



Welcome to Key Stage 4 Evening 2019



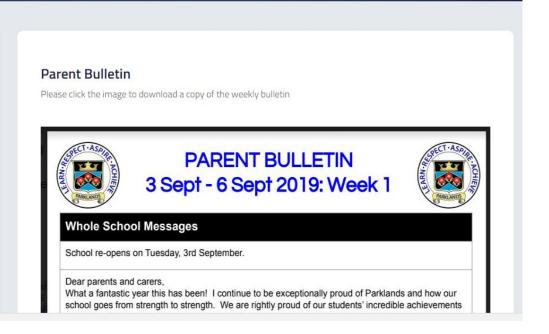


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Parent Bulletin

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- Career of the Week
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Please ensure you read the **Parent** Bulletin, sent every Friday.

Year 8 Messages

SAVE THE DATE. Welcome to Key Stage 4 Evening will take place on Thursday, 5th September at 7pm in the school hall. We will provide important information as your child embarks on their final key stage, with expectations and demands of the GCSE years outlined.

Congratulations go to Natasha Gorvett, who, through an unfortunate administrative error, was also not initially included in the group of Perfect 3 pupils on last week's bulletin. Well done, Natasha!

Year 9 Messages

Review Day will take place on Monday, 22nd July, when your child's final tracker of the year will be issued.

Year 10 Messages

Review Day will take place on Monday, 24th July, when your child's final tracker of the year will be issued.

SAVE THE DATE. Welcome to Year 11 Evening will take place on Thursday, 5th September at 6pm in the school hall. This event will give you information regarding your child's final year with us, what our expectations are, and how we can all work together to ensure your child's ultimate success in summer 2020.

Just a reminder to ensure that all work experience placements are logged on Connect as soon as possible - any issues please let me know as soon as possible. Miss Berry.

D&T. Please can we please ask parents/carers to encourage pupils to work to Exam coursework deadlines. Thursday Period 6 interventions will continue next year for catch-up, but can we use these as a last resort. Revision guides & pupils work books on sale for £3 each.

Careers

This week's Career of the Week can be found here.

15 - 19 July edition of the Parent Bulletin

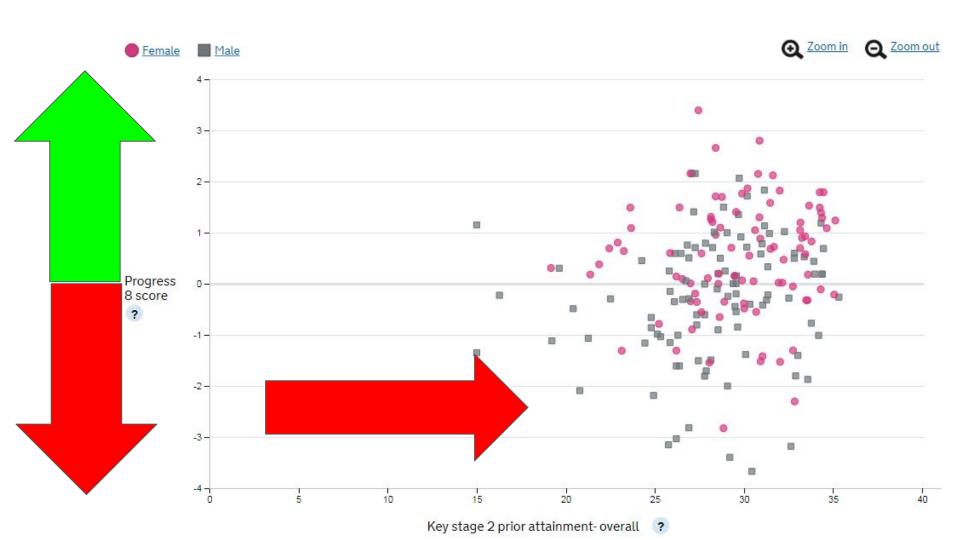


GCSE results 2019



Improvement in almost ALL areas

BUT Results are STILL not good enough!



Negative progress

-3.34
-3.26
-2.97
-2.94
-2.80
-2.37

- Refusal to attend period 6
- Refusal to do homework and exam practice questions
- Refusal to access GCSE Pod
- Refusal to do detentions for poor behaviour in lessons
- Refusal to stick to revision timetable
- Refusal to ensure any revision takes place
- Refusal to follow our guidance regarding tier of entry
 - Some students gained zeros because of this!
- Refusal to send their child to school
- Refusal to attend parents evenings
- Refusal to engage with school in any way





The growth mindset





Achievement Mrs Aspinall Deputy Headteacher



LEARN, RESPECT, ASPIRE, ACHIEVE The Education Landscape Today



- All GCSEs have been *reformed*; these specifications have only been taught twice before (except for English & maths)
- ☐ Grades 9 1; no more A* G
- ☐ Increased pressure all GCSE exams at end of Year 11
- Tiered papers in science, maths and MFL higher 9-4, foundation 5-1
- ☐ Controlled Assessments / Coursework have gone from GCSEs
- Responding to the detailed feedback from teachers the best way to improve
- English & maths at college if below a grade 4
- ☐ Universities look at GCSEs to help select undergraduates
- ☐ DfE has *raised the bar* regarding difficulty cf Pisa report
- All qualifications are now more *rigorous*, with all vocational qualifications equivalent to 1 x GCSE
- Marks for SPaG (spelling, punctuation & grammar)
- **□** Support for Pupil Premium Pupils

	A*		9
Now GCSE grading			8
New GCSE grading structure	Α	275.00 2007.00 74.0	7
otraotaro	В		6
	1000	[5
A 'good pass' is a grade 5	С		4
A 'standard pass' is a grade 4	D		3
A grade 9 is higher than the old A*and recognises	E		2
exceptional performances.	F		
This has implications for college, university and	G		1
job applications	U		U





Linear Exams

The term *linear* means terminal, at the end of the course - ie, at the end of year 11.

The Government has instructed exam boards to structure all courses so all exams are linear.

What will the impact be for the average student? See the next slide!





An example of the time spent in exams for a child completing the EBacc route

Subject	Number of exams	Total length of exams	
English Language	2	9 hours 45 mins	
English Literature	2	8 hours, 15 mins	
Mathematics	3	4½ hours	
Science	6	7½ hours	
Religious Studies	2	3½ hours	
Geography	3	4½ hours	
History	2	3½ hours	
Languages	3 + 1 speaking exam	3½ hours	
TOTAL	24 exams	Approx 35 hours	





Option choices

Given the rigour and amount of content in the new GCSEs, any requests for a change of options will be difficult to deal with.

Option changes should be rare and will not be permissible after October half-term.

