



KINGS NORTON
GIRLS' SCHOOL & SIXTH FORM



Subject title: Art and Design - Fine Art

Exam board: AQA

Component 1 (60%): A portfolio made up of two projects.

Component 2 (40%): An externally set task- a further project chosen from a list of starting points set by the exam board. This component is concluded by 10 hours of supervised time (exam conditions), usually 2x5 hour sessions.

Externally set task starting point examples:

Journeys

Interiors

Light and Dark

Personal Histories

In the news

Human Figure

ART & DESIGN: TIPS FOR SUCCESS

1. Continue with work independently. The Art room has an Open Door policy and you will be expected to make use of this facility.
2. Where possible, visit galleries, museums and places of cultural interest to help inspire your ideas.
3. Use your sketchbook to record your creative journey as you explore a theme. Tell the story of what inspired you; what worked well and all of your ideas on how to improve and develop. Try to use your sketchbook like a diary, writing up your analysis and evaluations of your progress.
4. Be prepared to challenge yourself and take risks. When things don't work out, they are still important steps of the journey and you will receive credit for it. Enjoy puzzling out the visual problems your art work presents you with. There will always be several solutions and one will be amazing!
5. Access to a good quality camera is useful to record ideas and observations. You will be awarded marks for good quality photography.
6. Enjoy working with the different media and techniques. You are expected to explore and investigate and you will discover which works best for your idea.
7. Your GCSE art work should show your own individual ideas and progress. Keep up to date with the supportive studies and research in your sketchbook. If you don't record relevant information straight away it is usually forgotten.
8. Always present your work with care. The appearance of your work says a great deal about you as an artist. Never use bubble writing or coloured felt pens for titles.
9. Be brave when describing and analysing artists' work and your own. Your ideas and opinions are always appreciated. Never copy out information from the internet or a book. You will receive no credit for it as it needs to be personal.
10. Enjoy what you create as this will always show in your work.



Subject title: GCSE Business

Exam board: EDUQAS

THE ASSESSMENT PROCESS AND COURSE CONTENT

GCSE Business is a two-year course. The course is broken down into six units of work:

1. Business Activity
2. Influences on business
3. Business operations
4. Finance
5. Marketing
6. Human resources

At the end of the course there are **two written exams**

Paper 1: Business Dynamics (2hours) Total marks: 100

A mix of short answer and structured questions based on stimulus material covering all of the specification content

Paper 2: Business Considerations (1 hour 30 minutes) Total marks: 60

Data response questions covering all of the specification content

TO ACHIEVE A HIGH GRADE, YOUR CHILD SHOULD BE ABLE TO:

- think for herself and work with other students
- look at business issues from different points of view
- frequently use business terminology when answering questions
- give clear and detailed explanations for her written answers
- apply her knowledge to different business scenarios
- analyse both sides of an argument
- make a justified decision

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP YOUR CHILD WITH BUSINESS STUDIES:

- ensure your child learns and understands key business terms and calculations. Talk to her about any difficulties she may find and encourage her to speak to her class teacher
- encourage your child to ask for help when needed
- watch business television programmes and talk to your child about key business concepts she may have learnt in lesson which may have been addressed
- discuss current affairs and discuss the impact on different types of business
- Unit guides are available on student share, encourage your child to use these to reinforce theory learnt in class, help with homework and revision.

Examination Command Words

The following command words will be used within the examination papers to indicate which Assessment Objective (AO) will be asked

A1 – Demonstrate Knowledge	A02 Reference to Specific Business/Context/Scenario	A03 – Demonstrate Analysis	A03 Demonstrate Analysis and Evaluate
State Identity Name Suggest Label	Calculate Select With reference to Using the information	Analyse Explain Why is it	Discuss Assess Recommend Evaluate Justify Consider To what extent Advise
A01 Demonstrate Understanding			
Define Describe Outline What is			

Example exam questions

1. What is a job description and why is it important in the recruitment process? [2]
2. What is a person specification and why is it important in the recruitment process? [2]

Green Grass Golf Limited has decided to advertise the new jobs externally.

3. Analyse one benefit and one problem with advertising the jobs externally. [4]

Green Grass Golf Limited wants to encourage its workers to work harder. To do this it is considering the following motivational methods: Paying high wages and bonuses, providing fringe benefits and job enlargement

4. Consider the three motivational methods shown above and recommend which method would be the most effective in improving the performance of Green Grass Golf Limited's workers. [8]

Useful websites

https://www.edugas.co.uk/qualifications/business-qcse/#tab_overview

<https://resources.edugas.co.uk/Pages/ResourceByArgs?subId=4>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zbqrgwx>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCnVHZKYx1vWVnhRjJqJbNdQ>

<https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/blog/business-qcse-podcasts-by-seneca/>

<https://www.tutor2u.net/business/topics>



Subject title: Computer Science

Exam board: OCR

THE ASSESSMENT PROCESS AND COURSE CONTENT

There are two exams for this qualification which are worth 100% of the GCSE grades available. Students will complete one programming project that supports their understanding for Unit 2.

They will cover the following topics throughout the course in preparation for their two exams:

Unit 1:

- Systems architecture, Memory, Storage, Wired and wireless networks, Network topologies, protocols and layers, Network security, System software and Moral, social, legal, cultural and environmental concerns

Unit 2:

- Translators and facilities of languages, Algorithms, High- and low-level programming, Computational logic and Data representation

Programming Content:

They will also need to do the following during their programming project, this supports the Unit 2 exam:

- Using programming techniques, design solutions to problems, development of coded solutions, effectiveness and efficiency of techniques, showing a technical understanding, testing their code, evaluation and conclusions against a criteria.

TO ACHIEVE A HIGH GRADE, YOUR CHILD SHOULD BE ABLE TO:

- think for herself and work with other students.
- frequently use business terminology when answering questions.
- be willing to work outside the classroom to aid preparation towards controlled assessment (such as learning Python, etc.)

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP YOUR CHILD WITH COMPUTING:

- Ensure your child learns and understands key computing terms. Talk to her about any difficulties she may find and encourage her to speak to her class teacher.
- Encourage your child to ask for help when needed.
- Look at the controlled assignment tasks in Year 10 and 11 to ensure she understands what research she will need to conduct.

