

HECKMONDWIKE GRAMMAR SCHOOL



Key Stage 4

Course Booklet

Important dates in Year 10

- **W/C 5 November 2018: Grade sheet report**
- **W/C 28 January 2019: Grade sheet report**
- **Thursday 4 April 2019: Year 10 Parents' Evening**
- **W/C 29 April 2019: Grade sheet report**
- **W/C 29 April 2019 – 9 May 2019: Year 10 Internal exams (Mocks)**
- **Results Certificate issued after exams**
- **W/C 8 July 2019: Grade sheet report**

Art & Design

Course Outline

You will need to research and investigate themes by doing drawing, painting and photographic work based on items and imagery related to your project topic. You will also need to investigate the work of other artists and designers to help you develop your own creative processes and produce personal ideas for your own original artwork.

As you do all of these things you will also be expected to develop a variety of skills, such as,

- The ability to develop ideas through investigations informed by research into the work of others.
- The ability to refine your ideas through experimentation and selecting appropriate materials, techniques and processes.
- The ability to record your ideas, observations and experiences in visual and other forms that are relevant to your intentions.
- The ability to create a personal, meaningful, informed and resolved response to a starting point that makes connections between visual, written, oral or other elements.

All students are expected to develop their basic recording/drawing skills as they progress through the course but to some extent, the specific practical skills that you develop the most will depend on how you end up tackling the course. Whether you intend to try a little of everything as you produce your project work or concentrate on a more specific area such as working with 3D materials because that is what you particularly enjoy or are best at.

Assessment

The assessment of the course is divided into **two** distinct components, the **Portfolio of Work** and the **Externally Set Assignment (Exam)**.

The **Portfolio of work** is selected from the project work that you do throughout the two year course. This usually comprises of three separate units or projects. A project should consist of the research and investigation (preparation) work, done in sketchbooks or on study sheets and a project final piece or outcome. The Portfolio of work is displayed for final assessment at the end of the course; this accounts for **60%** of your eventual grade.

The **Externally Set Assignment** is like a further Coursework project but this time the theme is set by the examining board (AQA) and the final outcome has to be completed within a strict time period (like any other type of exam). Once the starting point has been given to students, they are allowed a period of preparation time to research and investigate the topic, producing studies, investigating the work of related artists and creating ideas for possible development. The student then has to undertake a 10 hour period of sustained and focussed study, creating their final outcome (typically broken up into 3X3hour sessions plus a further hour). This work is then assessed at the same time as the portfolio work but is marked separately and accounts for the remaining **40%** of the final grade.

Specification: AQA Art & Design 8201

Recommended Revision Guide: N/A

Coursework/Controlled Assessment: The 'Portfolio of Work' element starts in September of Year 10 and runs until the beginning of January in Year 11.

Exam Dates: The Externally Set Assignment starts in January of Year 11 and runs until early May, when students have to display their work for final assessment.

Biology

Course Outline

We follow the Edexcel GCSE (9-1) in biology. This two-year course is a thorough, high-level, traditional biology course. The course includes a comprehensive coverage of modern biology, including biochemistry, cell biology, human physiology, plant biology, genetics, ecology, and biotechnology. All of these topics lend themselves to practical work, and students will experience a wide range of practical activities, including some field work in Y10.

The GCSE course also places great weight on the scientific method and mathematical skills, which are assessed by questions in the terminal exams. Lessons therefore include interesting and adventurous investigative work, aimed at developing the skills of scientific enquiry. Students will have access to textbooks and revision guides specifically written for the specification.

Assessment

Assessment is in the form of two exam papers at the end of the GCSE course in Y11. Each paper will have a mixture of different question styles, including multiple choice questions, short answer questions, calculations and extended open-response questions. Both papers are 1 hour 45 minutes and worth 50% of the qualification. Key biological concepts, such as cells and enzymes, will be tested in both papers however all other topics will be assessed once only.