Detailed Subject Information from slide 39





Quality of Teaching/Education

Mrs. C.Batson

Deputy Headteacher

Wider Curriculum

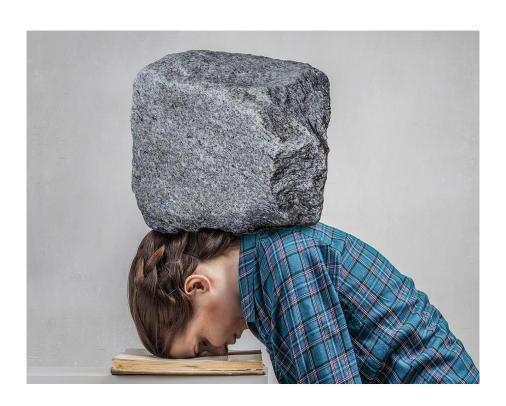


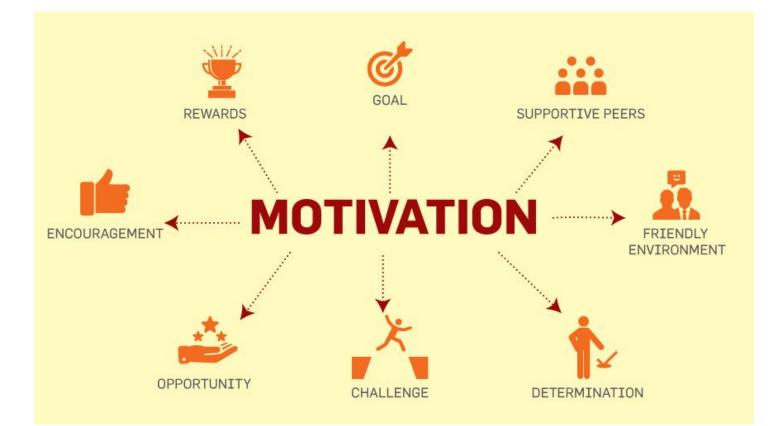


The Education Landscape Today

- ☐ DfE has raised the bar regarding difficulty cf Pisa report
- All qualifications are now more *rigorous*, with all vocational qualifications equivalent to 1 x GCSE
- Increased pressure all GCSE exams at end of Year 11
- □ Controlled Assessments / Coursework have disappeared from the majority of new GCSEs







Year 9 Aspire











Careers Information Education Advice and Guidance

Mr J Galbraith
Assistant Headteacher





Careers Advice & Guidance

Schools are legally and morally responsible for securing access to independent and impartial careers guidance for years 8-11. More information on the Gatsby benchmarks via our website. The school curriculum should develop employability skills and provide independent information, advice and guidance on the next steps to training, education or employment. Miss Berry, (top office next to pupil entrance) is available every day for guidance, help with colleges, apprenticeships and all careers information. College visits to Wigan and Leigh and Runshaw in Year 10 Constantly updated notice boards outside Miss Berry's office & on concourse Drop-ins at lunchtime from all local colleges, armed forces and apprenticeship providers – Miss Berry will inform pupils More information and careers calendar available on the school website





Careers Advice & Guidance

- Assemblies from local colleges, a range of employers and speakers *including parents/carers careers...*
- Future Aspirations event.
- Careers Fair.
- Mock interview day.
- CV and interview skills workshop.
- ☐ Visits to colleges and universities for masterclasses in many subjects.

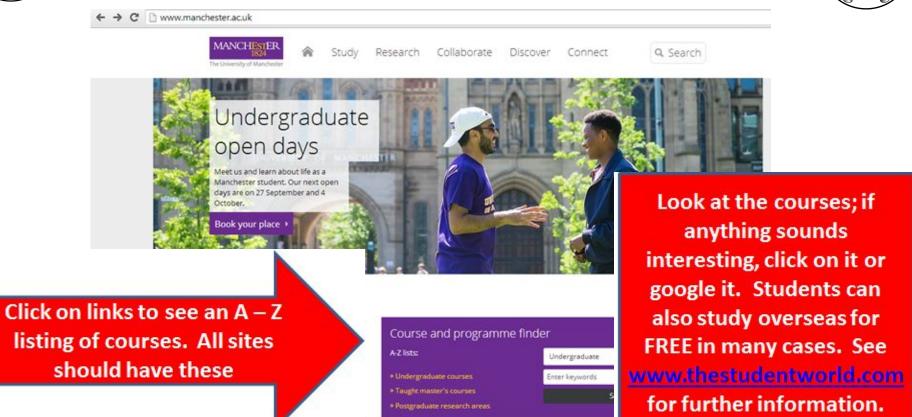




Wanting to go to university?











Wanting to go to university?

Forewarned is forearmed!

Business

News



Research International Study

Home > Undergraduate > Undergraduate courses > Dental Surgery BDS

Dental Surgery BDS

Start date September UCAS code

A200

Duration 5 years

Course Type

Undergraduate, Single

Honours

Carefully consider A-Level and GCSE requirements for your chosen routes, keep options open and make sure you are eligible later on.



Typical offer:

AAA

Required subjects and grades:

A levels must include Chemistry and Biology. These must be obtained in one sitting. Human Biology may be offered, but not in addition to Biology. GCSE A*/8 in Biology and Chemistry and A/7 in Mathematics and English Language or Literature. You must also sit the UCAT.

General Studies:

Not accepted.

Please note, at both A Level and GCSE, resits are not considered.

BTEC: BTEC Extended Diploma, Diploma and Subsidiary Diploma are not accepted





My child does not want to go to university



See Miss Berry for anything to do with apprenticeships! Each year we are offered a number of apprenticeships - before they are advertised widely. They are ideal if you learn by doing something - and you are paid from day one -'earn as you learn'



Companies offering Apprenticeships

- ☐ BAE
- Rolls Royce
- **☐** Westinghouse Engineering
- Springfield Engineering
- Accountancy firms
- NIS (Nuclear Industries)
- Dentists
- **□** Accountants
- ☐ Hairdressers
- ☐ The list goes on......

These are really worthwhile alternatives to college and university. They are NOT the option for less able students - most have high entry requirements, and a Level 3 qualification is equal to A Levels.

Some apprenticeships also lead on to a degree course following the initial training.

Graduates with no work experience can struggle to find a job!





Achievement Mrs Aspinall Deputy Headteacher





Targets?

- ☐ This Y9 are only the second cohort to have completed SATs tests with a scaled score e.g. 105.
- KS2 scaled scores range from 80-120. Previously it was levels e.g Level 5C

Consequently, there is no historical data from the DfE to indicate what scaled score results equate to at GCSE.

