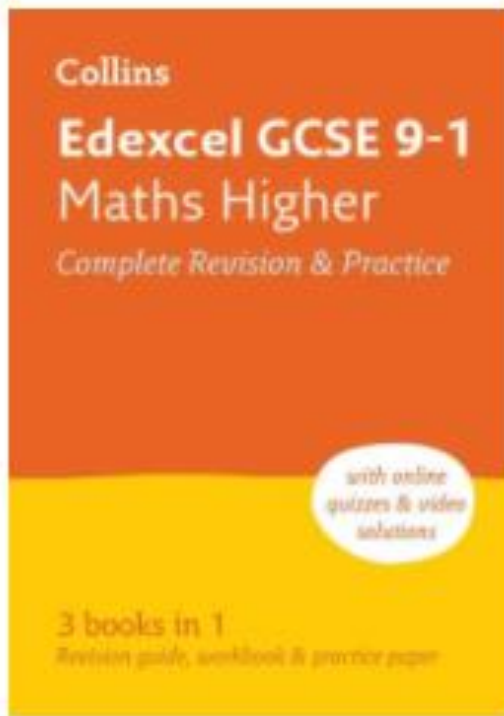
Will Beryl's cup ever overflow?

You **must** show your working.





# Revision Guides



# GCSE English

**Ms C Jones**

**Head of English**

**[CJones@beaminster.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:CJones@beaminster.dorset.sch.uk)**

# There are two English GCSEs

- ▶ **English Language**
- ▶ **English Literature**

# Exam board: AQA



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## GCSE English

### Specifications



#### GCSE English Literature (8702)

Teaching from September 2015  
Exams from June 2017



#### GCSE English Language (8700)

Teaching from September 2015  
Exams from June 2017

### Why AQA English GCSE?

Our GCSEs in English Literature and English Language were created in collaboration with trusted teachers, specialists and academics, always with the classroom in mind. We also support you with subject expertise and targeted resources – including support for post-16 and resit teachers – so you can focus on delivering great lessons your way.

Let us know if you'd  
like to hear from us

[Sign up now](#)



# English Language

**2 x 1:45 exams**  
(June 2023)

50% = Writing skills

50% = Reading questions- *the questions are the same every year* so students can complete as many practise questions as they like.

## English Language

<b>Paper 1: EXPLORATIONS IN CREATIVE READING AND WRITING</b>	<b>Paper 2: WRITERS' VIEWPOINTS AND PERSPECTIVES</b>
1 HOUR 45 MINS	1 HR 45 MINS
80 MARKS (50% OF GCSE)	80 MARKS (50% OF GCSE)
<p><b>SECTION A: READING 40 MARKS</b> One single text (unseen) from 20<sup>th</sup> or 21<sup>st</sup> century</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 4 marks – ‘List 4 things...’</li> <li>2. 8 marks each – ‘How is language used...?’</li> <li>3. 8 marks each – ‘How is structure used...?’</li> <li>4. 20 marks – ‘To what extent do you agree...?’</li> </ol>	<p><b>SECTION A: READING 40 MARKS</b> Two linked texts: 1 non-fiction + 1 literary non-fiction (different time periods and genres, 1 from the 19<sup>th</sup> century and 1 from the 20<sup>th</sup> or 21<sup>st</sup> century)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 4 marks – ‘True or false?’</li> <li>2. 8 marks – ‘Summarise the similarities/differences...’</li> <li>3. 12 marks – ‘How has the writer used language...?’</li> <li>4. 16 marks - ‘Compare the writers’ attitudes towards...’</li> </ol>
<p><b>SECTION B: WRITING 40 MARKS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 extended question (no choice)</li> <li>• Descriptive or narrative writing</li> </ul> <p>24 marks = content 16 marks = technical accuracy</p>	<p><b>SECTION B: WRITING 40 MARKS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 extended writing question</li> <li>• To persuade or to argue</li> </ul> <p>24 marks = content 16 marks = technical accuracy</p>

