

# Lostock Hall Academy



**Year 11**  
**Preparing for Success**  
**1st October 2025**



*Inspiring aspirations for all*

# Agenda for this evening

- Introduction to the evening
- Key Personnel inc. tutors
- Key Dates
- KS4 Assessment
- 2026 Exams
- Examination/JCQ booklet
- Subject Booklet including revised exam content for 2026
- Careers and Work-Related Learning
- Colleges, Training Providers and Apprenticeships
- Study Skills and Revision
- GCSE Support Sessions
- Wellbeing
- Parental Support and the Synergy Parent App



*No school can work well for children if parents and teachers do not act in partnership on behalf of the children's best interests - Dorothy H Cohen*

**DOROTHY COHEN** was a brilliant teacher, a prolific writer, and an internationally known educator



## School and Home Learning – *Working in Partnership*

Parents/Carers are widely regarded as any school's **most important partners** because of your profound and enduring influence on a child's **academic, social, and emotional** development.

Research shows that **parental engagement** is one of the most effective ways to boost student achievement. When parents/carers and teachers work together, students make greater **all-round progress**.



## School and Home Learning – *Working in Partnership*

**Communication** – *should be **two-way** to help support learning at school and reinforce at home.*

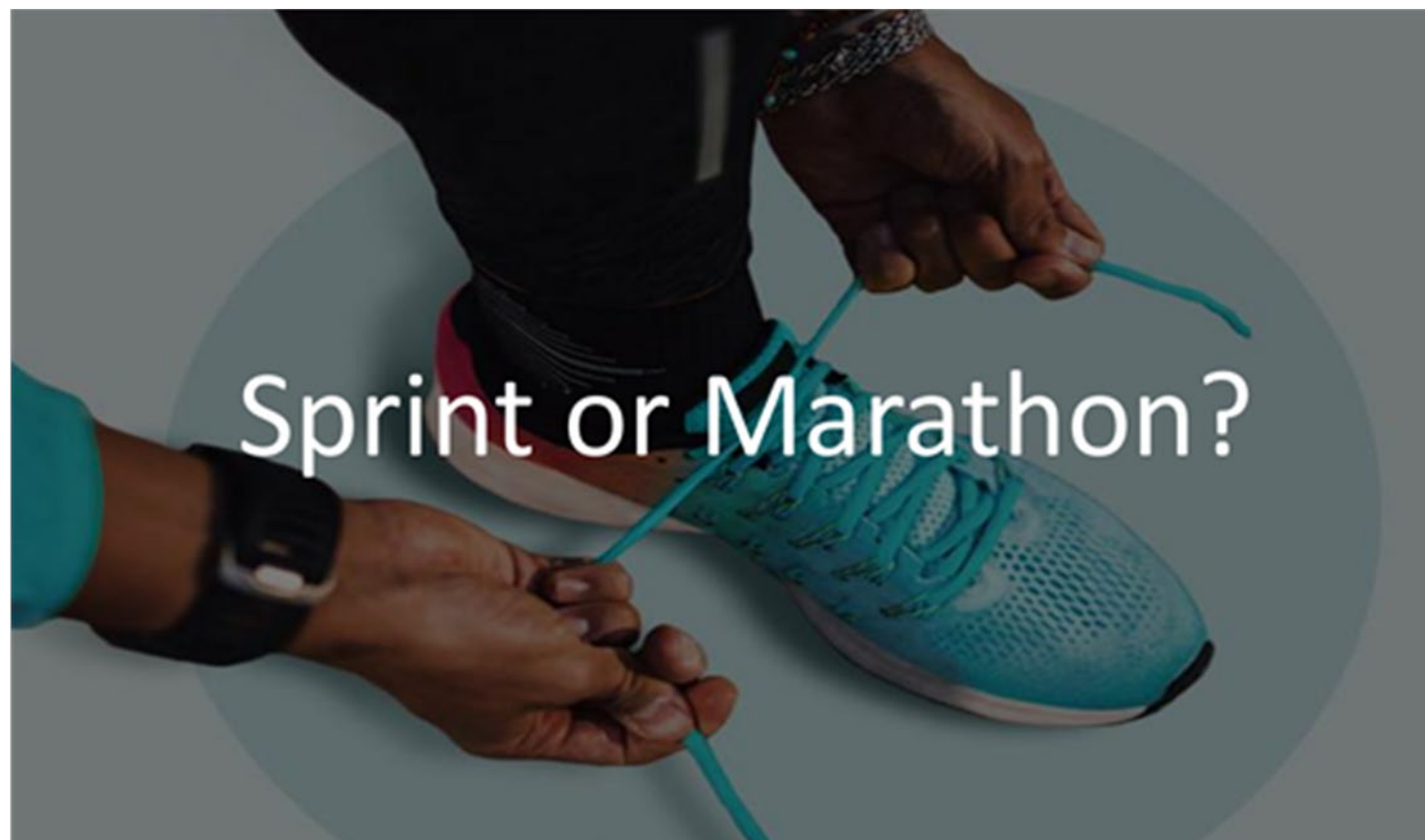
**Consistency** – *creating **routines** and providing consistent opportunities to enhance learning at home.*