Specification: Edexcel

Recommended Revision Guide: CGP revision guide for Edexcel

Coursework/Controlled Assessment: None

Exam Dates: End of Y11

Business Studies

Course Outline

Business Studies is an examination of the business world. If you choose to study this you will look at real businesses and see how they operate. You will examine what it takes to set up a business and make it a success. You will discover the factors which determine whether a new product or an entrepreneur succeeds or fails.

Business Studies examines the key areas that affect all businesses:

- ***Enterprise and entrepreneurship***
- ***Spotting a business opportunity***
- ***Putting a business idea into practice***
- ***Making the business effective***
- ***Understanding external influences on business***
- ***Growing the business***
- ***Making marketing decisions***
- ***Making operational decisions***
- ***Making financial decisions***
- ***Making human resource decisions***

You will enjoy this course if you want to study a subject that:

- is relevant to the world you live in, and to your future.
- focusses on the world of business through researching real case studies and visits to firms in Yorkshire and London.
- gives you the opportunity to investigate how real businesses work.
- sets you up for a future career in Business or Finance.
- allows you to take part in a share game where you learn about share trading

Assessment

Examination: 2 written papers, both comprising of calculations, multiple-choice, short answer and extended writing questions.

Two thirds of the questions are based on business contexts given in the papers.

Both exams are 1 hour and 30 minutes and each is 50% of the qualification.

Specification: Edexcel GCSE in Business Studies (IBSO)

Recommended Revision Guide: Read BBC website Business pages and try the Tutor2u website. Any broadsheet newspaper Business section is also good background reading.

Chemistry

Introduction

All students do GCSE Chemistry and we follow the **AQA GCSE Chemistry 8462** specification. This is a linear qualification and students will sit all their examinations at the end of the course. The qualification provides an excellent grounding in Chemistry and is an ideal preparation for further study at A-Level.

What will it be like?

The specification covers the following topics:

1. Atomic structure and the periodic table
2. Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter
3. Quantitative chemistry
4. Chemical changes
5. Energy changes
6. The rate and extent of chemical change
7. Organic chemistry
8. Chemical analysis
9. Chemistry of the atmosphere
10. Using resources

'Working Scientifically'

An important emphasis of the specification is to develop an appreciation of the methods of scientific enquiry and the vital application of science and technology in our society. Teaching methods will encourage students to research and discuss the important scientific questions of today, and will develop their abilities to present their arguments cogently and debate these issues in an informed and accurate way.

Assessment

The GCSE grade depends on the performance of the student in two examinations at the end of the course. Both papers are 1 hour 45 minutes long and consist of multiple choice, structured, closed short answer and open response questions. Paper 1 covers topics 1-5 and paper 2 covers topics 6-10.

Practical Work

Students are expected to carry out eight required practical activities through the course which develop the use of a range of apparatus and experimental techniques.

Specification: AQA GCSE Chemistry 8462

Recommended Revision Guide: [New Grade 9-1 GCSE Chemistry AQA Complete Revision & Practice with Online Edition](#); ISBN: 978 1 78294 584 0

Computer Science

Course Outline

Over the course you will cover the following:

- **Computational thinking:** this is the process of thinking through a complex problem, taking the time to understand what the problem is and then develop potential solutions for evaluation. These are then presented in a way that a computer, a human, or both, can understand.
- **Theoretical content:** here you will understand the fundamentals of data representation and computer networks. You will learn about the computer systems that you will create and use and also delve in to the world cyber security and ethical legal and environmental impacts of digital technology.
- **Aspects of software development:** understand how to implement and test a design to make sure it works effectively. Learn how to complete an overall evaluation to help refine the end product

Assessment

Paper 1: Computational thinking and problem solving:

- Written exam set in practically based scenarios
- 1 Hour 30 Minutes
- 80 Marks / 50 % of GCSE

Paper 2: Written Assessment

- Written exam
- 1 Hour 30 Minutes
- 80 Marks / 50% of GCSE

Practical Project

- A computer program to solve the programming project
- Written report: Totalling 20 hours of timetabled work

Specification: AQA

Recommended Revision Guide: Supplied by department

Coursework/Controlled Assessment: Non-Exam Assessment – Assessed in Year 11 with February deadline

Exam Dates: End of Year 11

Food Preparation and Nutrition

Course Outline

The focus on practical cooking skills gives students a thorough understanding of nutrition, food provenance and the working characteristics of food materials.