# English Language Revision

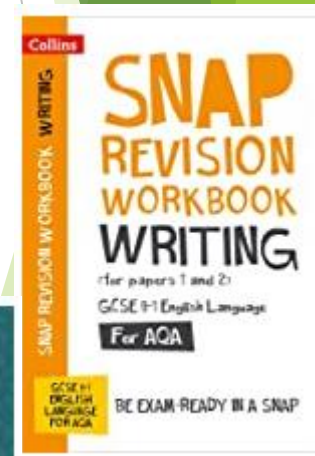
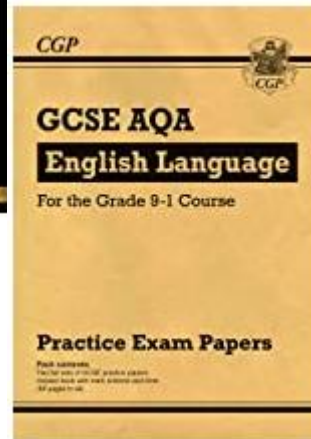
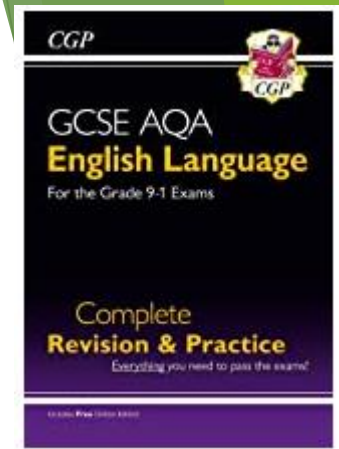
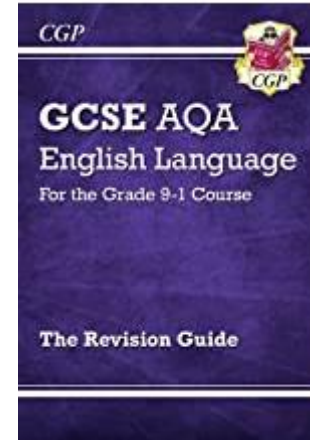
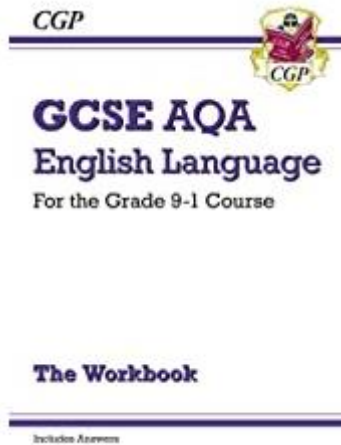
- ▶ **Revision is mainly answering practise questions**
- ▶ **You can use revision guides or materials provided at school (students will be given lots of extracts from texts)**
- ▶ **Use revision guides to ensure your writing skills are up to standard**

# English Language Spoken Language Element

- ▶ **All students will complete a presentation**
- ▶ **This is part of the English language GCSE and must be completed**
- ▶ **Students will receive a certificate alongside their GCSE certificate**