COMPUTER SCIENCE TOP TIPS GIVEN TO STUDENTS:

- 1) Ensure you understand the course requirements.
- 2) Recap over key computer science terms at the end of each lesson.
- 3) Ensure your homework is completed to deadline.
- 4) Keep up to date with technology and computer science news.
- 5) Use real life examples in your written answers.
- 6) Catch up on any work you miss if you are absent. Do this before your next computer science lesson.
- 7) Ensure you work on controlled assessment preparation to the best of your ability.
- 8) Ask your teacher if you do not understand any of the theory taught in lessons.
- 9) Write in full sentences when working from text books in order to support your revision.
- 10) Organise your work and keep your folders tidy. Ensure all worksheets and homework is clearly kept in your folders.

TYPES OF EXAM QUESTIONS YOU CAN EXPECT:

Short answers

- 2 Vicky has been on holiday and has taken lots of photos. The memory in her camera is now full and she needs to transfer her photos to an external secondary storage device.

(a) Define what is meant by 'secondary storage'.

.....
.....

[1]

(b) Identify the **three** common storage technologies Vicky can choose from.

.....
.....
.....

[3]

Multiple choice

- 3 Gareth has a satellite navigation system (Sat Nav) in his car that uses RAM and ROM.

(a) Fig. 2 lists some characteristics of computer memory. Tick (✓) **one** box in each row to show whether each of the statements is **true** for the RAM or ROM in Gareth's Sat Nav.

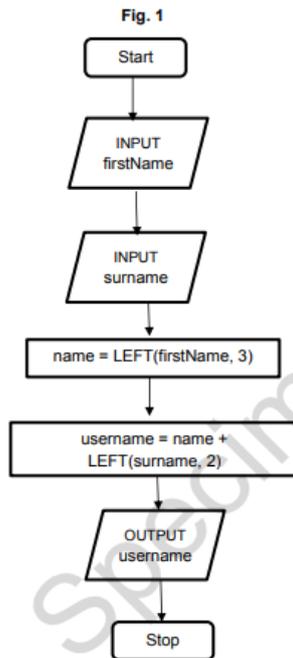
Fig. 2

	RAM	ROM
Stores the boot up sequence of the Sat Nav.		
The contents are lost when the Sat Nav is turned off.		
Holds copies of open maps and routes.		

[3]

Computational thinking questions (flowcharts/pseudocode)

- 4 Johnny is writing a program to create usernames. The first process he has developed is shown in the flowchart in Fig. 1.



For example, using the process in Fig. 1, Tom Ward's user name would be TomWa.

- (a) State, using the process in Fig. 1, the username for Rebecca Ellis.

[1]

Extended writing answers (QWC marked)

- 9 * Even though the computer devices they own still work, people often want to buy the most up-to-date models, such as the latest smartphone.

Discuss the impact of people wanting to upgrade to the latest smartphone.

In your answer you might consider the impact on:

- stakeholders
- technology
- ethical issues
- environmental issues

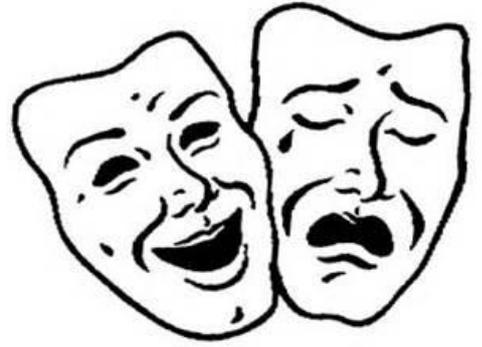
[8]

HELPFUL WEBSITES

<https://ocr.org.uk/Images/558027-specification-gcse-computer-science-j277.pdf> (Exam Specification)
<https://www.codecademy.com/> (Practical Python Programming)
<https://bit.ly/2FG23bp> (Useful YouTube Videos Relating to the course content)
<https://student.craigndave.org/> Excellent exam technique and revision website
<https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/blog/gcse-computer-science-revision/> Useful revision tool
<https://revisecomputerscience.com/> Excellent revision website for a small additional cost



KINGS NORTON
GIRLS' SCHOOL & SIXTH FORM



Subject title: Drama

Exam board: Edexcel

COMPONENT 1: DEVISING (coursework 40% of the qualification – 60 marks)

COMPONENT 2: PERFORMANCE FROM TEXT (practical exam 20% of the qualification – 48 marks)

COMPONENT 3: THEATRE MAKERS IN PRACTICE

Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes (40% of the qualification) – 60 marks

DRAMA: TIPS FOR SUCCESS

- Avoid missing lesson. It is vital that you are involved in all assessment activities or you may lose marks. It is also very difficult to catch-up work missed.
- Keep a record of the practical work done in lessons. This will ensure that your documentary evidence is detailed and accurate.
- Be a supportive group member. Help others gain self-confidence and they will help you in return.
- Be creative and willing to try out new ideas. Be confident in your own work.
- Use rehearsal time wisely and be prepared to rehearse outside of lesson time. This will ensure a quality performance.
- Concentrate on what you are doing. Be focused and committed to all tasks set and ask the teacher if you are unsure of what to do.



Subject title: English

Exam board: AQA

English: TIPS FOR SUCCESS

- Listen to and act on feedback. Make sure you know what you are doing well and what you can improve.
- Learn the requirements of each GCSE, paper and question. Remember that you will be sitting an English Language and an English Literature GCSE.
- Ensure that you have a good knowledge of all the Literature texts. Make revision cards, use Quizlet, GCSE Pod and YouTube to revise key characters and themes.
- Learn your quotes! The Literature exams are closed book, so you will need to have key quotes memorised.
- Practice writing timed paragraphs. Get used to planning and writing at speed.
- Know the amount of time to spend on each question so that you don't have to rush.
- Creative and argumentative writing are worth 50% of your Language GCSE. Practice writing descriptions, narratives and articles that express your opinion.
- Read quality texts. These don't have to be the classics! Newspapers, non-fiction and well-written blogs will help to improve your writing style and vocabulary.
- Have conversations about the 'why' of TV and films that you watch. Why are we shown this first? Why does the camera keep returning to this character? This will help you write about the structure of different texts.
- Watch as many plays as you can. You don't have to go to the theatre because you can stream them at home. You can also use our subscription to digital theatre for free!
- Make sure that you catch up on any lessons that you miss. Email or speak to your teacher and they can send you the work.
- Explore and challenge different perspectives, including your own. Listen to the interpretations of your classmates and teacher, but always form your own opinions.