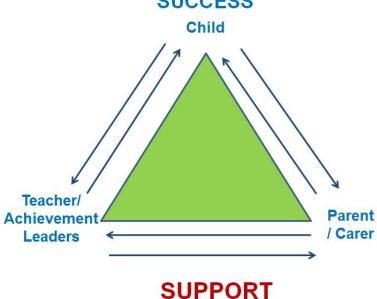
A numerical target will not be set but KS2 data and in-school assessment are good indicators. Be assured that we will continue to stretch, challenge and ensure that all pupils achieve.

☐ Pupils can reach for the stars. It's ultimately all about their effort













Support Staff

Mrs G Aspinall, Deputy Head with responsibility for achievement Senior Leader for House Standards, Support and Welfare - Mrs S Haslam House Achievement Leaders (HALs) Africa – Mr A Swift (aswift@parklandsacademy.co.uk) Asia – Mr C Snell (csnell@parklandsacademy.co.uk) Australasia – Mrs K Dewhurst (kdewhurst@parklandsacademy.co.uk) Europe – Mrs G Fox (gfox@parklandsacademy.co.uk) South America – Miss K Burrill (kburrill@parklandsacademy.co.uk) Safeguarding & Intervention manager- Mrs N. Fairhurst (nfairhurst@parklandsacademy.co.uk) **Emotional Health & Well-Being Coordinator - Mr John Pilling** SENCO - Ms L Williams (lwilliams@parklandsacademy.co.uk) **Curriculum Leaders & subject teachers Form Tutors**



PE; Mr G Metcalf

Dance; Miss G Marr

LEARN, RESPECT, ASPIRE, ACHIEVE



Curriculum Leader Email Addresses

☐ Science; Ms H Alston ☐ History; Mrs E Brown ☐ Geography; Mrs F Eastham ☐ Languages; Miss B Cosgrove & Mrs R Wilkinson ☐ (Joint Curriculum Leaders) ☐ Art & Photography; Mr G Wood ☐ Drama; Mrs K Gray ☐ Cre ☐ Cre ☐ Cre ☐ Cre ☐ Pro ☐ Hea ☐ Hea ☐ Hea ☐ Wilkinson ☐ Pro ☐ Wu ☐ Wilkinson ☐ Drama; Mrs K Gray	nputer Science; Mr A Miller ative iMedia; Mrs S Weldon od & Nutrition; Mrs S Brookes alth & Social Care; Mrs S Weldon duct Design; Mr M McAvoy sic, Music Technology; Mr P lsher
Religious Education; Miss S Rhodes	



LEARN, RESPECT, ASPIRE, ACHIEVE School Support



- **Dedicated, specialist teachers and Curriculum Leaders.**
- Resources and information through Google shared docs and Google Classroom.
- **□** VT Forms- Y11s and peers.
- **□** Revision classes.
- □ Parental Drop-ins Weekly Asda cafe and weekly in school.
- Period 6 an additional hour to the school day to enable pupils who are falling behind, or at risk of missing their target, to catch-up.
- Achievement Team- House Achievement Leaders, Intervention Manager and Achievement Mentors who monitor, encourage and personalise support to ensure your child reaches their potential.
- Pupil Premium- government initiative to raise the attainment of any child who may have been 'financially disadvantaged' and close the gap between them and their peers. We have a range of support in school to ensure we make this possible.





Home Support

Ч	☐You are crucial to your child's success
	☐ ☐ Communicate: talk to your child-take an interest in their studies, ask
	questions; talk to us – email your child's teachers and HALs, use Edulink
	our school app, read the weekly parent bulletin, attend drop-ins and
	parents' evenings.
	☐ ☐ Keep up-to-date with Parklands' website, Facebook and Twitter
	☐ ☐ Attendance and punctuality are crucial ☐ ☐
	Encourage your child- reassure them that the effort is worth it!

Detailed subject information for all subjects on the following slides





English Language

ч	we to	We follow the Eduqas (formerly WJEC) Examination Board specification for the GCSE course.				
	There	are three components to the English Language exam:				
		Component 1: 20th Century Literature Reading and Creative Prose Writing. 1 hour 45 minutes. 40%				
		Component 2: 19th and 21st Century Non-Fiction Reading and Transactional / Persuasive Writing. 2 hours. 60%				
		Component 3: Spoken Language. One presentation / speech including responses to questions and feedback. These are filmed and a sample are sent to the Board. Please note: Achievement in Spoken Language will be reported as				
		part of the qualification, but it will not form part of the final mark and grade.				
ours	e Conte	ent:				
	Students will study a range of fiction and nonfiction texts in order to develop the skills of: information retrieval,					
	expla	nation, inference, deduction, analysis, comparison and evaluation.				
	Students will study how to write effective prose, exploring description, narrative and recount.					
	Students will study transactional, persuasive and discursive writing.					
	Stude	ents will study the importance of adapting style, tone and purpose to a range of audiences and real life situations.				
	Students will focus on basic spelling, punctuation and grammar skills to ensure that their writing is both accurate and					





English Literature

ш	we to	ollow the Eduqas (formerly WJEC) Examination Board specification for the GCSE course.
	There	are two components to the English Literature exam:
		Component 1: Shakespeare and Poetry. The Shakespeare section will also be assessed for accurate spelling, punctuation and grammar. 2 Hours. 40%
		Component 2: Post 1914 Drama (this section will also be assessed for accurate spelling, punctuation and grammar), 19th Century Prose and Unseen Poetry. 2 hours 30 minutes. 60%
		Students will study a range of fiction and nonfiction texts in order to develop the skills of: information retrieval, explanation, inference, deduction, analysis, comparison and evaluation.
Cours	se Cont	
		nts will read and explore: "Macbeth" by William Shakespeare; a selection of poems from the Eduqas anthology; d Brothers" by Willy Russell and "A Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens.
	Stude	nts will develop the skills of: information retrieval, explanation, inference, deduction, analysis, comparison and ation.
		nts will also be expected to analyse and comment on unseen texts in the examination, so will be taught how to each this.





English Literature

What parents need to know:

- Students will need to complete independent reading of the texts at home, in order for lesson time to be used for discussion and analysis.
- Students will need to independently re-read the texts over the course of the two years to ensure that they are fully prepared for the examinations.
- It is vital that students ensure that any texts, exercise books, files or notes are safely stored throughout the two year course.