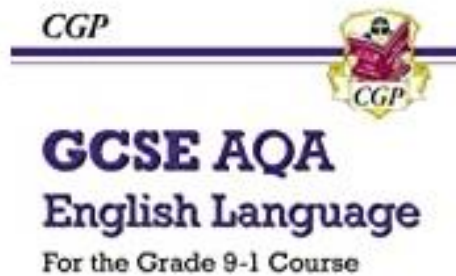
# English Language

Buy the revision guides now, students can use them at home and in lessons



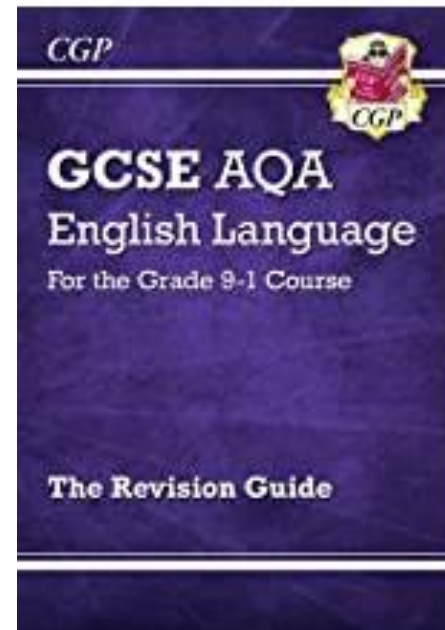


# English Language



## **The Workbook**

Includes Answers



# English Literature

1 x 1:45 exam

1 x 2:15 exam

(May 2023)

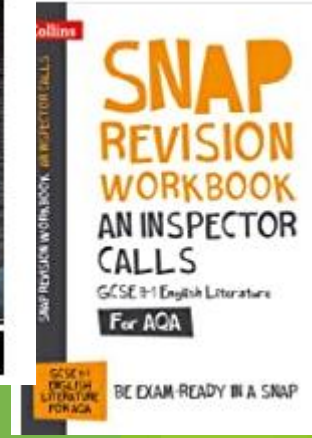
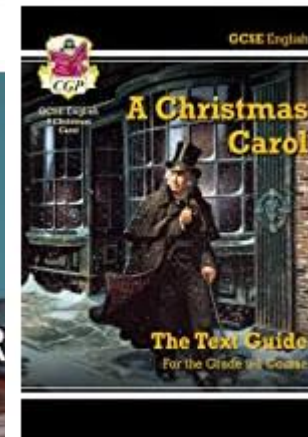
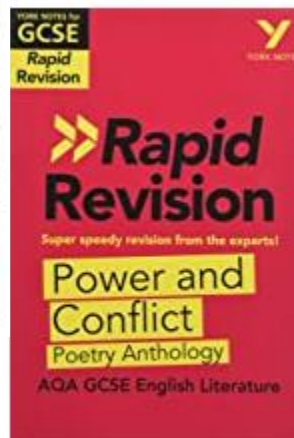
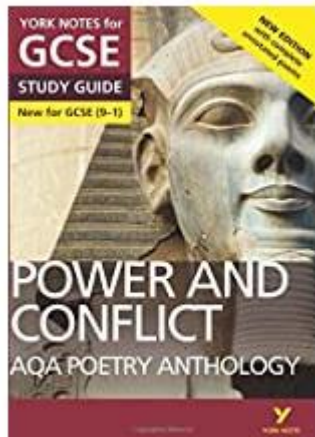
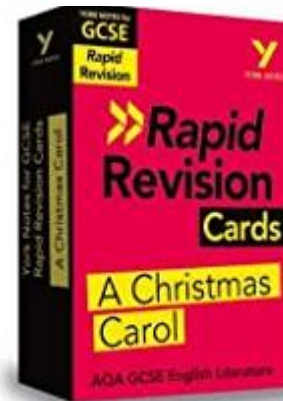
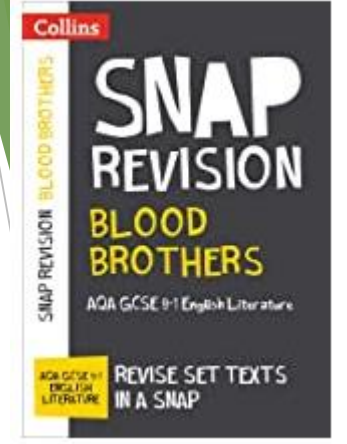
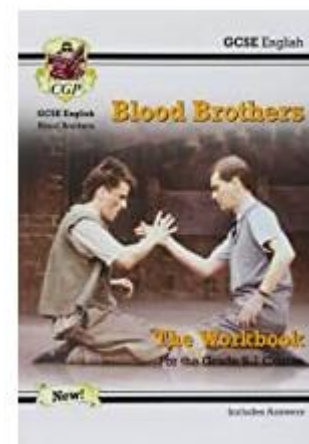
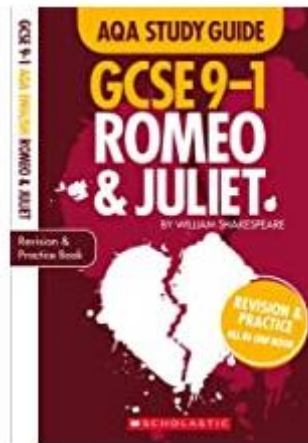
- ▶ 'Romeo and Juliet'
- ▶ 'A Christmas Carol'
- ▶ 'An Inspector Calls'
- ▶ Conflict + power poetry
- ▶ Unseen poetry