Suggested websites:

<https://www.gcsepod.com/> - GCSE Pod

<https://edu.digitaltheatreplus.com/> Username: students_115 - Password: strength@1765

<https://www.youtube.com/user/mrbruff> - Mr Bruff

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJhuqpyhE8NzYZFkwTzi_7g - Ms Reay

<https://quizlet.com/en-gb> - Quizlet



Subject title: Food Preparation and Nutrition

Exam board: AQA

TOP TIPS FOR SUCCESS

- ensure your child learns and understands key terms
- encourage your child to ask for help when needed
- ensure your child shares their NEA tasks with you and discuss the content with them
- ensure your child attends catch up sessions if they are absent from school or are falling behind with their work
- enable your child to follow recipes and experiment with new foods and cooking techniques at home, encourage them to prepare and cook to time limits
- watch television programmes based on cooking and also the wider issues relating to food, to encourage a deeper understanding of the subject
- read newspaper articles and magazines with your child about food related topics to broaden their knowledge
- discuss with your child the links between their science and food lessons

ASSESSMENT

Written Exam: 50% of GCSE

- 20 multiple choice questions
- Selection of short and long questions, ranging from 2-12 marks. Example below.

0 3 . 2

Explain why dietary fibre is important in the body. Suggest ways the meat pie and roast potatoes can be modified to include more dietary fibre.

[6 marks]

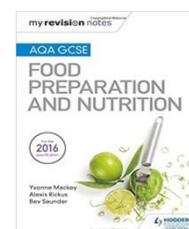
Non Examined Assessment (NEA) x2: 15% & 35% of GCSE

- Externally set tasks from exam board. Example below.

- Plan, prepare, cook and present a range of dishes which are based on a European cuisine. Present three dishes.

USEFUL RESOURCES AND LINKS

- Hodder AQA GCSE Food Preparation & Nutrition Revision Guide
- CGP AQA GCSE Food Preparation & Nutrition Workbook
- Seneca Learning App and Website
- Foodafactoflife.org.uk
- BBC Bitesize: Food and Nutrition
- You Tube: Cooking techniques and skills





Subject title: PE
Exam board: AQA

Theory (60%):

- Paper 1- The human body and movement in physical activity and sport (30%)
- Paper 2- Socio-cultural influences and well-being in physical activity and sport (30%)

Practical (40%):

- Performance in three activities (30%)
- An analysis and evaluation (10%)

TOP TIPS FOR STUDENTS:

PRACTICAL

- Compete in at least one sport outside of school.
- Show commitment to attending extra-curricular clubs.
- Represent KNKS in at least one sport.
- Have good knowledge of skills, tactics, drills and practices in your strongest sport.
- Record extended video footage of your performances in sports outside of school for assessment purposes.

THEORY

- Go through the GCSE specification and use topic checklists and glossaries to revise/test and monitor progress.
- Always act upon the advice given by teachers e.g. respond to the comments in marking.
- Practice questions by doing past paper questions and check the mark schemes. This will help you to become familiar with the exam format and understand what the examiner wants in an answer.
- Be proactive in attending support sessions when appropriate.
- Keep up to date with current sporting issues so you can use these as examples in your answers.

USEFUL WEBSITES:

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/physical-education/gcse/physical-education-8582/specification-at-a-glance>

<https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/blog/free-aqa-pe-gcse-revision/>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zp49cwx>

<https://revisionworld.com/gcse-revision/pe-physical-education>

TYPES OF EXAM QUESTIONS:

Combination of multiple choice, short answer and extended response questions.

EXAMPLES:

Multiple Choice

Which **one** of these bones is located at the ankle joint?

- A Femur
- B Humerus
- C Scapula
- D Talus

[1 mark]

Short answer questions

Paper 1:

Justify why balance is an important component of fitness to a netball or basketball player.

[4 marks]

Paper 2:

Explain how blood doping could improve the performance of a marathon runner.

[3 marks]

Extended response questions:

Paper 1:

Athletes use knowledge of training seasons, training zones and other factors to ensure that they are in peak condition for a major event, such as the Olympic Games.

Analyse how a 1500m runner would plan their training year before a major event.

[9 marks]

Paper 2:

Sport has become commercialised due to its relationship with sponsorship and the media.

Evaluate the impact that the media and sponsorship have had on sports performers.

[9 marks]



Subject title: Geography

Exam board: Edexcel B

GCSE GEOGRAPHY COMPRISES OF 3 UNITS:

Unit 1: Global Geographical Issues - Written examination: 1 hour and 30 minutes
37.5% of the qualification

Unit 2: UK Geographical Issues – Written examination: 1 hour and 30 minutes
37.5% of the qualification

Unit 3: People and Environment Issues – Making Geographical Decisions – Written examination: 1 hour and 30 minutes
25% of the qualification

All units are assessed by exam at the end of Year 11.

For further information, see the website <http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/geography-b-2016.html>

HOW CAN YOU HELP YOUR CHILD ACHIEVE HER FULL POTENTIAL IN GEOGRAPHY?