Assessment of this GCSE:

- This GCSE is assessed by Summer exams only. There is no controlled assessment/coursework.
- The content of the exams is **100% unseen.**

Component 1 - 20th Century Literature Reading and Creative Prose Writing Written exam - 1 hour and 45 minutes (40% of total qualification)					
Section A	 Reading: Read and understand one prose fiction extract (around 60-100 lines) from the 20th Century. Answer a set of (usually four) structured questions. 	20%			
Section B	Prose Writing:Complete one creative writing task	20%			





Assessment of this GCSE:

- This GCSE is assessed by Summer exams only. There is no controlled assessment/coursework.
- The content of the exams is **100% unseen.**

Component 2 - 19th and 21st Century Non-Fiction Reading and Transactional / Persuasive Writing Written exam - 2 hours (60% of total qualification)					
Section A	 Reading: Read and understand two extracts (around 900-1200 words in total) of high quality non-fiction writing, one from the 19th Century and one from the 21st Century. Answer a set of (usually four) structured questions. 	30%			
Section B	Writing:Complete two transactional / persuasive writing tasks	30%			





Assessment of this GCSE:

- This GCSE is assessed by Summer exams only. There is no controlled assessment/coursework.
- The content of the exams is 100% unseen.

Component 3 - Spoken Language Compulsory; non-weighted; non-exam assessment

Speaking:

- Complete one presentation / speech, including responses to question and feedback.
- This is filmed and submitted to the exam board.
- This is reported as part of the qualification, but will not form part of the final mark.





Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar

- Component 1, Part B = 16/40 marks awarded for SPaG.
- Component 2, Part B = 8/12 marks awarded for SPaG.
- English Literature essays carry 5 marks (of 25 and 40) for SPaG too.
- Bigger emphasis on this in English lessons in Year 10 and 11 as well as lower school.
- Specialised skills sessions.
- Specialised revision sessions.
- We expect pupils to focus on all work. To learn/revise anything they
 are struggling with as they would times tables in Mathematics.



GCSE ENGLISH LITERATURE



Assessment of this GCSE:

- This GCSE is assessed by **Summer exams only. There is** <u>no controlled assessment/coursework.</u>
- The content of the exams is 80% unseen questions on set texts, and 20% unseen texts

Component 1 - Shakespeare and Poetry Written exam - 2 hours (40% of total qualification)						
Section A	 Shakespeare - Macbeth One essay question - character or theme One extract question - characters; relationships; mood and atmosphere 					
Section B	 Poetry from 1789 to the present day: Two questions based on poems from the anthology One question will involve comparison 	20%				

GCSE ENGLISH LITERATURE

Assessment of this GCSE:

- This GCSE is assessed by Summer exams only. There is no controlled assessment/coursework.
- The content of the exams is 80% unseen questions on set texts, and 20% unseen texts

Component 2 - Post-1914 Drama; 19th Century Prose and Unseen Poetry Written exam - 2 hours and 30 minutes (60% of total qualification)					
Section A	Willy Russell - Blood Brothers● One source based question on the play	20%			
Section B	 Charles Dickens - A Christmas Carol One source based question on the play Marks are awarded for knowledge of the context 	20%			
Section C	 Unseen poetry from the 20th / 21st Century Two questions on unseen poems One question will involve comparison 	20%			

Structure of the course, support and rationale

- Interleaving approach to encourage revision.
- Blind assessments.
- Curriculum Leader re-sit detentions.
- Intervention after school.
- Masterclasses at the end of Year 11.
- Specialised, focused revision sessions after school.
- Organisation.
- Revision.

How to help at home

- Support, encourage and question on what they are studying.
- Ensure students are reading the books. *Macbeth, A Christmas Carol, Blood Brothers*.
- Ensure that the books have been re-read.
- Question them on the books.
- Encourage pupils to attend revision classes.
- Ensure revision is taking place for Blind assessments.
- Encourage interaction with the teacher.
- Use GCSEPod, BBC Bitesize, Youtube, Digital Theatre Plus (available on school website) etc...for support.
- Encourage wider reading to give pupils a broad understanding of a range of texts, contexts and the world. This will help them when analysing texts quickly in the exam.
- Reinforce the importance of SPaG at all times in all subjects. This is vital on the GCSE Language exam (16/40 marks and 8/12 marks) and the Literature exams (5/40 marks).
- Support school with blind assessments / resits. We need to ensure all pupils revise each topic and keep the topics in their heads so that the final revision is not overwhelming. The blind assessments also form the basis for our assessment, this is can be clouded by lack of revision.
- Ensure revision takes place in plenty of time.
- Summer homework was MACBETH revision and tasks.





Maths

This is	a bran	d new GCSE. We a	re changing exam board to A	QA.		
The co	urse co	nsists of 3 separat	e exams which will be either	Foundation tier (for grades 1 -	5) or Higher tier (fo	r grades 4 - 9).
	Paper	1: non-calculator	Paper 2: calculato	or Paper 3: <u>calculator</u>		
	Each e	xam :				
		is out of 80 marks	and they all count equally to	the final GCSE Mathematics a	ssessment	
		will last for 1 hou	r 30 mins			
		will consist of a m	nixture of question styles, and	d covering the full range of top	ics	
	All exa	nms taken at the e	nd of year 11			
Course	e conte	nt				
	Numb	er; Algebra;	Ratio & Proportion;	Geometry & Measures;	Probability;	Statistics;





Maths

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- Pupils are expected to LEARN by heart the formulae needed for this course, as they will not be given a formula sheet in the exam.
- There is a greater emphasis on problem solving style and mathematical reasoning questions which may relate problems to real-life scenarios.
- Approximately 35% additional content, all of which are harder topics brought down from A Level or from higher to foundation tier.
- Maths will continue to be tiered, though the split will be different and we cannot assume that the same profile of students should enter for Higher and Foundation as has been the case. The Foundation Tier will give access to grades 1-5, and the Higher Tier 4-9.

To increase the chances of success:

- Pupils will be given the chance to purchase revision guides and workbooks from school at a reduced rate recommended.
- Revision/support sessions will be offered to help further the progress and understanding of the maths covered.
- Regular practice of the skills, even in small doses to start with, will result in much higher rates of progress.
- Two thirds of the exam allows the use of a calculator; having your calculator available to use in lessons gives you more practice to know how to use it!