Paper 1	Paper 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shakespeare</li> <li>• The 19th-century novel</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Modern texts</li> <li>• Poetry</li> <li>• Unseen poetry</li> </ul>
1 hour 45 minutes	2 hour 15 minutes
64 marks 40% of GCSE	96 marks 60% of GCSE
<p><b>Section A:</b> <b>Shakespeare (<i>Romeo and Juliet</i>):</b> Students will answer 1 question on their play of choice. They will be required to write in detail about an extract from the play and then to write about the play as a whole. 30 marks <u>SPaG</u>- 4 marks</p> <p><b>Section B :</b> <b>The 19th-century novel (<i>A Christmas Carol</i>):</b> Students will answer 1 question on their novel of choice. They will be required to write in detail about an extract from the novel and then to write about the novel as a whole. 30 marks</p>	<p><b>Section A:</b> <b>Modern texts (<i>Blood Brothers</i> or <i>An Inspector Calls</i>):</b> Students will answer 1 essay question from a choice of 2 on their studied modern prose or drama text. 30 marks <u>SPaG</u>- 4 marks</p> <p><b>Section B: Conflict and power poetry:</b> Students will answer 1 comparative question on 1 named poem printed on the paper and 1 other poem from their chosen anthology cluster. 30 marks</p> <p><b>Section C:</b> <b>Unseen poetry:</b> Students will answer 1 question on one unseen poem and 1 question comparing this poem with a second unseen poem. 32 marks</p>

# English Literature

Buy the revision guides now, students can use them at home and in lessons.

Available from Amazon or Waterstones / WH Smith



# English Literature Revision

- ▶ **Your exercise book is your own revision guide, make sure all notes are detailed and neat.**
- ▶ **Keep all old books safe.**
- ▶ **Students will buy their own copy of the text that they can make notes straight into.**

# English Literature Revision

- ▶ **Students do not take copies of the book into the exam**
- ▶ **They must therefore memorise quotes that link to key themes, characters and context**
- ▶ **You can help by testing them on their memorised quotes for the books they have already studied**

# KEY ADVICE

- ▶ **Keep literature notes organised**
- ▶ **Memorise quotes for literature texts as you go along**
- ▶ **Re-read the literature texts more than once**
- ▶ **Buy language revision guides now**
- ▶ **Revise for all mock exams**
- ▶ **Act on feedback / targets given to you by teachers**
- ▶ **Remember - every lessons counts**



# **GCSE Science**

**Mr J Crossland**

**Head of Science**

**JCrossland@beaminster.dorset.sch.uk**

Choices have been made.

If you have chosen **Double Science** – not science option.