Subject content is split into five key sections:

1. Food, nutrition and health
2. Food science
3. Food safety
4. Food choice
5. Food provenance

The range of food and ingredients studied will reflect the recommended guidelines for a healthy diet based on the main food commodity groups.

Food groups include:

Bread, cereals, flour, oats, rice, potatoes and pasta

Fruit and vegetables (fresh, frozen, dried, canned and juiced)

Milk, cheese and yoghurt

Meat, fish, eggs, soya, tofu, beans, nuts and seeds

Butter, oil, margarine, sugar and syrup.

Assessment

Assessment will be in the form of a written paper (50%) and two controlled assessment tasks (50%). The coursework will involve a food investigation (15%) where students write a report on their understanding of the scientific principles that underpin the preparation and cooking of food. Task 2 is a Food preparation assessment (35%) Students will plan, prepare, cook and present a three course menu within 3 hours.

Specification: AQA

Recommended Revision Guide: Provided by school - CGP GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition AQA

Coursework/Controlled Assessment: 50% Coursework 50% Examination

Year 11 Controlled Assessment Deadline: April 2020

Exam Dates: End of Year 11

Design Technology: Graphics

Course Outline

Students will develop their knowledge and understanding of materials and manufacturing techniques commonly associated with the graphic design industry. They will complete a range of design and make activities that focus on developing technical and presentation drawing techniques, digital image manipulation, 3D modelling techniques and rapid prototyping using CAD/CAM.

Students will start Year 10 by completing a number of mini design projects that include:

- Promotional Thermometer
- Arduino Programmable Control
- Buggy Project
- Solidworks CAD modelling
- Packaging Design
- Paper engineering and pop up mechanisms

In Year 11, all students will complete a major project as part of controlled assessment that is worth 50% of the final GCSE grade. The project will require students to follow an iterative design process in order to produce a final concept prototype in response to the design challenge. As part of their projects, students will be required to:

- Conduct research using appropriate sources of knowledge including product analysis
- Generate and develop appropriate design ideas
- Evaluate the success of their design against the consumers' needs

Students will be set a number of interim deadlines to help distribute the workload and aid completion of this coursework. Parents and guardians can play an invaluable role during this time by discussing the project and sharing ideas.

Assessment

Assessment will be in the form an exam (50%) and a coursework project (50%). The coursework is a single design and make project which involves students in the production of a design folder and the realisation of their design solution in the form of a prototype model.

The examination papers will test the student's knowledge of 2D and 3D drawing skills, their knowledge of computers in design and the industrial processes involved in the production of commercial graphic products including printing and finishing processes such as embossing and UV varnishing.

Specification : OCR Design and Technology

Recommended Reading: OCR GCSE (9-1) Design and Technology

Coursework/Controlled Assessment: 50% Coursework 50% Examination

Year 11 Coursework Making Deadline: February 2020

Year 11 Coursework Final Deadline: March 2020

Exam Dates: End of Year 11

Design Technology: Resistant Materials

Course Outline

Students will develop their knowledge and understanding of material properties and manufacturing techniques by investigating a variety of materials and products. You will design and make products in response to design briefs and will experience the properties and manufacturing characteristics of materials. The development of high quality making skills will be strongly emphasised throughout the course.

Y10 in Resistant Materials is focussed on developing the practical skills needed to complete GCSE coursework successfully.

Students will also become familiar with industrial applications and learn to develop computer generated design ideas and manufacture parts of their project using the CAD/CAM facilities in school.

Y11 is concerned with completing coursework (50% of the final GCSE) that includes a design portfolio and a manufactured item. The remainder of the year is spent preparing for the examination (50% of the GCSE)

Project work can be undertaken within a variety of areas, some of which are listed below:

- Engineering projects
- Mixed media product
- Wildlife project
- Sustainability project
- Education Toys

Assessment

GCSE assessment takes the form of a written paper (50%) and coursework (50%). The coursework will involve students completing a design and make project which requires students to produce a design folder and a realisation of the finished product.