At Parklands all of our students are following the AQA GCSE exam for Mathematics Specification 8300



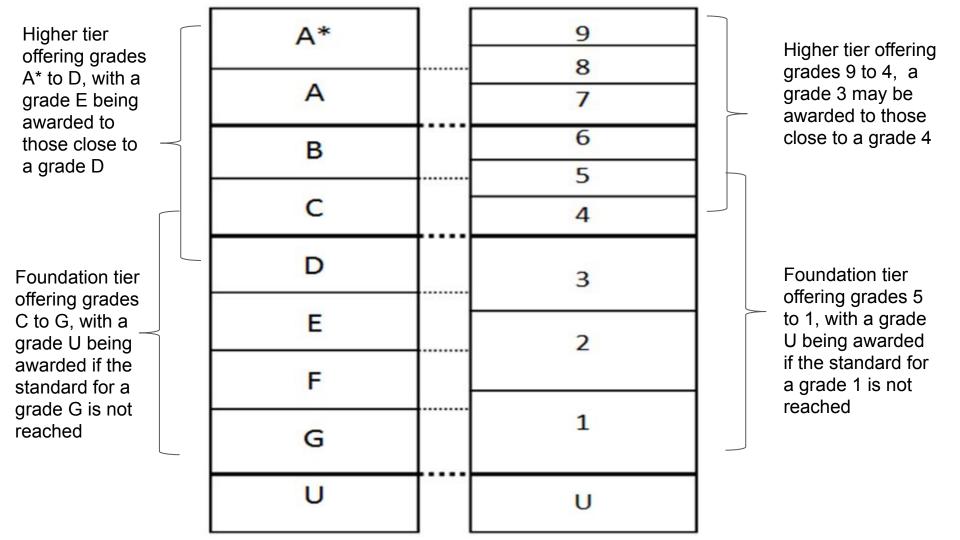
There are 2 tiers of entry
Higher Tier (Grades 4-9)
and Foundation Tier (Grades 1-5)

All content can be assessed on any of the three question papers. And some questions will draw together elements of maths from different topic areas.

The weighting of the topic areas is common to all exam boards.

Ratio is now classified separately from number, meaning it is given a greater emphasis on the examinations.

Topic Area	Foundation Tier (%)	Higher Tier (%)
Number	25	15
Algebra	20	30
Ratio	25	20
Geometry	15	20
Probability and statistics (combined)	15	15



New Content Maths - Higher (from A Level)

- Expand the products of more than two binomials
- Interpret the reverse process as the 'inverse function'; interpret the succession of two functions as a 'composite function' (using formal function notation)
- Deduce turning points by completing the square
- Calculate or estimate gradients of graphs and areas under graphs, and interpret results in real-life cases (not including calculus)
- Simple geometric progressions including surds, and other sequences
- Deduce expressions to calculate the nth term of quadratic sequences
- Calculate and interpret conditional probabilities through Venn diagrams

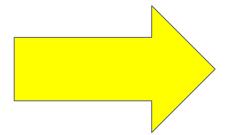
New Content Maths - Foundation (from higher)

- Index laws: zero and negative powers (numeric and algebraic)
- Standard form
- Compound interest and reverse percentages
- Direct and indirect proportion (numeric and algebraic)
- Expand the product of two linear expressions
- Factorise quadratic expressions in the form x2 + bx + c
- Solve linear/linear simultaneous equations
- Solve quadratic equations by factorisation
- Plot cubic and reciprocal graphs, recognise quadratic and cubic graphs
- Trigonometric ratios in 2D right-angled triangles
- Fractional scale enlargements in transformations
- Lengths of arcs and areas of sectors of circles
- Mensuration problems
- Vectors (except geometric problems/ proofs)
- Density
- Tree diagrams

Assessment objectives - AO1

Use and apply standard techniques Students should be able to:

- accurately recall facts, terminology and definitions
- use and interpret notation correctly
- accurately carry out routine procedures or set tasks requiring multi-step solutions.



50% Foundation

> 40% Higher

Assessment objectives - AO2

Reason, interpret and communicate mathematically Students should be able to:

- make deductions, inferences and draw conclusions from mathematical information
- construct chains of reasoning to achieve a given result
- interpret and communicate information accurately
- present arguments and proofs
- assess the validity of an argument and critically evaluate a given way of presenting information.

Pupils will require better reading and comprehension skills to extract the problem being posed.

25% Foundation

30% Higher

Assessment objectives - AO3

Solve problems within mathematics and in other contexts

Students should be able to:

- translate problems in mathematical or non-mathematical contexts into a process or a series of mathematical processes
- make and use connections between different parts of mathematics
- interpret results in the context of the given problem
- evaluate methods used and results obtained
- evaluate solutions to identify how they may have been affected by assumptions made.

Pupils will require better communication and writing skills, both in terms of literacy and mathematical reasoning,

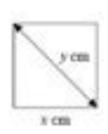
25% Foundation

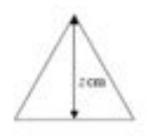
30% Higher

Example of new GCSE Questions - Foundation Tier



Here are a square and an equilateral triangle.



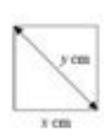


The length of a side of the square is x cm. The length of a side of the equilateral triangle is 2 cm more than the length of a side of the square.

The perimeter of the square is equal to the perimeter of the equilateral triangle.

(a) Work out the perimeter of the square.

Here are the same square and the same equilateral triangle.





The length of the diagonal of this square is y cm. The height of this equilateral triangle is z cm. (b) Which has the greater value, y or z?

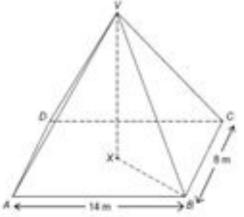
(7 marks)

Example of new GCSE Questions - Higher Tier





The volume of a pyramid = 1/3 x area of base x perpendicular height VABCD is a rectangular-based pyramid with volume 336 m³ X is the centre of the base, directly below V.



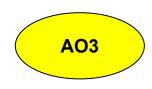
Work out the angle between VB and the base. (6 marks)

A car has an initial speed of u m/s. The car accelerates to a speed of 2u m/s in 12 seconds. The car then travels at a constant speed of 2u m/s for 10 seconds. Assuming that the acceleration is constant, show that the total distance, in metres, travelled by the car is 38u.

(4 marks)

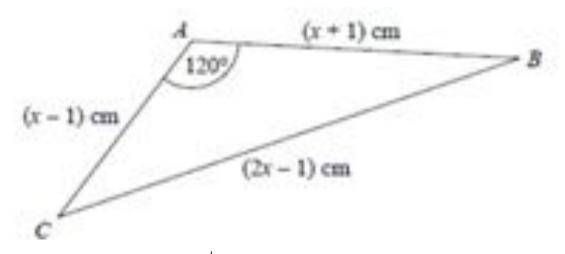


Example of new GCSE Questions - Higher Tier





The diagram shows triangle ABC.



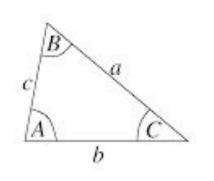
The area of triangle ABC is k $\sqrt{3}$ cm2 . Find the exact value of k.

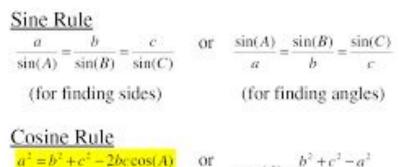
(7 marks)

GCSE Maths is changing and getting more demanding for everyone.