**Collaboration** – *working together to develop **strategies** to help students achieve their **highest potential**.*

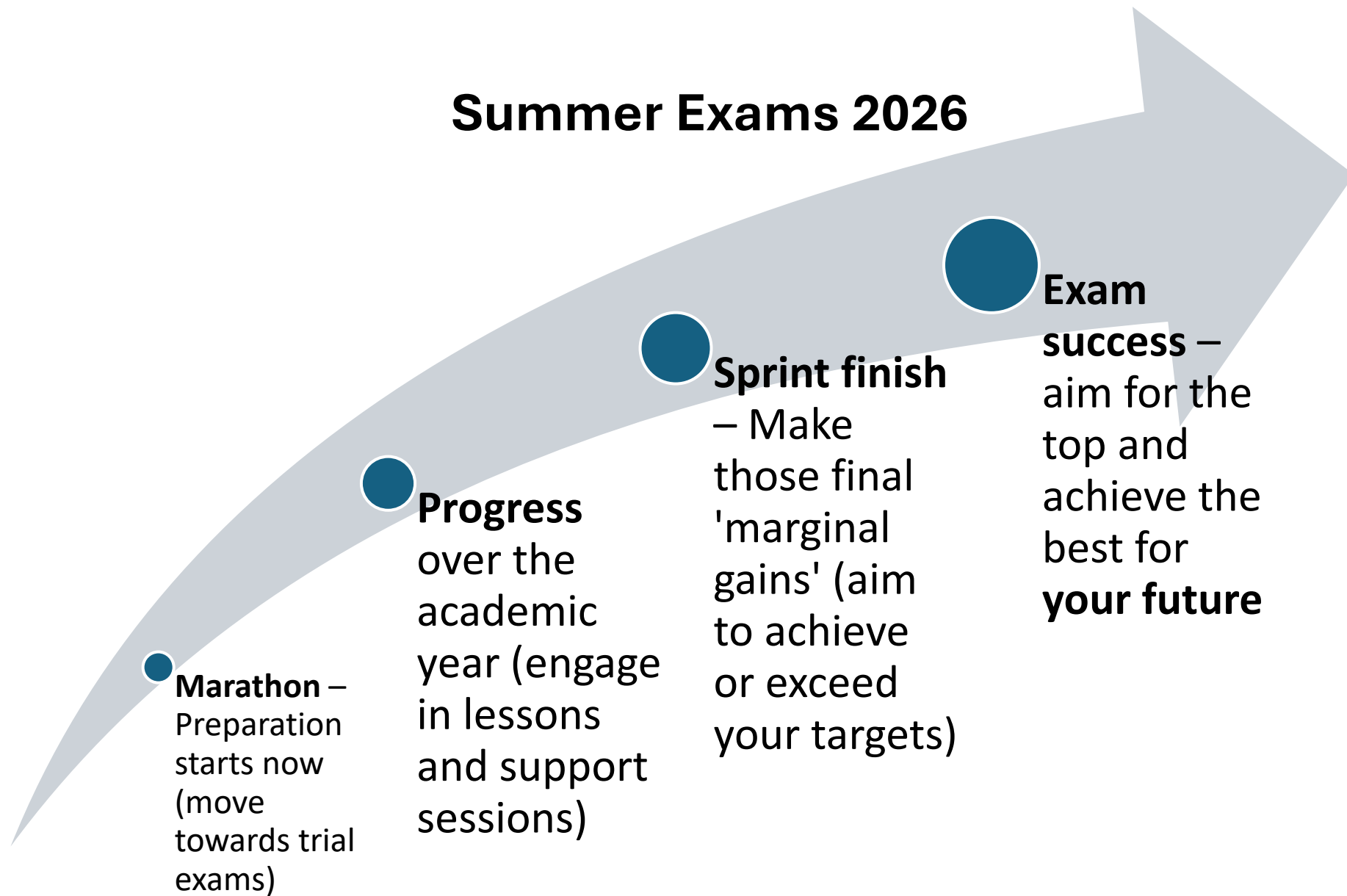




# Summer Exams 2026



# Summer Exams 2026



## School Leaders and Teaching staff - our commitment to you as parents/carers is as follows:

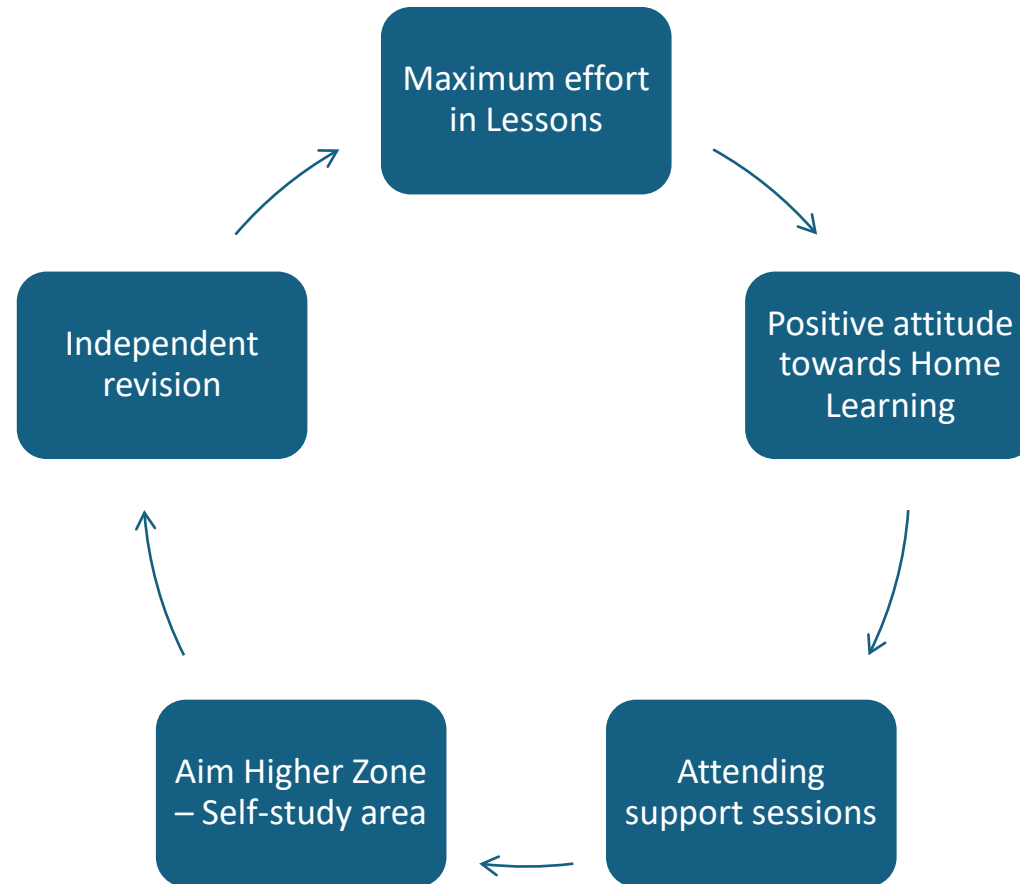
### We will

- Ensure an **inclusive, safe** and **supportive** environment
- Provide **excellent teachers** who are **experts** in their subjects
- Support **all** students to **close gaps** and **improve**
- Invest **extra time** to put on **additional sessions** before school, at lunchtimes and after school
- **Recognise** and **reward all** students for their efforts





# Students – what we need to help staff support you:



# Key Personnel

Head of School: **Mrs Butterworth**

- HOFs: **Mrs Butterworth** (Global), **Mr Sloan** (STEM) and **Mr Doyle** (Creative)
- Directors of Learning: **Mrs Williams** (Global) and **Mrs Archibald** (STEM)
- Year 11 Lead: **Mr Doyle**
- Behaviour for Learning Manager: **Mr Stanfield**
- Senior Leadership Team with Year 11 responsibilities:
  - Behaviour for Learning: **Mr Clitheroe/Mr Doyle**
  - Quality of Education: **Mrs Butterworth/ Mr Sloan**
  - Curriculum, Careers & Exams **Mrs Tucker**
  - SLT link for Year 11: **Mrs Tucker**



# Key Personnel – Form Tutors

If you need to contact your child's form tutor, please message them through **School Synergy**

11L (Calder)

**Miss Hatch**

11S (Yarrow)

**Mr Kenny**

11T (Douglas)

**Miss Lomax**

11C (Ribble)

**Mr Smith (Mon-Wed) and  
Mrs Worden (Thurs and Fri)**

11K (Hodder)