- Ensure your child learns and understands key geographical terms as new vocabulary is introduced weekly
- Talk to her about any difficulties she may find and encourage her to speak to her class teacher
- Encourage your child to keep up to date with news stories and relevant TV programmes/documentaries that cover geographical themes
- Promote the importance of practising sample assessment material and tests available on various websites
- Many websites are available for revision and consolidation. These include:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zkw76sg> BBC Bitesize

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/geography/> BBC Bitesize

<http://www.s-cool.co.uk/gcse/geography> S Cool revision website

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/geography-b-2016.coursematerials.html#filterQuery=Pearson-UK:Category%2FSpecification-and-sample-assessments>
Edexcel sample assessment material

GEOGRAPHY TOP TIPS FOR STUDENTS:

- Revision starts when you begin the course. If you make full and neat notes in class and for homework, you will find it much easier to re-read 2 years later.
- Every topic you cover in geography can be broken down into a few key words or phrases. These are the ones you can put down into revise from. Make on-going summary/revision cards.
- If you are away you will need to catch up by copying or photocopying the work you missed and ensuring it is in order in your book.
- Ask your teacher which is the best revision guide at the moment. There are lots around and they are NOT all the same i.e. they may not cover your course.
- Keep an on-going glossary i.e. key words or phrases which will help you gain extra marks in the exam and help jog memories. Keep referring to this and keep learning them.
- Always respond to your teachers' suggestions and ideas for improvement. You can do this by answering all of your HTINs and taking your LTIPs on board. The more you learn from these and make improvements, the better you will do.
- Always explain your written answers in full detail, use as many connectives as you can i.e. therefore, because, so, consequently.
- Keep up to date and interested in the news so you can provide examples in class.
- Make sure you understand what all the different command words mean. Compare, contrast, describe, explain, annotate, etc. Read questions carefully and underline these command words so you understand the question fully.
- Put maximum effort into every homework. It is usually an exam question and will help you understand how to answer the questions for real in the exam.
- Stick to time limits. Time yourself on your homework so you know how long you can spend on each question. Do not be tempted to write for ages on one question as you can only earn the maximum marks available and you may leave yourself short of time for later questions.
- Make use of extra classes and revision sessions on offer at lunchtimes and after school.



KINGS NORTON
GIRLS' SCHOOL & SIXTH FORM

Subject title: History

Exam board: AQA

Paper 1: Understanding the modern world

Section A: Germany 1890-1945

Section B: Conflict and tension 1918-1939



Paper 2: Shaping the nation

Section A: Britain – health and the people

Section B: Elizabethan England c1568-1603



HISTORY: TOP TIPS GIVEN TO STUDENTS

- Act on feedback – complete all HTINs fully and ask if you are still not sure how to improve.
- You should build up a 'word bank' i.e. key words or phrases which will help gain extra marks in the exam and help jog memories.
- It is not just what you know but how you apply it. You will be given a 'How to answer the questions' guide in your books for each exam section. You **MUST** use it!
- **TIMING!!** Make sure you know how long to spend on EACH question in Paper One and Paper Two.
- Make sure you know what to expect in the different papers (Paper One: Germany, Conflict and Tension; Paper Two: Health and the People, Elizabethan England).
- Use student share – there are loads of clips and revision materials to help you.
- Don't sit on the fence – **ARGUE!** Be confident of your argument and state it clearly at start and end of longer questions.
- Make sure all your history answers are packed with precise examples and evidence.
- Make sure all your history answers **FOCUS ON THE ACTUAL QUESTION.**
- Always look carefully at where sources are from – think about the 5 W's (who, what where, why, when – Provenance, content, context).
- Revise thoroughly for weekly revision tests. Start compiling revision notes early



Subject title: Health and Social Care
Exam board: OCR Cambridge National

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE: TIPS FOR SUCCESS

What you can do to help your child with Health and Social Care:

- ensure your child learns and understands health and social care and early years settings key terms
- talk to her about any difficulties she may find and encourage her to speak to her class teacher
- encourage your daughter to ask for help when needed
- look at the controlled assignments in Year 10 and 11 and understand what research she will need to conduct
- ensure your child catches up on work if she is absent from school or is falling behind with her work
- take time to observe others working within a health and social care and early years settings; and talk with your child about topics she may have learnt in lesson
- watch programmes and television advertisements that show different health and social care and early years settings to encourage a deeper understanding
- read newspaper articles and magazines with your daughter about health and social care and early years settings to broaden her knowledge
- encourage your child to look on the exam board website and to download past exam papers to practise in preparation for her final exam

The following websites could be useful in supporting all specifications:

Women's and children's health network - Kids' Health

www.cyh.com/Default.aspx?p=1

Home Office Website- Equality Act

www.homeoffice.gov.uk/equalities/equality-act/

Health & Safety Executive

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/index.htm>

Care and the Law

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/about/equality/equality-hub/resources/legislation/>

Examples of questions for the exam *Essential Values of Care for Use With Individuals In Care Settings*:

- Describe how the Children Act 2004 supports children's rights (2).
- Define the meaning of the term 'values of care' (2).
- Little Flowers Pre-school provides day care for children aged 3 to 5 years. Read the following extract from the Little Flowers Pre-school 'Mission Statement', and then answer the questions.

Little Flowers Pre-school

We promise to:

- work together with parents
- respect and value children as individuals
- provide a broad curriculum to promote children's development
- be aware of and sensitive to any cultural differences
- never discriminate against any child or parent on the grounds of any protected characteristic
- maintain high standards of safety
- maintain standards of hygiene at all times

- (a) Little Flowers Pre-school promises never to discriminate on the grounds of any protected characteristic. Name three of the protected characteristics identified by the Equality Act 2010 (3).
- (b) Describe two examples of anti-discriminatory practice that could be used by staff at Little Flowers Pre-school in their day-to-day work with the children (4).
- Tomasz has a right to consultation about the treatment for his illness. Describe two ways that the doctor could support Tomasz's right to consultation (4).
 - Being a reflective practitioner is one of the early year's values of care. Explain how being a 'reflective practitioner' could improve the practice of an early year's practitioner. Use examples to support your answer (8).



Subject title: Media Studies
Exam board: Eduqas



MEDIA STUDIES: TIPS FOR SUCCESS

- Show that you have extremely high standards and yourself to reach. Participate fully in class discussions; Media Studies is about analysis, opinion and sharing ideas.
- Make lots of notes and keep organised. This will be invaluable when it comes to revising.
- Ask questions when you don't understand during or at the end of the lesson. Media Studies has many weird and wonderful theories and terminologies.
- Keep your glossary. This will help you understand key terms as well as give you an excellent resource when revising.
- Be interested in the media and all the new developments. This will add verve and depth to your coursework.
- Think carefully about everything you watch on TV and at the cinema.
- Re-read class notes and check your understanding.
- Allow plenty of time for coursework. It takes up 30% of the course so requires a lot of attention.
- Try to be as creative and original as you can be. Media Studies requires practical skills too
- Always use plenty of specific media terminology and theory.
- Stay on top of interim deadlines. It makes coursework more manageable and will allow you time to review, reflect and amend.
- Media Studies also requires that you have solid written skills and you must make sure that you take care, using good English, and thoroughly checking work and ensuring it is the best it can be.