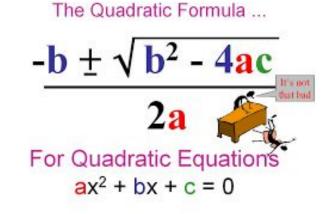
Students will also have to memorise formulae.

(for finding angles)





(for finding sides)



How to help at home

- Check the website for the topics they are covering and support, encourage and question on them.
- Always remain positive about Maths, even if you are not confident or did not enjoy the subject at school.
- Ensure they are completing homework (all documented on SMHW)
- Encourage the use of Hegarty Maths for revision and practice of all skills
- Encourage them to do their own revision throughout the year on prior topics. Corbettmaths has videos and practice questions.
- Encourage pupils to attend revision classes.
- Encourage interaction with the teacher.
- Ensure revision is taking place for assessments.
- Support school with blind assessments / resits. We need to ensure all pupils revise each topic and keep the topics in their heads so that the final revision is not overwhelming. The blind assessments also form the basis for our assessment, this is can be clouded by lack of revision.





Double Science 'TRILOGY'

There are two 'papers'. Each one contains equal numbers of Biology, Physics and Chemistry topics. Paper 1 content is studied in Years 9 and 10. Paper 2 is studied at the end of Year 10 and during Year 11.

Tier of entry: Both are available at Foundation (cap at a grade 5) and Higher tier. Tier of entry will be determined by

Science staff based on ongoing progress and achievement from Year 9 onwards. You cannot mix tiers of entry.

Exams: There are 6 exams at the end of year 11. Each is 1 hour 15 min, 70 marks, 16.7% of GCSE. Total: 7 ½ hours of Science exams. All six exams will be totalled to determine the two GCSE grades the pupil will be awarded. Questions

will be a mix of multiple choice, structured, closed short answer, and open response.

Practical Skills Assessment: There are no longer any controlled assessments (coursework pieces). Instead there are 21 'required practicals' which are assessed as 15% of questions in each paper. If any of these are missed (e.g. due to absence) they MUST be completed and formally written up in catch-up sessions after school.

Maths: There has been a significant increase in the Maths content applied to Science. 20% of pupils' overall grades will be applied Maths. The ratio of Maths in each discipline is: Biology 1: Chemistry 2: Physics 3. Pupils who are less confident with Maths will need parental support.

Grading: 17 point scale e.g 1-1, 1-2, 2-2 etc. (As it is a double award, so pupils leave with two Science grades).







Separate Sciences (Triple Science) BIOLOGY, CHEMISTRY, PHYSICS

Content is studied from Year 9.

Tier of entry: Both are available at Foundation (cap at a grade 5) and Higher tier. Tier of entry will be determined by Science staff based on ongoing progress and achievement from Year 9 onwards. You can mix tier of entry (so enter foundation in Physics and Higher in Chemistry etc.

Exams: There are 6 exams (Two papers for each of Biology, Physics and Chemistry) at the end of Year 11. Each paper is 1 hour 45 min exam, 100 marks, 50% of GCSE. Total: 10 ½ hours of Science exams. Questions will be a mix of multiple choice, structured, closed short answer, and open response.

Practical skills Assessment: There are no longer any controlled assessments (coursework pieces). Instead there are 24 'required practicals' which are assessed as 15% of questions in each paper. If any of these are missed (e.g. due to absence) they MUST be completed and formally written up in catch-up sessions after school.

Maths: There has been a significant increase in the Maths content applied to Science. 30% of pupils overall grade will be applied Maths. The ratio of Maths in each discipline is: Biology 1: Chemistry 2: Physics 3. Pupils who are less confident with Maths will need parental support.

Grading: Pupils leave with three Science grades (for example 5 - 5 - 6)



Comparing courses



Trilogy (combined)

- Worth 2 GCSE grades based on your overall performance across <u>all three</u> science subjects.
- 6 written exams each 1 hour 15 mins long.
 (7 ½ hours of Science exams)
 - No coursework.
 - 21 required practicals

(15% of the total marks in the final exams.)

- 20% of your overall grade will be applied maths.
- You will receive a combined grade (e.g 9-9, 8-7...)

Triple Science

- Worth 3 GCSE grade where students study all three sciences and end up with three GCSEs.
- 6 written exams each 1 hour 45 mins long. (Total: 10 ½ hours of Science exams)
 - No coursework.
 - 28 required practicals

(15% of the total marks in the final exams).

- You can mix tier of entry.
- 30% of your overall grade will be applied Maths.
- You will receive 1 grade for each subject area.

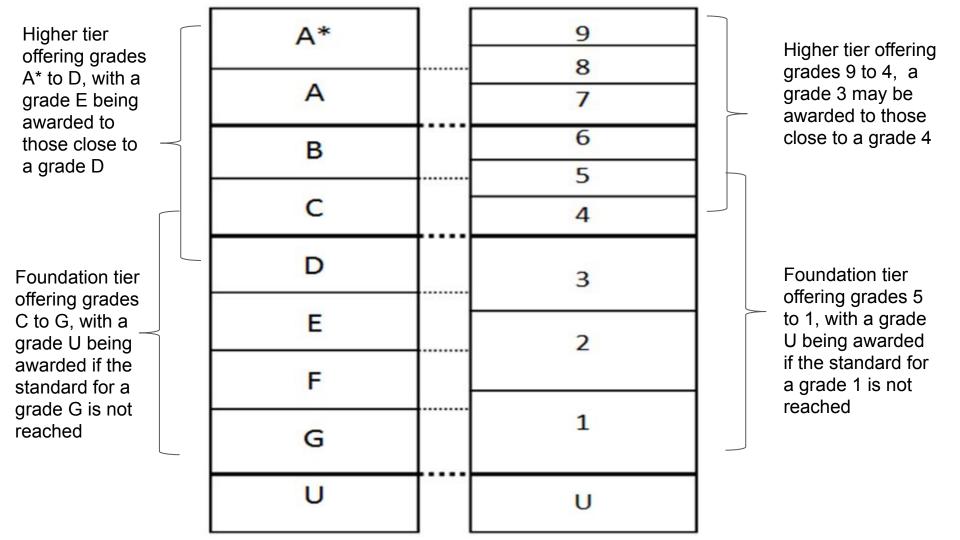
At Parklands all of our students are following the AQA GCSE exam for Science



There are 2 tiers of entry
Higher Tier (Grades 9-4)
and Foundation Tier (Grades 5-1)

Tier of entry will be guided by the student's end of topic assessment grade and mock examinations.

Revision is paramount in all of these to ensure the correct tier of entry is chosen.