**Mrs Pilkington**

11H (Wyre)

**Miss Manwaring (Mon and Tues, Thurs and Fri)  
and Mrs Ellison (Wed)**



# Key Dates

## Reports:

- Report **1**: 17<sup>th</sup> October 2025
- Trial Exam Results: 9<sup>th</sup> January 2026
- Report **2**: 13<sup>th</sup> March 2026

**Parents' Evening:** Thurs 4<sup>th</sup> November 2025 – SchoolCloud

**Year 11 Trial Exams:** Monday 1st December to Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December.

**Controlled Assessment/ NEAs** – Completion dates vary across subject areas. All dates/deadlines will be provided by class teachers to students.



# KS4 ASSESSMENT

- Revised specifications that were introduced in 2016 have increased the **academic rigour** of the qualifications.
- Assessment in the **Core subjects** are based entirely on final examinations and Controlled Assessment/Non-Exam Assessments (NEAs) have reduced considerably in most other subjects.

## Implications:

Greater focus on **regular** and **sustained** revision

- greater focus on exam practice/**extended writing**
- increased reliance on **working memory**
- increased importance of **time management** in preparing for examinations (think 'marathon').





# 2026 Exams

## Exam dates:

- Exams are scheduled to run from the **7th May 2026** to the **17th June 2026**
- Practical assessments/exams will begin sooner
- National contingency day as a spare day on 24th June 2026 (**all students must** be available)

JCQ Exam instruction booklet issued February 2026.

Year 11 **support timetable** will begin in school **w/b 6th October** (timetable is included in the booklet that you have been provided with).