The examination paper tests your ability to design and develop a basic product to a given specification as well as your ability to plan the manufacturing of a given product using either hand making skills or CAD CAM

Specification : OCR Design and Technology

Recommended Reading: OCR GCSE (9-1) Design and Technology

Coursework/Controlled Assessment: 50% Coursework 50% Examination

Year 11 Coursework Making Deadline: February 2020

Year 11 Coursework Final Deadline: March 2020

Exam Dates: End of Year 11

English Language

Course Outline

This course aims to develop skills and abilities in the following areas:

- (i) Spoken Language
To develop students' ability to:
- ◆ Use the vocabulary and grammar of Standard English.
 - ◆ Formulate, clarify and express ideas.
 - ◆ Adapt speech to a widening range of circumstances and demands.
 - ◆ Listen, understand and respond appropriately to others.
- (ii) Reading
To develop students' ability to:
- ◆ Read accurately, fluently and with understanding.
 - ◆ Understand and respond to the texts they read.
 - ◆ Read, analyse and evaluate a wide range of texts, including literature from the English literary heritage and from other cultures and traditions.
- (iii) Writing
To develop students' effective use of:
- ◆ compositional skills – developing ideas and communicating meaning to a reader using a wide-ranging vocabulary and an effective style, organising and structuring sentences grammatically and whole texts coherently.
 - ◆ A widening variety of forms for different purposes.

Assessment

Non-examination Assessment: Spoken (assessed throughout the year)

- Presenting / responding to questions and feedback / use of Standard English

Examinations at the end of year 11 will involve work based on the following Units:

Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing is a 1 hour 45 minutes written examination worth 80 marks (50% of GCSE)

Section A: Reading

- One literature fiction text

Section B: Writing

- Descriptive or narrative writing

Paper 2: Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives is a 1 hour 45 minutes written examination worth 80 marks (50% of GCSE)

Section A: Reading

- One non-fiction text and one literary non-fiction text

Section B: Writing

- Writing to present a viewpoint

Specification: AQA

Recommended Revision Guide: CGP booklets on key skills

English Literature

Course Outline

This course aims to enable students to develop:

- ◆ The ability to read, understand and respond to a wide range of literary texts, and to appreciate the ways in which authors achieve their effects.
- ◆ Awareness of social, historical and cultural contexts and influences in the study of literature.
- ◆ The ability to construct and convey meaning in speech and writing, matching style to audience and purpose.

Students will study:

- ◆ A Modern prose or drama text
- ◆ A 19th century novel
- ◆ Poetry – an anthology and unseen poetry
- ◆ Shakespeare

Assessment by final examination at the end of year 11 will involve work based on the following units:

Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th-century novel. Assessed by a 1 hour 45 minutes written examination worth 64 marks (40% of GCSE)

Section A Shakespeare: students will answer one 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.

Section B The 19th-century novel: students will answer one 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.

Paper 2: Modern texts and poetry. Assessed by a 2 hour 15 minutes written examination worth 96 marks (60% of GCSE)

Section A Modern texts: students will answer one essay question from a choice of two on their studied modern prose or drama text.

Section B Poetry: students will answer one comparative question on one named poem printed on the paper and one other poem from their chosen anthology cluster.

Section C Unseen poetry: Students will answer one question on one unseen poem and one question comparing this poem with a second unseen poem.

Specification: AQA

Recommended Revision Guide: York Notes for key texts and CGP booklets

French

Course Outline

We concentrate on developing the skills you've been acquiring over the last three years.

LISTENING: The basic skill is being able to understand what people say to you, so you'll continue to hear lots of spoken French from your teacher and audio and video recordings of French native speakers.

SPEAKING: You learn to speak by speaking! You develop your confidence by imitating the French you hear. You learn to talk more about yourself, your family, your interests, your plans; and you act out situations you might meet in France, and you get to express your opinions about things.