How to help at home

- Check the school and AQA website for the topics they are covering and support, encourage and question on them.
- Always remain positive about Science, even if you are not confident or did not enjoy the subject at school.
- Ensure they are completing homework (all documented on google classroom)
- Encourage the use of GCSE Pod, educake, focuselearning for revision and practice of all skills.
- Purchase a revision guide and booster books from the Science department.
- Encourage them to do their own revision throughout the year on prior topics.
- Encourage pupils to attend revision classes.
- Encourage interaction with the teacher.
- Ensure revision is taking place for end of topic assessments.





French

You v	vill sit four exams at the end of year 11.				
	Writing (25%)				
	Speaking (25%)				
	Listening (25%)				
	Reading (25%)				
The s	peaking exam will take place in April/May with your teacher and is worth the most marks.				
Unlik	e the previous syllabus, the new syllabus offers no opportunities to resit.				
You need to learn your vocabulary regularly throughout year 9, 10 and 11. Use Quizlet, active learn and your grammar boo					
to he	lp you.				
You have access to the markscheme online and you should use this to see what you need to include for the highest marks.					
See your teacher for personal feedback (in addition to the regular feedback given in class) for how to improve your grade,					
we ha	ave lots of ideas for extras you can add in to push yourself and your grade.				
Everything we learn is relevant to the exams so if there is anything you don't understand - don't wait, ask now!					
Attend revision classes/intervention when you are struggling - We can tailor them to your needs.					





Religious Studies

Study of Religion: an in-depth study of the beliefs, teachings and practices 2 major world religions (Christianity and Islam).

Following the new AQA GCSE Religious Studies A Specification, the subject is split into 2 key components:

2.	Philos	sophy and Morality - 4 separate units of work:
		Religion and Life
		Relationships and Families
		Religion Peace and Conflict
		Religion, Crime and Punishment
))	There There attitu Home	s will have 4 lessons of RS each fortnight. This is made up of; 2 Study of Religion lessons and 2 Philosophy and Morality lessons. It will be TWO 1 hour and 45 minute exams at the end of Year 11, each worth 50% of the final GCSE grade awarded. It is lots of content in the course, this will require from pupils; a proactive approach to their studies, good organisation, a positive de, revision of units independently, attendance at after school revision, and communication with teachers over any issues. It is exampled to the form of; key terminology revision, practice exam questions and preparation for in-class sments.

A small number of pupils will be entered for the Short Course Religious Studies exam, they will know who they are. The Short Course is 50% of the Full GCSE course detailed above.





The Drama GCSE examination is split into 3 sections:

- Understanding Drama 40% This is assessed in a written exam. To prepare for this your child will receive written homework with individualised written feedback indicating areas for development and progression. Closer to the terminal exam, we will also practice timed answers in class.
- Devising Drama 40% This is assessed by a performance (10%) and a practical log completed during the project (30%). Pupils will create, perform and evaluate their own performances. This is internally marked and externally moderated. Pupils will complete this in class and as homework
- Texts in Practice 20% This is a final performance assessed by an external visiting examiner towards the end of Year 11. Pupils will prepare for this, and explore the text, during class time.

To support your child in preparation for their GCSE Drama qualifications:

<u>ATTENDANCE IS CRUCIAL - ABSENCE CAN HAVE SERIOUS IMPLICATIONS FOR ACHIEVEMENT AND GROUP WORK</u>

- The written exam requires all students to review live performances. School theatre trips will be organised, please allow your child to attend so that they can be fully supported in preparation for their written exam
- **☐** Help your child to learn lines for performance
- In the term leading up to the written exam, practise timings for answers with your child. This is often the thing students struggle with the most
- **Encourage** your child to attend additional rehearsals outside of lesson time in the build up to performance pieces





Geography

- ☐ Living with the physical environment
- ☐ Challenges in the human environment
- Geographical applications Section A: Issue evaluation, Section B: Fieldwork
- ☐ Geographical skills (assessed through the other 3 units)

A mock exam will be held at the end of Year 10 and February in Year 11 along with regular practice of exam questions and end of unit topic tests.

There are three exams at the end of Year 11:

- Paper 1 (1.5 hours) Unit 1 Living with the physical environment (35%)
- Paper 2 (1.5 hours) Unit 2 Challenges in the human environment (35%)
- Paper 3 (1.25 hours) Unit 3 Geographical applications Section A: Issue evaluation Section B: Fieldwork (30%)
- Fieldwork 2 visits in Year 10 Salford Quays & the River Wyre
- Mathematical skills needed.





History

There are four core areas of study

- 1. Medicine and Public Health through time
- 2. Elizabethan England
- 3. Germany 1890-1945
- 4. War in Asia (Vietnam and Korea)

Pupils have completed the first two topics and in Y11 will focus on Germany and War in Asia.

Two mock exams will also be held during Y11 for Unit 2 and half of Unit 1

There will be 2 exams sat at the end of Y11 (these are equal rating)

- Paper 1: Understanding the modern world - (Germany + Asia)
- Paper 2: Shaping the nation -(Medicine + Elizabethan)

Revision Timetable: One of the reasons History achieves so many high level grades is due to our revision schedule. Pupils should now have completed their revision cue cards for Medicine and Public Health. If they haven't you will be hearing from us shortly. They will be doing homework revision cue cards on Elizabeth and Germany this term. This will rotate on Homeworks. This will leave War in Asia for the Spring Term.

How can you help?

- Ensure they are up to date with homework and revision material
- Encourage organisation folders, dividers, cue cards etc
- Discuss their learning with them articulation of details is the best way to embed ideas
- Reinforce specific knowledge and explanation. Reinforce the importance of SPaG
- Encourage pupils to visit, read and watch historical themed events, sites books and documentaries etc





Food Preparation and Nutrition

Pupils will complete 2 practical based assessments which will be worth 50% of their final grade. The additional 50% will be attained by an externally assessed written exam taken at the end of Year 11.
Assessment 1 (15%): Food Science Investigation
A scientific food investigation which will assess the learner's knowledge, skills and understanding in relation to scientific principles underlying the preparation and cooking of food.
Assessment 2 (35%): Food Preparation
Prepare, cook and present a menu which assesses the learner's knowledge, skills and understanding in relation to the planning, preparation, cooking and presentation of food.
Both pieces of coursework will be completed in year 11
Remembering ingredients for practical lessons is ESSENTIAL in order to develop practical skills, knowledge and preparation for exams
Pupils will cook on a weekly basis in order to build upon higher level skills, understand the science behind food and maximise marks for their controlled assessment
Units of work: Food commodities; Principles of nutrition; Diet and good health; The science of food; Where food comes from and Food preparation





GCSE PE

- **□** Students are assessed in three different units:
 - Physical factors affecting performance (written exam 30%)
 - Socio-cultural issues and sports psychology (written exam 30%)
 - Performance in physical education (pupils are graded performing their three chosen sports 40%)
- In year 11 pupils will continue to have three theory lessons a fortnight covering the syllabus which they are examined on at the end of the year.
- Pupils will also have one GCSE practical lesson a week (separate from their core P.E. lesson), covering sports which they can choose to use in their practical assessment.
- Optional GCSE PE kit is made available at an extra cost.