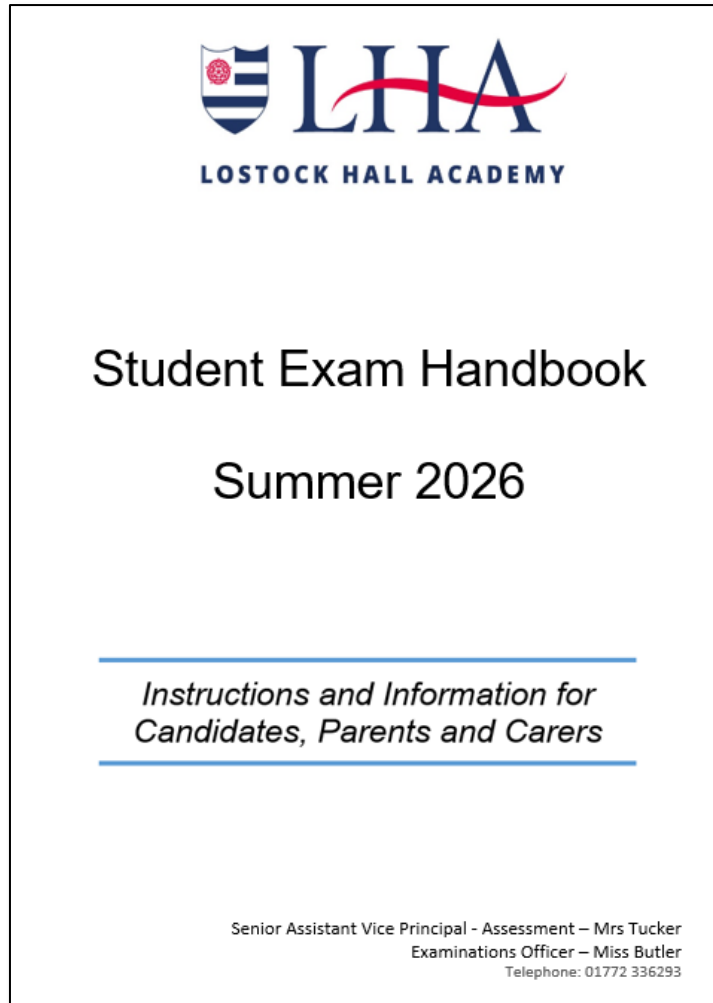


# Additional GCSE Support

Day	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri
<b>Breakfast 8-8.40am</b>		Maths – All students		Science – All students	
<b>Week A Subjects After school 3:15 - 4pm</b>	Extended Maths Qualification – compulsory teaching lesson (11P1) Computer Science (small group intervention – 6 students)	Food Preparation and Nutrition – All students Art Photography		History – All students English Language – selected students Music – unless required in History or English Language	Business Studies - All
<b>Week A Subjects (Lunch)</b>	Geography – All Business Studies - All	French – All students English Lit – 11PQS JB		Spanish – all students	Media – selected students
<b>Breakfast 8-8.40am</b>	History – All	Maths – All students		Science – all students	
<b>Week B Subjects After school 3:15 - 4pm</b>	Extended Maths Qualification – compulsory teaching lesson (11P1) Computer Science (small group intervention – 6 students)	Science – selected students each week		English Literature – selected students OCR Sports Studies- selected students	Engineering – All Students Performing Arts - selected students
<b>Week B Subjects (Lunch)</b>	Geography – All Business Studies - All	French – all students OCR Sports Studies- selected students (not in French)		Spanish – all students Art Photography	



# Examination/JCQ Booklet



- **Exam dates:**
  - Exams are scheduled to run from the **7th May 2026** to the **17th June 2026**
  - Practical assessments/exams will begin sooner
  - National contingency day as a spare day on 24th June 2026 (**all students must** be available)
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# Core Subjects

## English (Eduqas)

**All sets** - GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature

## Maths (Pearson Edexcel)

**All sets** follow - GCSE Mathematics. Final tier of entries to be confirmed in March, Foundation (grades 5 to 1) or Higher (grades 9-4).

## Science (AQA)

**P1** - Triple Science course (grades 9-4).

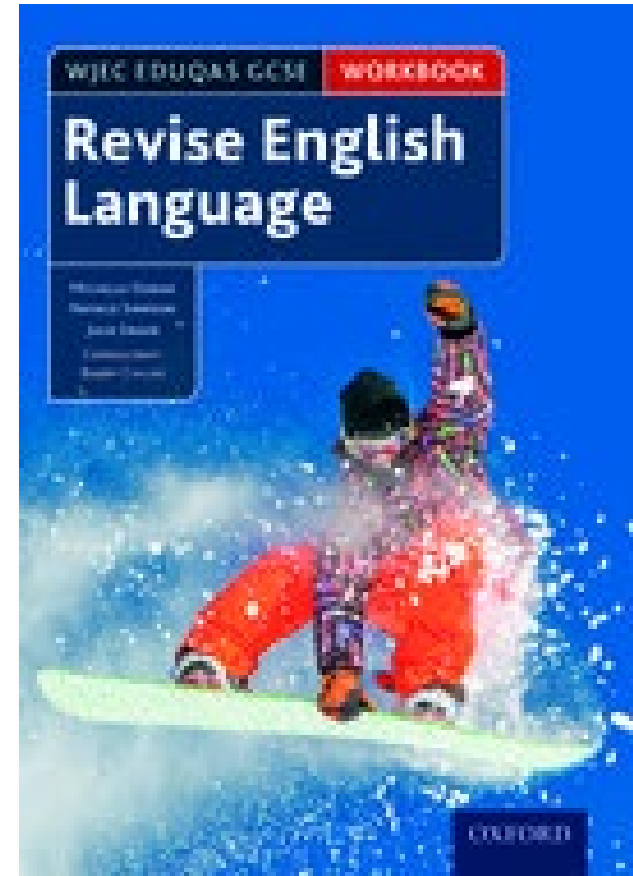
**P2** and **Q1** - Higher Tier Combined Science (grades 9/9 to 4/3).