READING: You learn to read lots of authentic French for information and for pleasure. This could be anything from adverts to newspaper articles or comics to novels.

WRITING: You develop your ability to write what you want. You write formal and informal letters, reports, magazine articles and diaries, and do some creative writing.

Assessment

The GCSE course is assessed through listening, speaking, reading and writing components, which are all equally weighted and so worth 25%. Examinations take place in Year 11.

Specification: AQA

Recommended Revision Guide: vocabulary lists provided

Exam Dates: Year 11 (terminal assessment)

Geography

Course Outline

Within the Geography syllabus we provide the opportunity to develop:

- communication skills
- graphical and cartographical skills
- technological skills, including ICT and GIS
- interpersonal skills through debate and discussion
- literacy and numeracy
- problem solving skills

Geography also

- allows the opportunity for personalised and independent learning
- provide candidates, for whom GCSE will be the end of their formal study of geography, a clear overall view of the world in the first part of the 21st century
- provide a sound foundation for those candidates who intend to continue to study the subject to a higher level
- allow the development of 'awe and wonder' which will allow candidates to fully appreciate and learn from the world around them.

You will study three topics in Physical Geography and three in Human Geography

- The challenge of natural hazards
- Physical landscapes in the UK
- The living world

- Urban issues and challenges
- The changing economic world
- The challenge of resource management

Assessment

Assessment is in the form of Three examinations Unit 1 Physical Geography and Unit 2 Human Geography (each worth 35% of the final mark) and Unit 3 A Geographical applications exam (30% of the final mark).

Specification: AQA Geography

Recommended Revision Guide: Letter issued to Year 10 with details of this

Exam Dates: End of Year 11

History

Course Outline

The GCSE History content comprises the following elements:

- one period study
- one thematic study
- one wider world depth study
- one British depth study including the historic environment.

Areas of study will include:

Paper 1: Understanding the modern world

Section A: Period Studies:

Germany, 1890–1945: Democracy and dictatorship

Section B: Wider world depth studies:

Conflict and tension, 1918–1939

Paper 2: Shaping the nation

Section A: Thematic studies

Britain: Power and the people: c1170 to the present day

Section B: British depth studies including the historic environment

Norman England, c1066–c1100

Assessment

Paper 1: Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes; 84 marks; 50% of GCSE

Section A – six compulsory questions (40 marks);

Section B – four compulsory questions (40 marks);

Plus four marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar

Paper 2: Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes; 84 marks; 50% of GCSE

Section A – four compulsory questions (40 marks);

Section B – four compulsory questions (40 marks);

Plus four marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar

Specification: AQA

Recommended Revision Guide: HGS Revision Materials & Oxford AQA GCSE History Revision Guides – Germany 1890-1945, Conflict and Tension 1918-1939, Norman England, the Power and the People.

Exam Dates: End of Year 11

Mathematics

In years 10 and 11, Mathematics is taught in sets. There are eight sets in each year group. All the sets follow programmes of study which lead to a GCSE in Mathematics. For Mathematics we follow the AQA syllabus. All students will sit the higher tier papers, where they can achieve grades 9 to 4. GCSE Mathematics is examined at the end of Year 11.

Set 1 will also study FMSQ Additional Maths, whilst we have the intention of entering students in sets 2 through to 5 for AQA Level 2 Further Mathematics qualification. The exam for Additional Maths will be taken at the end of Year 11 and it carries with it UCAS points as it is a Level 3 qualification. It is excellent preparation for students who want to study Mathematics or Further Mathematics in the Sixth Form. The grading system is the same as AS level; grades A-E are available, all of which are pass grades. Further Maths will also provide excellent preparation for AS level Maths or Further Mathematics. By completing these additional qualifications we are attempting to further personalise the curriculum for our students.

When pupils sit GCSE Mathematics in year 11 there will be three 1 ½ hour papers, one of which is a non-calculator. The pupils in set 1 will sit the Additional Mathematics paper at the end of year 11 and this is one 2 hour paper, whilst the students in sets 2 to 5 have two 1 ½ hour papers.