- Exam board: **AQA**
- Course code: **8464**
- Course name: **GCSE Combined Science Trilogy**
- **9** lessons of science a fortnight in core Science time
- **3 Subjects – 2 full GCSEs – Documented as a double grade**
- **Higher tier or Foundation tier**
- **Entry tier is the same for all Sciences**
- Specific Course revision guide



9-9
9-8
8-8
8-7
7-7
7-6
6-6
6-5
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5-5
5-4
4-4
4-3
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3-3
3-2
2-2
2-1
1-1
U

If you have chosen “Triple Science” – Option block Science

- Exam board: **AQA**
- Course codes: **8461, 8462, 8463**
- Course names: **GCSE, Biology, Chemistry, Physics**
- **14** lessons of science a fortnight in core Science time
- **3 Subjects – 3 full GCSEs – Documented as a single grade per subject**
- **Higher tier and Foundation tier entries can be different in each subject.** 3 Revision guides available

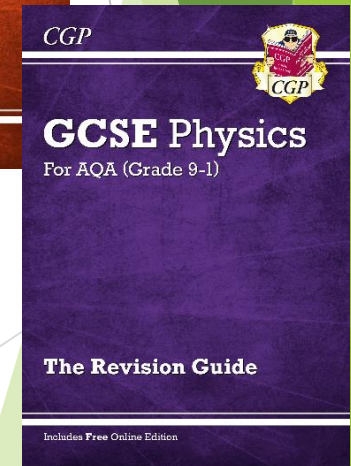
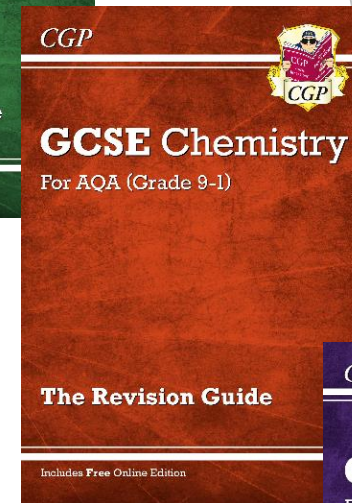
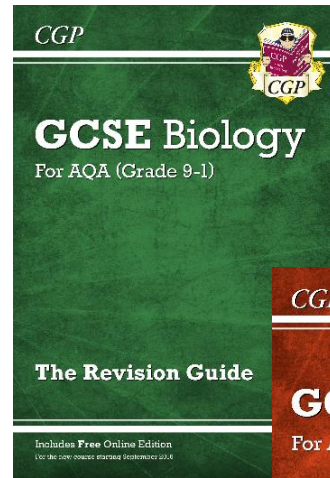
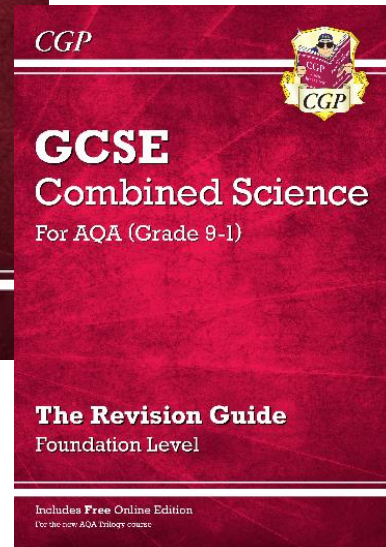
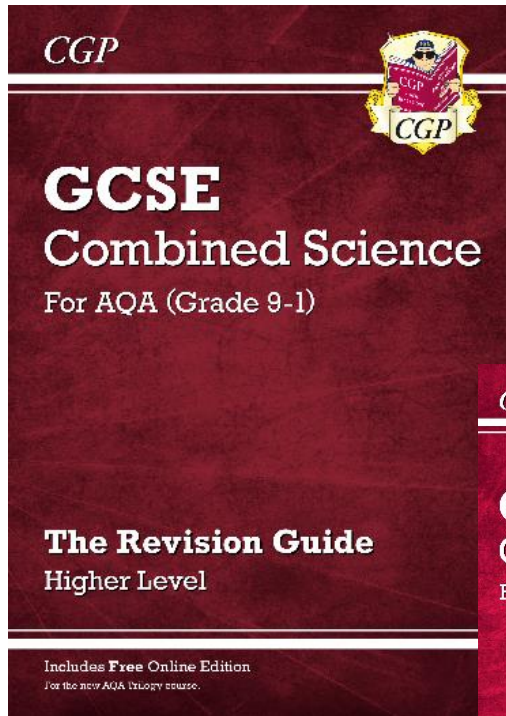