**Q2, Q3** and **P3** - Foundation Tier Combined Science (grades 5/5 to 1/1)



# English Language – Mrs Barlow

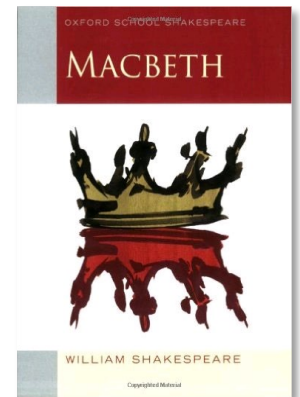
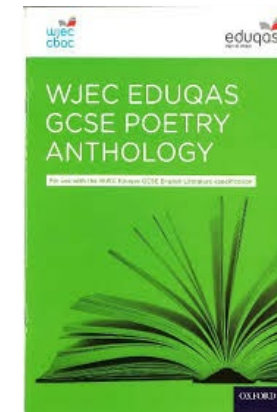
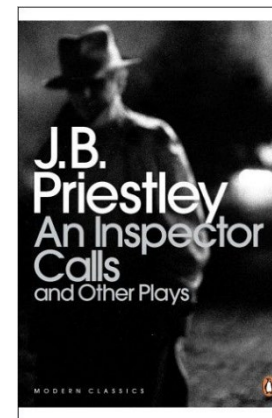
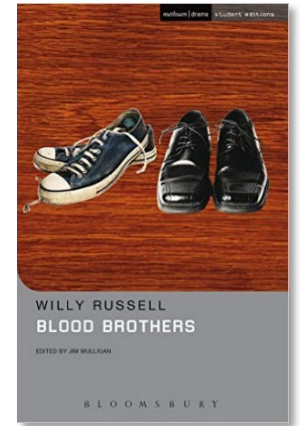
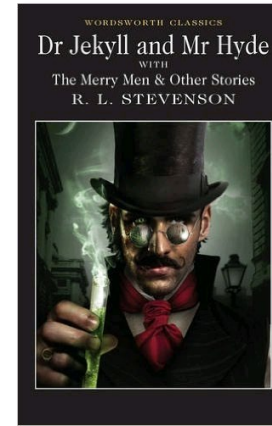
- **100% Exam** (across two papers); two lessons a week
- **Thursday** revision/GCSE Support Session
- Reading and writing skills; short fiction and non-fiction – **accuracy is key**
- Bespoke **revision materials** created by the department
- Past **exams** and mark schemes:  
<http://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/english-language/gcse/#qualSearch>
- BBC Bitesize revision activities:  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zpxh82p>





# English Literature

- **100% Exam** (across two papers); three lessons a week
- **Thursday** revision/GCSE Support Session
- **Set texts** on sale
- Revision guides on sale; revision can be a challenge across **five** components
- Bespoke **revision materials** created by the department
- BBC Bitesize:  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zw9mycw>
- Theatre experiences / **wider reading**



## How can I support my child in their English and Literature exam preparations?

- Please **reinforce invitations** to Thursday after-school support; it addresses specific exam question weaknesses and is bespoke intervention.
- **Don't accept** the suggestion that they cannot revise for English Language: practice and attention to detail.
- Talk with them about their literature texts; **discussion** helps to support learning.
- The best work happens in the classroom: please support us if we feel there is an issue with the **approach to learning**.

[c.barlow@lostockhallacademy.org.uk](mailto:c.barlow@lostockhallacademy.org.uk)



## Maths – Mrs Archibald

- **All students** will sit the Edexcel examination.
- This consists of **three exam papers**, the first being non-calculator and the second and third calculator papers.
- Any topic can be examined on each of the papers with a greater emphasis on **functional questions** and **problem solving**.
- **CGP knowledge organisers** and **workbook** set can be purchased from their class teacher for £10 for the pair of books.
- **Exam papers** are available online or via **DFM** for students to use for revision. Staff will provide many past papers from Easter onwards to support final revision.
- Prior to this it is recommended that students use papers from AQA or OCR as the content is the same.



# Maths

- All students are set a regular tasks throughout the year on DFM. Homework is always due in on the first lesson of the week where we ask that all tasks are complete.
- Seneca tasks will be regularly set to provide students with additional revision support if they wish.
- Students should be **attempting all questions set** using the embedded videos for help or approaching any of the maths staff prior to the due date for support.
- DFM courses shows progress towards **mastery** of every topic on the specification. Students can **self-set revision tasks** on topics they are yet to master.
- **Pinpoint learning** is an online package that we will input all exam results to. This then produces a personalised revision list and gives access to videos and worksheets on their weakest topics. Students can access this at home and download personalised revision booklets.