At the end of year 10 the Mathematics department will make a decision, based on internal exams at the end of year 10, on the pupils in sets 2 to 6 as to whether they will be entered for the Further Mathematics.

To support our students in their studies, the school has a subscription to the MyMaths website, which provides students with a variety of additional online lessons and homework activities. Revision guides will be available to purchase at a discounted price through the school. Letters will be sent out later this term. Maths Impact also runs on a Tuesday evening from 3.15pm in room S022 for students who want to ask a teacher for help with a particular topic.

Assessment

There is no controlled assessment task for Mathematics.

Specification:

Mathematics = AQA

Additional Mathematics: OCR

Further Mathematics: AQA

Recommended Revision Guide: To be purchased through the school

Exam Dates: End of Year 11

Music

Course Outline

GCSE music is concerned with the three primary activities you will have become familiar with in Years 7 to 9 - Performing, Composing and Appraising. The course is open to all pupils who have a genuine interest in music.

You will be required to perform both solo and in an ensemble, and compose two pieces with a combined total of 3 minutes. You will also learn about four areas of study – Instrumental Music, Vocal Music, Fusions and Music for Stage and Screen culminating in a listening and appraising exam. These key aspects will be studied throughout all parts of the course and will form the basis of your coursework and examinations.

Assessment

PERFORMING MUSIC (30%)

During the course you will have to record **TWO** performances – one 'solo' and one as part of an 'ensemble'. In some cases these may have been prepared for a concert or show. There will be numerous performance opportunities across both years which will all be recorded and you pick the best ones to submit. The total time of the two performances combined is **four minutes** worth of music. You can play alongside any musician (e.g. staff, students, friends etc) or if you perform out of school (e.g. stage school, rock group, local choir etc) these could also be used. Performances do not have to be in public and there are no sight-reading tests or scales. Remember we have an excellent peripatetic instrumental staff to help you and a wide range of regular ensemble opportunities, large & small, available if you wish.

COMPOSING MUSIC (30%)

During the course you will have to compose **TWO** pieces of a combined duration of at least **three minutes**. One composition is a free choice and the other is in response to a brief set by the exam board which relates to the 4 areas of study. Whether you compose a string quartet, a rock song or a film score with beats and samples this part of the course is very free to explore your style and creativity. Compositions are mainly completed in school time. You may use music technology software such as Sibelius, Cubase or Audacity - or you could create and record your piece using the recording studio - or maybe you could just simply use good old fashioned pencil and paper!

LISTENING and APPRAISING MUSIC (40% externally marked)

This is the only examination part of the course and is taken at the end of Year 11. The 1 hour 45m exam draws on music taken from the eight set works, plus one unfamiliar piece. The eight set works link to each of the four Areas of Study mentioned above and includes pieces by Bach, Purcell and Beethoven, music from the show *Wicked* and the film *Star Wars*, pop music by Queen and two fusion pieces with mixtures of Jazz, Samba, African drumming and sampling in them. The test covers breadth as well as depth of knowledge and builds upon much of the work you have already been developing in years 7 to 9.

Specification: Edexcel GCSE (9-1) in Music 1Mu0

Recommended Revision Guide:

Rhinegold Edexcel GCSE Music Revision Guide (Rhinegold Education, 2016) ISBN 978-1785581687
Access to MusicFirst online app - <https://heckgrammar.musicfirst.co.uk/app/>

Coursework Assessment:

Year 11 term 1 - composition 1 and first performance assessments

Year 11 term 2 - composition 2 and final performance assessments

Exam Dates: End of Year 11

Drama

Course Outline

You will learn and develop a range of performance skills as used in the industry. The course will offer you the opportunity to study and perform a range of classical and modern plays. There will be a number of live theatre trips and you will participate in the process of planning, rehearsing, performing and evaluating your own work and that of others.