Biology	Chemistry	Physics
9	9	9
8	8	8
7	7	7
6	6	6
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5	5	5
4	4	4
-----	-----	-----
3	3	3
2	2	2
1	1	1
u	u	u

# Course Content

GCSE Biology topics:	GCSE Chemistry topics:	GCSE Physics topics:
Cell biology	Atomic structure and the periodic table	Energy
Organisation	Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter	Electricity
Infection and response	Quantitative chemistry	Particle model of matter
Bioenergetics	Chemical changes	Atomic structure
Homeostasis and response	Energy changes	Forces
Inheritance	The rate and extent of chemical change	Waves
Variation and evolution	Organic chemistry	Magnetism and electromagnetism
Ecology	Chemical analysis	<b>Space Physics</b>
	Chemistry of the atmosphere	
	Using resources	

# Revision Guides



# Coursework

## GCSE Combined Science Trilogy (Double)

**24 – Required practical activities “RPAs”**

**8 Physics**

**8 Chemistry**

**8 Biology**

## GCSE Separate Sciences (Triple)

**30 Required practical activities “RPAs”**

**10 Physics**

**10 Chemistry**

**10 Biology**

**Formally assessed during the end of course examinations.**

**Attendance is mandatory.**



# Exams

Course	Examinations
<b>GCSE Combined Science Trilogy over 2 years.</b>	<p>All 6 Trilogy Science Exams will be assessed May/June 2022.</p> <p>There will be 2 Biology exams, 2 Chemistry exams &amp; 2 Physics exams.</p> <p>All exams are available in foundation or higher, but no mixed entry.</p> <p>All exams will be 1¼ hrs, 70 marks and worth 16.7% of the final grades.</p>
<b>3 Science GCSEs (Separate Sciences) Biology, Chemistry &amp; Physics.</b>	<p>Each Science will be assessed in May/June 2022.</p> <p>Each Science will have 2 exams.</p> <p>All exams are available in foundation or higher, but no mixed entry within a singular science.</p> <p>All exams will be 1¾ hrs, 100 marks and worth 50% of the final grade for that science.</p>

# Tier of Entry

Choosing a student's tier of entry is an extremely hard challenge for teachers and students.

Higher tier papers allow students to access grades 9 to 4.

Foundation tier papers allow students to access grades 5 to 1

Therefore in order for a student to be entered for higher tier papers teachers will look for a track record of regularly attaining grade 5s or more in assessments.

9-9
9-8
8-8
8-7
7-7
7-6
6-6
6-5
-----
5-5
5-4
4-4
4-3
-----
3-3
3-2
2-2
2-1
1-1
U

# Important things to remember

- The exam board for all science courses is AQA.
- There are 2 courses: **Separate Sciences & Trilogy**.
- **All students cover the same units**, but the separate science students will go into more depth in some units.
- **All examinations** are at the **end of Year 11**. (No Coursework)
- Each student should ideally have the correct **revision guide** for their course.
- **Revision/help sessions** are available. See your teachers and ask! Prior to mock exams Thursday lunch sessions.

# Be Prepared

- ▶ **What:** Be clear on what you have to do
- ▶ **When:** Be very aware of timescales
- ▶ **What:** Are the key dates and deadlines?
- ▶ **Where:** Can You Get Help?