Exam Type Questions

Explain how historical context influences print advertisements. Refer to the print advertisement for Quality Street (1956) from the set products to support your points (5)

Compare the representations of gender in the Quality Street and Axe Peace print advertisements. [25]

Briefly explain the difference between how public service radio and commercial radio are funded. [4]

Explain how radio programmes use technologies to reach audiences. Refer to The Archers to support your points. (12)

Useful Websites

<https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/subjects/ztnygk7>

<http://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/media-studies/gcse/>

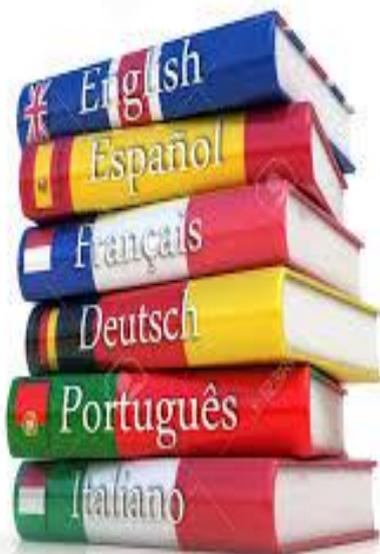


Subject title: French/German/Spanish

Exam board: AQA

MODERN LANGUAGES: TIPS FOR SUCCESS

1. Remember that everything you learnt in years 7-9 remains relevant, so keep your old exercise books handy and refer back to them frequently.
2. Keep your GCSE folder well-organised – it needs to support your learning throughout years 10 and 11. Ensure all worksheets have a date and ask your teacher if you are not sure which part of your folder to file them in.
3. Be prepared to challenge yourself and take risks – whether in oral or written work. When things don't work out, they are still important steps of the journey and we can all learn from our mistakes!
4. Remember that the GCSE Examiner likes opinions – they need to be a key feature of your written and spoken work and should be justified, where possible, with a reason.
5. Enjoy working with the people in your class, either in pairs or in small groups – they are not judging you and can really help boost your confidence
6. Use practice activities on recommended MFL websites to help you revisit prior learning, consolidate grammar and boost your comprehension skills. Ask your teacher for the usernames and passwords if you don't know them.
www.linguascope.com (Intermediate)
www.languagesonline.org.uk www.atantot.com
www.zut.languageskills.co.uk (French)
www.gut.languageskills.co.uk (German)
www.languagenut.com (French)
www.oye.languageskills.co.uk (Spanish)
www.erevision.co.uk (Spanish and German)
7. Always present your work with care. The appearance of your work matters - if you are careless with your notes, they tend to be inaccurate and can then be unreliable.
8. Ask questions and get involved – this will help you to make the best progress.



Typical GCSE questions

You will find that the style of questions in the **Listening test** will be similar to those in the **Reading test**.

The language in which the question is written will determine whether you need to answer in English OR in the target language.

- Multiple choice (where choices are written in English OR in the target language)
- Gap-fill (from a selection of nouns, adjectives and verb forms)
- Short answers (2 or 3 words in English OR in the target language)
- Completing sentences with a short phrase (in English OR in the target language)
- Opinion-based questions (where you need to state whether the opinion you read/hear is positive, negative or both positive and negative)
- Questions where you need to identify advantages and/or disadvantages and note them in English OR in the target language.

The **Speaking test** will be conducted by your class teacher, recorded and sent to the examiner.

You will have 12 minutes immediately before the test to prepare your response to a **photo card** and a **role-play** and can write notes during this preparation time but you will not have access to your folder or a dictionary.

The **general conversation** that follows will focus on two of the areas you have covered during the course but you will not know in advance which two you will get. Questions will be in the target language and will be open (eg "Tell me about your family" , "Do you have a favourite school subject?") rather than closed ("Do you have a brother?"). You should aim to give as many opinions as you can and back up these opinions with reasons.

The **Writing test** is different at Foundation and Higher Tier

Foundation: 4 tasks to complete

1. Write 4 short phrases about a photo – each phrase must contain a verb
2. Write approximately 40 words on a given topic – 4 bullet points will be given, so it will probably be 1 sentence per bullet point.
3. Translation: 5 sentences from English into French, with each sentence containing no more than 10 words
4. Write 4 paragraphs (approximately 90 words in total) on a given topic – 4 bullet points will be given to help you structure your response. Opinions and reasons are important here and some evidence of at least two tenses other than the present tense will score well.

Higher: 3 tasks to complete

1. Write 4 paragraphs (approximately 90 words in total) on a given topic – 4 bullet points will be given to help you structure your response. Opinions and reasons are important here and some evidence of at least two tenses other than the present tense will score well. (16 marks)
2. Write 2 extended paragraphs (approximately 120 words in total) on a given topic – 2 bullet points will be given to help you with the structure of your response. The bullet points are more open-ended so you need to think carefully about where you will include tenses, opinions, reasons, description etc (32 marks)
3. Translation: a paragraph (50-60 words) to translate from English to French. It will include more than one tense.

Students will have regular opportunities to experience the different styles of question during the GCSE course and will be able to develop and continually improve their approach.



Subject title: Music

Exam board: Edexcel

EXAMS

One for 1 hour 45 minutes worth 40% of marks. Candidates answer questions on Set Works (prescribed pieces of music for study).

Performances are assessed every half term, but the important assessments of coursework are done in the last year of the course – namely performance and composition submissions.

All performances need to be recorded to be sent to the board. Compositions are marked internally and sent for moderation. One final listening examination which lasts for 1 hour 45 minutes.