Skills and Knowledge

Within this area you will be given the opportunity to improve existing skills and learn new ones; both subject specific and transferable. You will be involved in a range of practical workshops to develop your knowledge of different practitioners, as well as learning about different performance styles, conventions and groups whilst devising. You will develop the required skills through the experience of planning, preparing and being involved in performances either as an actor or designer as well as through the study of a range of performance texts. You will develop communication, cooperation and analytical thinking skills as well as creativity.

Performing

During the course you will have several opportunities to perform including two key performances of play texts as well as a devised piece; all presented to invited audiences.

Assessment - The course is assessed across three components:

Component 1: This involves creating and developing a devised piece from a stimulus. A portfolio must be created alongside this (2000 words or 10 minute verbal presentation), covering the creating and developing process and analysis and evaluation of this process (45 marks). The final performance to an audience is also assessed (15 marks).

Component 2: This involves giving two practical performances in key extracts from a chosen performance text. Performances can be completed as a monologue, duologue or group performance and each performance is worth 24 marks.

Component 3: This involves a written examination lasting 1 hour 30 minutes. Section A consists of one question broken into six parts (short and extended responses) based on an unseen extract from a chosen performance text that has been practically explored as part of the course (45 marks). Section B consists of two questions requiring the analysis and evaluation of a live theatre performance seen as part of the course. Notes of up to a maximum of 500 words are allowed in the examination (15 marks).

Specification: Edexcel GCSE Drama

Recommended Revision Guide: Edexcel GCSE (9-1) Drama Student Book, Pearson Drama Revision Guide

Component 1 – Devising: 40% of the qualification (Completed by Term 3 of Year 10)

Component 2 – Performance from Text: 20% of the qualification (Performed to an external examiner in Term 2 of Year 11)

Component 3 – Theatre Makers in Practice: 40% of the qualification (Written examination to be taken at the end of Year 11)

Physics

Course Outline

All students in Year 10 and Year 11 follow the AQA GCSE Physics specification. This specification encourages the development of knowledge and understanding in science through opportunities for working scientifically.

The course comprises 8 topics:

1. Energy
2. Electricity
3. Particle model of matter
4. Atomic structure
5. Forces
6. Waves
7. Magnetism and electromagnetism
8. Space physics

As part of the GCSE, all students are expected to have carried out a series of required practical activities. Questions in the written exams will draw on the knowledge and understanding students have gained by carrying out these practical activities. Many of the questions will also focus on investigative skills and how well students can apply what they know to practical situations often in novel contexts.

Working scientifically is the sum of all the activities that scientists do. These skills will also be assessed across both written papers.

Assessment

Paper 1

Topics 1-4: Energy; Electricity; Particle model of matter; and Atomic structure.

1 hour 45 minute written exam

100 marks

50% of GCSE

Multiple choice, structured, closed short answer and open response questions

Paper 2

Topics 5-8: Forces; Waves; Magnetism and electromagnetism; and Space physics.

1 hour 45 minute written exam

100 marks

50% of GCSE

Multiple choice, structured, closed short answer and open response questions

Specification: AQA 8463

Recommended Revision Guide: CGP AQA Physics - provided by the school

Religious Education

Course Outline

Year 10 – Religion and Ethics

In year 10 we study the topics listed below with the aim on answering the following questions

Matter of life and death: Where did the universe come from? Can someone be religious and value science? Is human life special? Why? Why do/don't people believe in an afterlife? Why is abortion controversial? Why is euthanasia controversial? Is nature important? Why?

Living the Christian life: How do Christians worship? How do Christians show dedication to their faith? Is prayer important? Why are some places special? Does the church have a future?

Marriage and the family: Why get married? What should marriage be like? What are the religious attitudes to sexual relationships? Why are families important? Is religion important in a family? Is getting divorced acceptable? Are men and women equal?

Christian beliefs: What is God like? Why are we here? What happened during the last days of Jesus' life? How was Jesus crucified and resurrected? What happens after death? Why do bad/evil things happen? Why are there different groups of Christians? Do different groups of Christians believe different things?