**“If in doubt – shout!”**

**No problem is insurmountable**

**Talk to tutors and subject teachers**

**Take up offers of help**



# Attendance

- ▶ **There is a direct relationship to attendance and final GCSE results**
- ▶ **One day off per week = 80% attendance**
- ▶ **DfE research shows that when attendance falls to 90% a pupil will have dropped a grade in their GCSE results.**

# Be Responsible

- ▶ **It's about a student being responsible for their learning**
- ▶ **The right attitude from the start**
- ▶ **Your attitude to learning is all important.**
- ▶ **Success is 80% attitude and 20% skill**
- ▶ **Always knowing that you have work to do**
- ▶ **Never say: "I've got nothing to do"**
- ▶ **Be ambitious, believe in yourself, be positive**



# Keep Stress to a Manageable Level

- ▶ You may think that you are alone in facing the pressures of this year
- ▶ You aren't – so don't be afraid to ask for help
- ▶ Tell teachers about any worries or if you don't understand something
- ▶ Parents and Carers, please contact us early if you have any concerns



# LAST BUT NOT LEAST

- ▶ **You are in control**
- ▶ **Good habits**
- ▶ **Failing to plan is planning to fail**
- ▶ **Social media BEWARE!!!**
- ▶ **“I can do” attitude, NEVER GIVE UP!!!**

# Year 10 Work Experience

**2022-2023**

**Mr Donovan**

**Work Experience Co-ordinator and  
Careers Advisor**

**[KDonovan@beaminster.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:KDonovan@beaminster.dorset.sch.uk)**

# WORK EXPERIENCE DATES 2023

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May  
to  
Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May**

## Important

- ▶ Monday 1st May 2023 is a Bank Holiday.
- ▶ You will need to check with your employer if you need to go to work on this day

# Why do we do Work Experience?

**Work Experience builds confidence, maturity and employability.**

**Work Experience:**

- ▶ **Gives students insight into skills required for future**
- ▶ **Allows students to see if they enjoy the job**
- ▶ **Broadens knowledge of jobs available**
- ▶ **Increases personal awareness of skills and strengths**
- ▶ **Links students to employers**
- ▶ **Allows students to have encounters with employers and employees**
- ▶ **Students have an experience of a workplace**
- ▶ **Gives insight into a working environment**
- ▶ **Gives motivation to do well in school**
- ▶ **Useful experience to show on CV**

# Work Experience

- ▶ **ALL Year 10s participate in Work Experience**
- ▶ **All students must complete a Health declaration form AND a work placement form which is signed by the parent/carer**
- ▶ **Risk assessments and health and safety checks are carried out**
- ▶ **All employers must have Employers' Liability Insurance in order to be able to participate**
- ▶ **If you have any concerns about your child participating in Work Experience please speak to their Tutor or Mr Donovan**



# Ideas for Work Experience

**The only limits that we have on Work Experience Placements are making sure that the placement has appropriate insurance and health and safety checks.**

**If paperwork is submitted on time, and the placement has all of the correct insurance and health and safety checks, the sky is your limit!**

**In the past we have had students travel all over England and the world.**

**Some examples are:**

- ▶ **The Grasmere Gingerbread Shop – The Lakes District**
- ▶ **City of London Education Policy Institute – London**
- ▶ **Auctioneer – South of France**
- ▶ **Chicago Marine Park – USA**

# KEY DEADLINES

- ▶ **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2023**

  - 16 week deadline for London placements

- ▶ **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2023**

  - 14 week deadline for out of county placements

- ▶ **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2023**

  - 9 week deadline for placements within county

# WORK EXPERIENCE TALKS BY YEAR 11 STUDENTS

## **Students and parents sitting in the front half of the Hall**

- ▶ Please exit the front of the Hall
- ▶ Go straight down the corridor to the last 2 rooms
- ▶ **English Room 1** – Amelie and Oliver
- ▶ **English Room 2** – Herbie and Tilly

## **Students and parents sitting in the rear half of the Hall**

- ▶ Please exit the rear of the Hall into the 2 rooms off the corridor
- ▶ **English Room 4** – Tom and Beth
- ▶ **English Room 5** – Millie-Jane and Archie