IN ORDER FOR YOUR DAUGHTER TO BE SUCCESSFUL AT GCSE MUSIC SHE WILL NEED TO:

- Spend time every day practising her instrument or voice (at least half an hour of focused work, not just playing through pieces).
- Ask instrumental teachers for advice with choice of music for a solo performance and a group performance
- Be resilient enough to continually revise and refine musical compositions. Rough drafts will need to be constantly tweaked so that pupils submit work that reflects their full musical potential
- Be willing to come and use resources in the Music Department outside of timetabled lessons. This especially involves the use of computers for composition work. This is especially important!
- Be willing to study a wide range of music including
 - Western classical music
 - 20th century music
 - Popular music
 - World music from different countries and cultures
- Have a genuine love of listening to and performing music and the confidence to experiment and try out new ideas
- There are no extra marks for showing that you play two instruments. Use your best for solo and ensemble
- You are more likely to get a high mark for a musical performance of a simple piece than a bad performance of a difficult piece
- Learn the correct musical vocabulary



Subject title: NVQ Language

- **What is NVQ?**

NVQ stands for National Vocational Qualification. It was developed by industry to meet the needs of the modern workplace

- **How is the qualification gained?**

There is no exam so students build up a portfolio of assessments over the duration of their course.

- **How are pupils assessed?**

Each language skill (or 'unit' in NVQ speak) is assessed separately i.e. in speaking, writing, reading and listening.

- **When do students take the assessments?**

When the teacher (assessor) decides they are ready to take an assessment. There is no exam window.

- **Does the teacher know what is in the assessments?**

Yes, KINGS have used a company called ilanguages for the last 7 years. They produce the assessments.

- **How many assessments are there?**

It depends which scheme you use. The ilanguages scheme contains 3 assessments per unit (skill) so there are 12 in total at each level

- **What is the benefit of an NVQ?**

The NVQ is a recognised qualification and although the units do not carry points for school performance tables, pupils can use the qualification in the future for their CV or future careers

- **Do the students have to do all the language skills or units to get an NVQ?**

No, the NVQ is designed to be flexible and the units are freestanding. This means students can do one skill or more. For example a student could achieve a level 1 NVQ in speaking alone but most students complete units in all 4 key skills during the course.

How can you support your child?

- ✓ Good attendance is **VITAL**
- ✓ Avoid internet translators
- ✓ Encourage good organisational skills
- ✓ Buy a good French dictionary for home use
- ✓ **Support with learning for the speaking assessments! Be prepared to listen to it over and over! This will probably be the only work she brings home**



Subject title: Photography

Exam board: AQA

PHOTOGRAPHY: TIPS FOR SUCCESS

1. **Look around you all the time**, at home, at school on the way to school/home etc. Think, 'would that have made a good photograph?'
2. **Record both your research and actions done in Photoshop**, it is important to show that you understand what you are doing and that you can repeat your successes.
3. **Strive to be an independent worker**, your original research and ideas are an important component of this course.
4. **Look at as many magazines and photography books as possible**, try to copy pictures that you really like or that impress you.
5. **Try to visit as many photography and art shows in galleries as possible**, you can get ideas from painters as well as photographers.
6. **Use your camera often** so that you become as familiar as possible with how it works. Check in the instruction manual for anything you don't know about.
7. **Don't be afraid to experiment** even if your results were not as successful as you might have hoped, it's all part of the learning process.
8. **Look after your camera**. It's likely to be quite expensive. Use a soft cloth for cleaning the lens. If you keep your camera in good condition it will serve you well for many years.
9. **Back up your images to a computer** (either at home or school or both). If you have them only on your card and you lose them when there are gone they are gone!
10. **Above all, enjoy taking pictures**, you will find it very satisfying when you take a great picture and also have the undying admiration of both friends and family.
11. **Component 2 topics – they vary each year but recent topics have included :**

Creative Landscape, Assembled, Detail, Out of Place, Motion, Spirals, Food, The Human Condition, Mechanical Objects, Changes, Self-Image

Students chose one topic from a choice of seven when the Component is released on 1st January in Year 11.

Useful Websites (and 2 books)

http://www.thephotographersgallery.org.uk/	The Photographers' Gallery
www.art2day.co.uk	art education website, useful info on exam topics
www.the-aop.org	The Association of Photographers (search for photographers)
www.vam.ac.uk	The Victoria and Albert Museum (big photography dept)
www.npg.org.uk	The National Portrait Gallery
www.tate.org.uk	Tate Gallery website
www.photography.nationalgeographic.com	Online galleries for National Geographic Mag
www.bpb.org.uk	Brighton Photo Biennial (contemporary photography)
www.magnumphotos.com	magnum photo library website
www.nationalmediamuseum.org.uk	collection of C19 @ early C20 photography
www.photographytips.com	a 'how to' technical site
www.cambridgeincolour.com/tutorials.htm	excellent tecchie site
www.gettyimages.com	commercial picture library
www.landscapegb.com	guess what this one is about
www.photonhead.com	good tecchie site
www.photography.com	basic tutorials
www.phaidon.co.uk/photography	publisher website, great photos and news
www.guardian.co.uk/artanddesign/photography	great for ideas
www.guardian.co.uk/lifeandstyle/series/in-pictures	great for ideas on themes and topics
www.telegraph.co.uk/culture/photography	great photos and further links to other photo sites
http://www.bowensdirect.com/bowenstv	a tv channel showing simple lighting techniques with studio flash
http://tv.adobe.com/show/learn-photoshop-cs5/	some short, helpful 'how to' Photoshop videos
http://www.thisiscolossal.com/	
www.pinhole.org	Site dedicated to pinhole photography
www.photo.net	photographers' resources
www.lomography.com	website dedicated to film-based photography
Creative Digital Photography	by Chris Gatum
The Creative Photography Handbook	by Lee Frost

Subject title: Religious Studies

Exam board: AQA

WHAT ABOUT ASSESSMENT?

Pupils study the AQA Religious Studies A (Christianity & Islam) GCSE. The students have an assessment following each topic which counts towards her progress grades, but not her final result. Students will sit two exams (each of 1hr 45min) in Year 11. There is no coursework.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP YOUR CHILD SUCCEED IN GCSE RS?

1. Ensure that she maintains consistent attendance. There is lots to cover, and so every lesson counts. Missing lessons will make it difficult for her to maintain good progress.
2. Take an interest in her work and the various issues she explores. Not only will the input and support she gets from you make learning more enriching, it will also remind her that there isn't just one way of looking at the world – which is an essential requirement for success.
3. Encourage her to spend 20 minutes every week recapping on what she has learned – this will help consolidate knowledge and understanding regularly, rather than only revising a topic at the end of it. She certainly cannot afford to leave preparation till the last minute.