Year 11 – Religion, Peace and Conflict

Crime and punishment: What is justice? Why is justice important? Why does crime happen? What do religions think about crime? How do/should we punish criminals? How should we treat criminals? Is forgiveness possible? Is capital punishment acceptable?

Living the Muslim life: What are the five pillars of Islam? Why are the five pillars important? What does Shi'a Islam have ten obligatory acts? What are the ten obligatory acts? What festivals do Muslims celebrate?

Peace and conflict: Why do wars happen? What is pacifism? Why are some people pacifists? What is the Just War Theory? Why do people agree/disagree with war? What do religions teach about war and peace? Are weapons of mass destruction acceptable?

Muslim beliefs: What are the key beliefs of Islam? What makes Shi'a Islam different to Sunni Islam? What is the nature of Allah? Who were the prophets and why are they important? Why is the Qur'an important? Why are angels important? Does fate exist? What happens after death?

Assessment

100% Examination

Specification: Edexcel Religious Studies Specification B

Recommended Revision Guide: N/A

Spanish

Course Outline

We concentrate on developing the skills you've been acquiring over the last three years.

LISTENING: The basic skill is being able to understand what people say to you, so you'll continue to hear lots of spoken Spanish from your teacher and audio and video recordings of Spanish native speakers.

SPEAKING: You learn to speak by speaking! You develop your confidence by imitating the Spanish you hear. You learn to talk more about yourself, your family, your interests, your plans; and you act out situations you might meet in France, and you get to express your opinions about things.

READING: You learn to read lots of authentic Spanish for information and for pleasure. This could be anything from adverts to newspaper articles or comics to novels.

WRITING: You develop your ability to write what you want. You write formal and informal letters, reports, magazine articles and diaries, and do some creative writing.

Assessment

The GCSE course is assessed through listening, speaking, reading and writing components, which are all equally weighted and so worth 25%. Examinations take place in Year 11.

Specification: AQA

Recommended Revision Guide: vocabulary lists provided

Exam Dates: Year 11 (terminal assessment)

Physical Education

Course Outline

The Department follows the OCR GCSE (9-1) in Physical Education. This two year course introduces students to all the key theoretical components of Sports Science such as anatomy, study of the cardiovascular, respiratory, skeletal and muscular systems, exercise, training, sports injuries, nutrition, biomechanics, sports psychology and the social / cultural aspects of sport and physical activity. Students also undertake performance in a range of different practical activities during the course.

Students will also be expected to record and interpret data and carry out investigations into the effects of exercise and training on the different body systems. They will also undertake a self-analysis of all aspects of their performance in one chosen sport as part of the written coursework element of the course.

Key skills:

- Students will develop the ability to relate all theoretical aspects of the course to actual performance in a range of different sports and physical activities
- Implement fitness tests: record and analyse data
- Investigate training methods and programmes in a range of sports up to an elite level
- Apply biomechanics to sports performance
- Gain an understanding of how performers learn and develop skills
- Develop an understanding of the organisation of sport at a local, national and international level and investigate the factors that affect different groups' levels of participation in different activities.

Assessment

Assessment in the form of two exam papers at the end of the GCSE course in Year 11. Each paper will have a mixture of question styles including multiple choice, short answer and longer answer questions. Students made also be expected to interpret data both in tables and graphical formats. Both papers last 1 hour and are worth a total of 60% of the overall mark.

Physical aspects of sports performance are examined in paper one. The socio-cultural and sports psychology components are examined in paper 2.

Assessment of practical performance is continuous during the course with final assessments made in Year 11 in a student's three strongest activities. This contributes to 30% of the overall mark.

The written course work element consists of a student's self-analysis of all aspects of their performance in one chosen sport. 10% of the overall mark.

Specification: OCR GCSE PE (9-1)

Recommended Revision Guide: OCR GCSE PE

Coursework/Controlled Assessment: Assessment of performance in three different activities. (30%) final assessments are completed by 1st March in Year 11.

Written course work: Self-analysis of performance in one chosen sport (10%) completed during the summer term in Year 10.

Exam date : Written examination (60%) End of Year 11