# Maths

- Students should **ask for help** in class from their class teacher as needed
- **Specific Intervention** is provided on **Tuesday mornings 8.00am until 8:35am**. During these sessions staff will focus on key areas or problem-solving questions. Whilst attendance is voluntary staff will request students attend if the topic being covered is one of their weaknesses but if students do attend then they **must follow the school behaviour policy**.
- Staff are available during **lunchtimes** for students to bring along any questions that they have been struggling with for **additional support**.

[h.archibald@lostockhallacademy.org](mailto:h.archibald@lostockhallacademy.org)





# Combined Science - Mrs Litvinksi

- **Two** grades are awarded.
- Assessment is **100% exam**.
- There are **2** exams in Biology, **2** in Chemistry and **2** in Physics (so 6 exams in total).
- Grading is determined based on the **total of all the scores** received across the 6 exams.



## Triple Science - Mrs Litvinksi

- **Three separate** GCSEs – Biology, Chemistry & Physics.
- All three disciplines are assessed **100% by exam**.
- All three disciplines have 2 exams for each subject – all slightly longer (30 marks more per paper) than the Combined Science papers - **6 in total just like combined**.
- **Grading** is based on the **total of the scores** across the two exam papers of the separate disciplines.



# Science

- All students have been given a revision timetable and are set **weekly revision homeworks** via Educake on these topics.
- Students also complete **weekly mini-quizzes** as starter activities as further recall.
- Students can come to a Science support session on a **Thursday 7.45-8:30am in both weeks A and B.**
- Students may also be invited to further intervention after school on **Tuesdays in week B**
- Links to **past papers** and **further revision websites** have been sent home to parents already. If students need any advice regarding their revision, or any support, staff are available at **lunchtime.**
- **Communication** was made regarding CGP revision guides when students were in Year 10 however further orders can be processed (please just contact me).

[v.litvinski@lostockhallacademy.org](mailto:v.litvinski@lostockhallacademy.org)



# What can you do to support your child?

Encourage your child to complete **active revision** e.g. making mind maps or cue cards.

Correct use of **key scientific vocabulary is vital**. Support students e.g. with flashcards to learn the definitions of key words.

There is a lot of content to learn in Science. Regular, steady revision throughout the year is key to success.



# 2025/26 Subject Booklet

Teachers have provided resources to support their subject areas:

- websites
- online resources
- physical resources such as revision guides, texts
- Exam board website for past papers, and mark schemes.
- GCSE support sessions available

## Subject

Exam board		Exam year - 2022
Link to specification -		
Content/unit	Assessment method	Weighting
Component 1:		
Component 2:		
Component 3:		
(Subject) specific exam, revision and techniques. Metacognition (learning to learn) strategies.		
Recommended revision guides		
Useful websites for revision		
Past papers		
Intervention / support session		

Please see Synergy for an electronic version of this covering all subjects.





# 2025/26 SEND STUDENTS

- All students with **Access Arrangements** for their GCSE exams have been tested and information will be shared via synergy once confirmed.
- For students with laptop and/or reading pen concessions please can you support us by **encouraging/reminding your child to pick the device up daily and to return it at the end of the day for charging.**
- All access arrangements **MUST be the normal way of working.** If students don't use it they will lose it.



Hints for an ideal  
revision area –  
providing some of  
these will go a  
long way to  
helping your child

## KS4 Guidance Information



# Revision Strategies for Students

## 1. Create a revision timetable

Building a revision timetable can add structure to your revision and help you **identify which GCSE subjects you need to prioritise to get better marks**. Creating a revision timetable is a great way to organise your study time, plus it also helps boost your motivation to revise for your exam.

DAY	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN
School revision session 3-4pm						10-11am	10-10.30am  10.40-11am
6-6.20pm							
6.40-7pm						1-2pm	1-2pm
8-8.20pm							
8.40-9pm						5-6pm	5-6

This is a great tool for students to plan ahead. As the old saying goes: "Fail to prepare...prepare to fail".



# Cognitive Strategies

Cognitive strategies are learning processes (ways of working) that you or the teacher select to help you learn and revise effectively. For example:

- Mnemonics
- Knowledge organizers
- Post it notes/cue cards
- Mind maps
- Visualisation /Dual Coding (using images and words)
- Scanning to find information
- Highlighting clues in a text (making inferences)
- Summarising and making notes
- Completing review questions
- Using past papers and mark schemes
- Using technology to record podcasts/video blogs/FaceTime friends for study sessions etc.
- Self —assessment activities (and purple pen response)

The areas in purple are the focus of the 'how to' sessions which Mrs Williams will be leading in tutor time.



## Additional Support – Revision

- Mrs Williams is running revision assemblies which will focus on teaching students 'how to' revise and get organised for their forthcoming exams. These will give students a range of tools which they can then choose from to revise their subject information.
- Revision materials are available at request from your subject teachers – you just need to ask.
- Synergy Class Work – classwork and homework for lessons.
- Seneca – parent invites to support you monitoring progress.