USEFUL LINKS:

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/religious-studies/gcse/religious-studies-a-8062> - full specification on AQA website

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zjgx47h> - updated BBC Bitesize GCSE Religious Studies (AQA) site containing revision learning guides, videos and mini tests

<https://www.audiopi.co.uk/> - free access to high quality podcasts about Christianity and Islam, specified to the AQA exam board and packed with music 🎧 and sound effects 🗣️ all to help you smash your exams 🎯. Students have free access to them all and should use the following log-in details:

Log in: kingsnorton@audiopi.co.uk

Password: **audio**

<http://re-definitions.org.uk/> - popular terms with meanings and pronunciations

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b03zf45d/clip> - a series of short programmes exploring Christian, Muslim and non-religious perspectives about a range of issues

1. Know and understand religious teachings about, and responses to, the issues being studied
2. Expect to find things challenging – this new course is very different to the way you have studied RS before
3. Keep an open mind – no one is expecting you to change your belief or opinion but be aware how and why others think differently to you
4. Read the papers and watch the news – faith issues come up all the time and these are always discussed in lessons
5. Contribute to discussions and debates – be willing to share your viewpoint and learn from others
6. Be ready to challenge ideas – including your own – but respect and value the views of all

Subject title: GCSE Sociology

Exam board: AQA

Sociology: TIPS FOR SUCCESS

GCSE Sociology (8192) comprises of Two Units, both worth 50% of the total mark. These are

Unit One: The Sociology of Families and Education.

Unit Two: The Sociology of Crime and Deviance and Social Stratification.

Units are all linear (i.e. assessed at the end of the second year of the course). For more information visit

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/sociology/gcse/sociology-8192>

How can you Make Sure that your Daughter Achieves Her Full Potential in Sociology?

- Encourage your daughter to keep up to date with news stories and relevant documentaries and TV programmes that have a Sociological theme to them.
- Encourage your daughter to read a national newspaper, preferably a Broadsheet (The Guardian, The Times, or The Telegraph
- Talk to her about any difficulties she may be experiencing and encourage her to speak to me about these.
- Encourage your daughter to utilise 'new media' use as Twitter (for instance, they can follow the KNGS Sociology Twitter page), and get them to use the wide range of subject specific sites such as Resourcd
<http://www.resourcd.com/@sociologyexchange/start/index>

Sociology Top Tips

1. Keep up with your work, consolidate as you get home and make notes in class on top of the notes provided.
2. In class, make sure that you learn independently. Although notes will be provided for you it is essential that you engage in class by making your own notes that personalise your learning.
3. If you are away you can always download missed material by going onto student share – subjects – GCSE Sociology – Unit One etc.
4. Students are expected to mind-map all hand-outs. This is homework every week. If you want to help your daughter in relation to mind maps please put in Tony Buzan 'Maximise the Power of Your Brain' into You Tube.
5. Make sure you understand what all the different command words mean. Compare, contrast, describe, explain, etc.
6. Check the length of the exam so you can work out how long you can spend on each question. Do not be tempted to write for ages on one question as you can only earn the maximum marks available and you may leave yourself short of time for later questions. As a rough guide, for GCSE Sociology it is a minute a mark. So, to write a 12 mark essay, you should be spending roughly between 12-15 minutes on it.
7. An example of a 12 mark essay question you might have to answer in one side is...Discuss how far sociologists would agree that deviant and criminal behaviour results from poor socialisation in childhood. (12 marks)
8. Make sure that you learn sociological definitions. These can be found in Student Share – Subjects – GCSE Sociology – AQA Crib Sheets with Suggested Answers. There are two revision booklets. One for Unit One and another for Unit Two.
9. Make use of The Breakfast Club which runs from September to April in Year Two.
10. Make use of the 'Buddy System' which pairs Year 10 and Year 11 students.

Suggested Reading:

Sociology AQA GCSE (9-1): Rosie Owen and Ian Woodfield. Hodder (2017)

Suggested Websites:

AQA Sociology: <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/sociology/gcse/sociology-8192>

Office of National Statistics: <https://www.ons.gov.uk/>

BBC Bite Size Sociology: <https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/subjects/zbbw2hv>

The Fawcett Society: <https://www.fawcettsociety.org.uk/>



Subject title: ART AND DESIGN – Textiles Design

Exam board: AQA

Students are required to work in one or more of the following areas in Year 11 after completing an introductory and developmental project in Year 10.

Fashion and/or costume.

Printed and/or dyed materials.

Constructed and or applied textiles.

Constructed and /or stitched and or embellished textiles.

Component 1 – 60% of final mark – Portfolio of work

PROJECT 1 – SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE (INTRODUCTORY PHASE)

Students have the opportunity to:

- Build knowledge and understanding of how to enhance and embellish fabrics effectively.
- Develop an extensive range of embellishment techniques.
- Make connections with the work of textile artists, craftspeople and designers
- Assess and evaluate and improve on new skills acquired.
- Presentation techniques in sketchbooks and or portfolio.

An initial workshop based project which will allow for the development of a portfolio of textile samples and research leading to the construction of a final outcome. Potential themes might include: **Natural Forms, Growth and Decay, The Environment, Shabby Chic, Underwater, Layers, Steampunk.**

PROJECT 2 – SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE (DEVELOPMENT PHASE)

- Explore a prescribed area of study in a personal manner from the given theme.
- Extend knowledge, understanding and skills through engagement with suggested sources and application of suitable materials, processes and techniques.
- Develop the idea of a personal creative journey which considers the four assessment objectives
- Resolve investigations through the creation of a personal textile piece.
- Build on prior skills, knowledge and experience to combine and develop a range of textile samples.
- Resolve investigations through the creation of a personal textile piece.

PROJECT 3 – INDIVIDUAL PROJECT (SUSTAINED PHASE)

- Evidence and address all four assessment objectives choosing from a range of themes.
- Create an individual portfolio of ideas, samples and research leading to the construction of a final textile piece utilising one or more of the textile specialised areas and combining a variety of materials.

The above three units are integrated into one portfolio in order to develop a professional approach. Portfolios are presented to high quality and used as a reference folder for further progression.