# Independent revision websites

There are many different revision-based websites and apps which you use within the different subjects you study. [These are shared with you in the student booklet which accompanies this presentation.](#) Refer to these to assist your revision.

In addition to these websites and apps, you may need a little help with organisation. Lots of different revision apps are available to help with timing, reminders, and you can track your progress with graphs and charts. Two examples for your phone are:

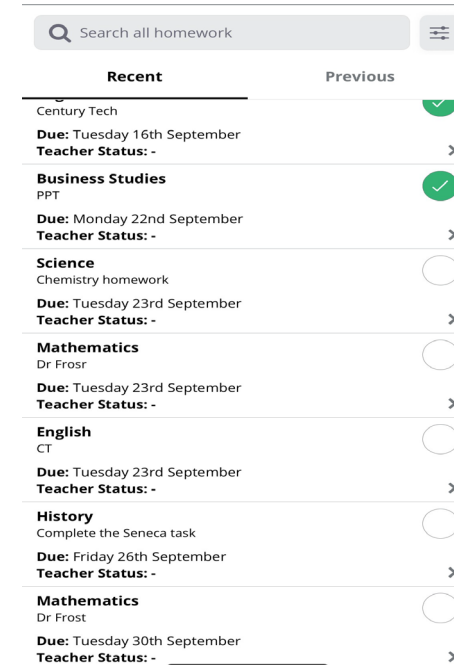
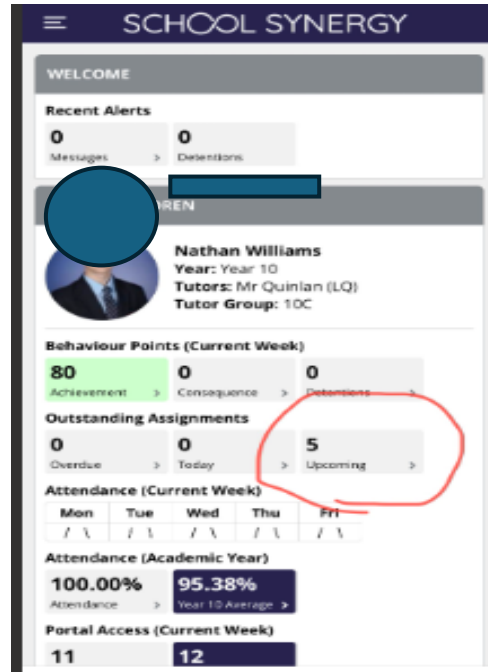
Adapt – Revision Timetable

GCSE 9-1 revision – Scholastic Revision



# Parental Support

- Planners (students planners attached to 1<sup>st</sup> Maths lesson of the year)
- Homework on Synergy – parents and students can view homework. Parent App allows you to see what's due and resources to support your child with.



# Parental/Carer Support

- Contacting school
- Attendance - vital
- Exam Dates – May and June 2026. Practical exams begin sooner in May. Need to be available on national contingency day for any exams postponed in the event of a national or local disaster.
- No holidays please (Easter break support sessions to be offered).
- A quiet place to study - utilise the **Aim High Zone** study area if not in support sessions.
- Valedictory/Prom- Invitation, venue & date to be confirmed.



# Keeping Motivation

Your support, encouragement and interest can make a spectacular difference to your child's motivation and ability to cope with the academic and organisational demands of the exam period.

## Keeping the motivation for Parents

- Agree the balance between work and social life.
- Stick to the plan.
- Be flexible – Use the 80/20 rule. If your child is sticking to what they are supposed to be doing 80% of the time, they will be doing alright.
- Don't Battle - All students fall behind, feel demotivated or overwhelmed, or struggle with the balance of social, work and school demands at times. When your child feels like this, berating and threatening them will have a negative effect. Talk to them about the issues, acknowledge their feelings and adopt a sensible attitude in wanting to find a solution.
- If your child asks for your support, encourage them by helping them to see the difficulties in perspective.



# Wellbeing

As we approach exam time, your child may become more anxious or stressed. It can be difficult time for the whole family. There are ways to spot when something's wrong. Look out for:

- significant changes in behaviour
- ongoing difficulty sleeping
- withdrawing from social situations
- not wanting to do things they usually like
- self-harm or neglecting themselves

## **Ways to help your child include:**

- Helping your child with their revision timetable, home and social time. A routine works!
- Provide a quiet space for revision and plan ways to treat/reward.
- Get support. You could talk to a teacher, school nurse, social worker or GP.





# Wellbeing

## Useful websites

### Mental health and self-care for young people

<https://www.nhs.uk/every-mind-matters/mental-wellbeing-tips/youth-mental-health/>

### Staying mentally healthy during exams

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/professional/resources/staying-mentally-healthy-during-exams/?acceptcookies=>

### Looking after a child or young person's mental health

<https://www.nhs.uk/every-mind-matters/supporting-others/childrens-mental-health/#signs>

### Feeling anxious?

[https://www.nhs.uk/every-mind-matters/mental-health-issues/anxiety/?WT.tsrc=Search&WT.mc\\_id=Anxiety&gclsrc=aw.ds&gclid=CjwKCAjwkvWKBhB4EiwA-GHjFrI8dg8fpPJSS49tx3\\_rqySznWRND09EvhEOU2ljc5E7uJmJKbogiRoC6WgQAvD\\_BwE](https://www.nhs.uk/every-mind-matters/mental-health-issues/anxiety/?WT.tsrc=Search&WT.mc_id=Anxiety&gclsrc=aw.ds&gclid=CjwKCAjwkvWKBhB4EiwA-GHjFrI8dg8fpPJSS49tx3_rqySznWRND09EvhEOU2ljc5E7uJmJKbogiRoC6WgQAvD_BwE)

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# Careers/Work-Related Learning

**Weekly Personal Development lessons** are delivered covering a thorough and comprehensive scheme of work-related learning:

- Selecting a job
- Application forms
- Personal Statements and Curriculum Vitae
- Assemblies with colleges, training providers and national apprenticeship service
- Online open days with colleges – sent home via Synergy
- Interviews with colleges
- Work experience - can you find an opportunity

**Miss Allan** – College and Apprenticeship applications

Careers appointments with **Mrs Peat** via **Miss Allan**

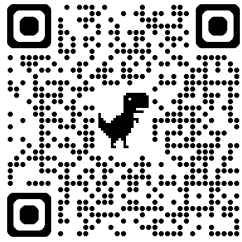
Career area/library in glass corridor – drop-in at break and lunch Fridays

Call in any lunch/break to see **Miss Allan** or **Mrs Tucker** for career questions.



# College Open Days

**CARDINAL  
NEWMAN  
COLLEGE**



**Saturday**

**11th October 2025**

**Saturday**

**15th November 2025**

**Saturday**

**7th February 2026**

**PRESTON  
COLLEGE**



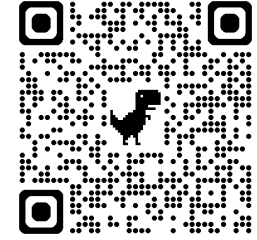
**Wednesday**

**5<sup>th</sup> October 2025**

**Saturday**

**8<sup>th</sup> November**

**RUNSHAW  
COLLEGE**



**Saturday**

**15<sup>th</sup> November 2025**

**Email to book an  
after-college tour  
[tours@runshaw.ac.uk](mailto:tours@runshaw.ac.uk)**



*Inspiring aspirations for all*

# College Open Days



**Saturday**

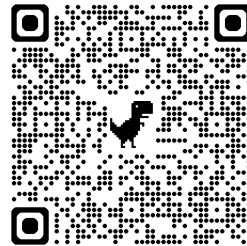
**11th October 2025**

**Saturday**

**15th November 2025**

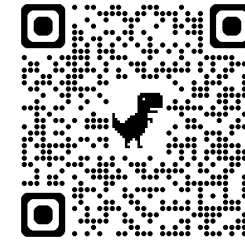
**Saturday**

**7th February 2026**



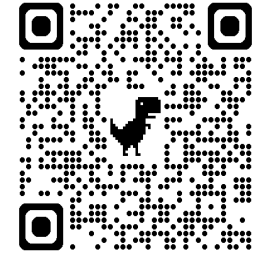
**Thursday**

**2nd October  
2025**



**Saturday**

**11th October  
2025**



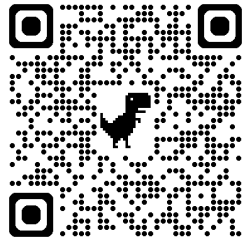
**Saturday**

**15th October  
2025**

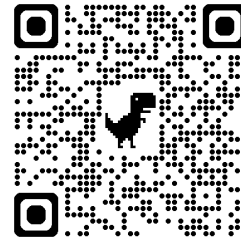


*Inspiring aspirations for all*

# Training, T-Levels & Apprenticeships

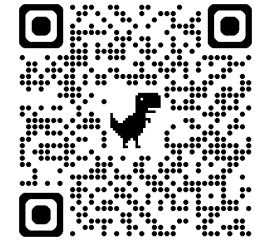


**Wednesday**  
**28<sup>th</sup> January 2026**  
**Thursday**  
**29<sup>th</sup> January 2026**



**Wednesday**  
**5<sup>th</sup> October 2025**  
**Saturday**  
**8<sup>th</sup> November**

## T-LEVELS



**Find your nearest T Level**

Search for schools and  
colleges who are delivering T Levels



*Inspiring aspirations for all*



# Part-Time Jobs

We are aware that many students have a part-time job which involve working one evening a week and weekends. The below is taken from an employment law website and documents the statutory limit of working hours for school aged children 14-16.

## What hours am I allowed to work?

The following are the basic rules which govern the working hours of young persons:

### During school term-time

	Maximum hours per week	Maximum hours on schooldays or Sundays	Maximum hours on Saturdays
13 – 14 year olds	12	2	5
15 – 16 year olds	12	2	8

### During school holidays

	Maximum hours per week	Maximum hours on weekdays or Saturdays	Maximum hours on Sundays
13 – 14 year olds	25	5	2
15 – 16 year olds	35	8	2

<https://lawstuff.org.uk/my-rights/employment-for-young-persons/>





Thank you for helping us and supporting your child.

Please contact us if needed.