Component 2 – 40% of final mark – Externally set assignment

- Students choose from one of seven externally set questions as a starting point for their own personal investigation project.
- Students develop their ideas utilising the skills gained throughout Year 10 to produce an independent portfolio of ideas leading to the construction of a final textile outcome which they will construct during 10 hours of supervised exam time.

GCSE ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES (AO)....THIS IS WHAT THE EXAMINER WILL LOOK FOR WHEN MARKING

- AO1 Develop ideas through investigations, demonstrating critical understanding of sources
- AO2 Refine work by exploring ideas, selecting and experimenting with appropriate media, materials techniques and processes.
- AO3 Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions as work progresses.
- AO4 Present a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and demonstrates understanding of visual language.

TIPS FOR SUCCESS:

- ✓ Choose a context which really appeals to you that can sustain your interest.
- ✓ Explain in a variety of ways why you have chosen this context and theme.
- ✓ Personalise every page to reflect your personal style.
- ✓ Make your points valid by supporting them with relevant research.
- ✓ Explain and show visually, be creative and imaginative, think beyond the norm!
- ✓ Gather a range of interesting recycled surfaces to work on from cardboard, fabric, plastics, metals and any other interesting material.
- ✓ Give your coursework the wow factor and be different to someone else, 'original and unique'.
- ✓ Always reason and justify your thoughts and write in your own words, sketch, draw, enjoy!
- ✓ Avoid the 'blank white page look' and create stimulating backgrounds and fonts and layout.
- ✓ Use a wide range of media for tasks, experiment and take pride with the presentation of every single sketchbook page!
- ✓ Aim for high quality, push yourself beyond the boundary.
- ✓ Catch up before it is too late, organise yourself and plan ahead. Make use of the 'Open Door' policy in Textiles.

5 TIPS FOR SUCCESS:

1. Originality and imagination with an enquiring mind that likes to experiment with materials.
2. Planning ahead, being organised and being proactive during tasks.
3. Embracing your strengths and individual quality and passion towards the subject.
4. Sharing of ideas, looking back and reviewing and refining to make positive changes.
5. Setting challenging, realistic but yet achievable personal targets on a weekly basis and abiding to them.



Subject title: Science (Combined Science and Separate Sciences)

Exam board: Edexcel

Tips on how you can help your child succeed in science

4. Listen to their worries. Many students will go through ups and downs. The science courses will be challenging at times and some concepts take longer to fully understand than others. With practise they will succeed. Positivity, resilience and your support will help see them through these challenging times.
5. Encourage them to take responsibility for their own learning. Suggest using their textbook, revision guide, useful websites, asking a friend, attending science clinic, or asking a teacher if they need support.
6. Ensure their attendance is high, and encourage them to catch up on any work that they missed.
7. Help them with their organisation.
8. Ensure that they revise for assessments.
9. Encourage them to take interest in science outside of the classroom, such as visiting museums, zoos, stargazing, podcasts, and watching nature programmes.

Revision Tips for Science

1. Begin revising well in advance of an assessment.
2. Start by preparing your revision resources. Put effort into these as they will can be used for revision later on in the course.
3. Next, learn the key facts to embedding them in long term memory. The frequent use of flashcards, or read, cover, copy repeat activities, such as copying out a mind-map from memory, helps. Little and often works best.
4. If something needs explaining again, look it up on SENECA learning, or FREESCIENCELESSONS.
5. Use Personal Learning Checklists (PLCs) to help target your revision.
6. Practice answering questions and compare your answers to mark schemes. These can be past paper questions, questions from your textbook or redoing questions that we did in lessons.
7. Put effort in but don't overwork, build relaxation, exercise and social time into your revision timetable. We don't want you burning out.

Where to find support for independent learning in science

Science Clinic

Science clinic runs every Tuesday at lunchtime in ICT1 and students can access science revision on the computers and a science teacher will be present that they can ask for support. They can drop in when they need.

Revision Resources

- In addition to revision guides, textbooks and classnotes, you can find a vast number of revision resources on the StudentShare. We have PLCs, flash cards, mind maps, knowledge mats and worksheets for each topic. There are past exam papers and mark schemes as well. To access the resources follow: **StudentShare\subjects\science\2. GCSE**

root\StudentShare\Subjects\Science\2. GCSE\2. Chemistry\8. Topic 8 fuels and Earth s

Name ▲	Labels	Size
 ..		
 1. PLC		
 2. Flash cards		
 4. Pearson worksheets		
 5. Knowledge Mats		
 6. Mind Map		
 7. specifications		

USEFUL WEBSITES:

BBC BITESIZE – EDEXCEL	HTTPS://WWW.BBC.CO.UK/BITESIZE/EXAMSPECS/ZY984J6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- SIMILAR TO A REVISION GUIDE- SIMPLE QUIZZES
SENECA LEARNING	HTTPS://SENECALEARNING.COM/EN-GB/	GOOD TO REVIEW A WHOLE TOPIC DON'T RUSH THROUGH IT. KEEP A NOTE OF FACTS YOU NEED TO LEARN AND MISTAKES YOU MAKE
GCSE POD	HTTPS://WWW.GCSEPOD.COM/	TOPIC BY TOPIC VIDEOS QUIZZES
FUSE SCHOOL (YOUTUBE CHANNEL)	HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/CHANNEL/UCS3WWLFGUIJNRIF745LRL2A	DECENT ANIMATIONS AND EXPLANATIONS, BE CAREFUL BECAUSE NOT ALL OF THE CONTENT IS SPECIFIC TO OUR EXAM BOARD
FREESCIENCELESSONS SCHOOL (YOUTUBE CHANNEL)	HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/RESULTS?SEARCH_QUERY=GCSE+9-1+REVISION+EDEXCEL+FRACTIONAL+DISTILLATION	NO- NONSENSE REVISION. EXAM BOARD SPECIFIC COVERS THE ENTIRE COURSE SEARCH EDEXCEL
COGNITO (YOUTUBE CHANNEL)	HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/RESULTS?SEARCH_QUERY=COGNITO+CHEMISTRY	CLEAR EXPLANATIONS COVERS MOST OF THE COURSE NOT ALL OF THE CONTENT IS SPECIFIC TO OUR EXAM BOARD