Art & Photography

- Both Art and Photography follow the same AQA Art and Design specification. The specification is split into 2 components and is taught over 3 years.
- Component 1 is the portfolio of work. A minimum of 2 projects will be taught. These may include identity, time and close up for Art and urban, portraiture and natural forms for Photography. Unit 1 is worth 60% of the overall marks.
- Component 2 is the externally set exam. A 10 hour exam will be undertaken during this unit. This unit is worth 40% of the overall marks
- ☐ It is vital that students always have the correct equipment and resources each lesson.
- ☐ It is vital that homework tasks are completed on time.





Computer Science

- ☐ Student will be following the OCR specification.
- Pupils will be required to complete 2 written exams and a programming project. The course is assessed by the final exams only.
- Paper 1 will examine Computational thinking, problem solving, code tracing and applied computing (50%)
- Paper 2 will examine theoretical knowledge of computer science (50%).
- Student will complete a 20 hour programming project at the beginning of the year. This is a required element but does not count towards the final grade.
- The programming project allows students to use the knowledge and skills gained through the course to solve a practical programming problem.
- Pupils will be learning how to create computer programs and will be learning theory around how computers work and how they communicate with each other.
- The course can be a challenge as there are a lot of new skills to learn; resilience and good attendance is essential to make good progress and have the skills needed to complete assessments.





Design & Technology

ч	ine	Design & Technology GCSE is split into two units:
		Unit 1 is the written exam, worth 50% of the marks and will last 2 hours.
		Unit 2 is a Non-Examination Assessment (NEA), worth 50% of the marks and will run over 30-35
		hours at the end of year 10, leading into year 11.
	Pupi	ls are given course reading materials for every topic and it is essential that pupils read the
	infor	mation regularly.
	It is v	rital that homework tasks are completed on time. 5 lessons per fortnight is not enough. An additiona
	hour	per week at least is expected to be undertaken at home.
	To su	apport your child in their preparation for their GCSE we recommend:
		Encourage your child to attend additional revision sessions outside of lesson time to develop their
		Non-Examination Assessment and prepare for the exam.

Encourage your child to question the design and functional qualities of Products around them.





- The GCSE Music Course is split into three Components:
- Component 1 Understanding Music 40% Examination -Students will focus on studying particular styles of music, Music Theory and the Set Pieces published by the exam board. Students will also be set listening activities to be completed at home. Study Guides are also available to all students to purchase which feature exam style questions.
- Component 2 Performing Music 30% Coursework Students are expected to develop their performance skills on their chosen instrument or voice outside the classroom. Students are required to perform a Solo and Ensemble Performance of a minimum of four minutes in total. These will take place outside timetabled classes during the Spring Term. It is the student's responsibility to prepare for these and should be receiving tuition on their instrument or voice to develop their performing skills successfully. Parents can support students further by ensuring that their child is having tuition on an instrument or voice and supporting their regular practice.
- Component 3 Composing Music 30% Coursework Students will compose two pieces Composition 1 to a brief set by the exam board Composition 2 free composition in a style of the candidate's choice; this can ONLY be completed in class, therefore after-school sessions may be required to support students in completing their work. Students will also be required to write programme notes about their compositions, which are compulsory, and assist in the marking process.





GCSE Dance

The course content is split into 3 areas;

- **Performance -** 30% 2 solo performances and one duo/trio piece.
- **Choreography** 30% developed from a stimulus set by the exam board.
- Dance Appreciation 60% written exam. Critical appreciation of own work and six professional dance works

How can you support your child?

- 1. Dance kit is compulsory and dance shoes are optional, these can however have a big impact on your child's performance and are available through school at a discounted rate to dance suppliers.
- 2. The more practical experience, the better. Encourage your child to attend school dance club and, where possible, external dance lessons.
- 3. Encourage your child to watch back all performance videos shared and analyse their performance.
- 4. Encourage your child to watch regularly all professional dance works and set solo phrases.





NCFE Level 2 Technical Award in Music Technology

- Students can achieve a Pass, Merit, Distinction or Distinction* depending on the quality of their portfolios and performance in the external exams.
- Students will start to build their digital portfolio of evidence this year which will cover four units. This will include homework tasks that are part of the assessed portfolio. The portfolio will include keynote presentations, video diaries, screencasts and recording projects. It is the responsibility of students to organise their portfolio correctly with guidance from their class teacher.
- Many of the assessed recording sessions will take place after school and students must be able to commit to planning and attending these sessions in order to successfully provide evidence for each unit.
- Students will also sit two external exams which focus on their practical ability and theoretical knowledge which cover all four units of the course. The examinations are marked externally.
- To enhance their learning within lesson, students will have the opportunity to visit a number of colleges to experience Music Technology at a more advanced level.





BTECs (Vocational Qualifications)

Graded Distinction* Distinction Marit Dass Unclassified

_	Grau	eu Distiliction, Distiliction, Merit, Fass, Oficiassifieu
	BTEC	s are now worth 1 x GCSE
		Dist* = A*
		Dist = A
		Merit = B
		Level 2 Pass = C
		Level 1 Pass = D
		Unclassified
	Comp	pletion of a number of units towards a final overall grade
	All as	pects of each unit must receive at least a PASS grade to obtain the overall qualification
	If a p	upil fails a unit – or aspect of a unit (with the exception of the externally assessed unit) – they will be given a deadline
	to im	prove their work.
	There	is now an externally assessed unit - ie, an exam which they must hass

BTEC TECH Awards Component Grades...

Level 2 Distinction	A learner has satisfied all the Level 2 Distinction criteria for the component through: outstanding performance fully addressing all learning aims, with a sound grasp of facts and concepts, selection and interpretation of information, and fluent use of skills in more complex situations.
Level 2 Merit	A learner has shown high performance across the component through either: • having satisfied all the Level 2 Merit criteria for all learning aims; or • having achieved all the Level 2 Pass criteria and showing an outstanding performance in the final assignment, as defined by the Level 2 Distinction criteria.
Level 2 Pass	A learner has satisfied all the Level 2 Pass criteria for the learning aims through: showing coverage and understanding of content at a good standard and appropriate skill demonstration.
Level 1 Merit	A learner has shown an acceptable standard across the component addressing a range of content and demonstrating some understanding through either: • having satisfied all the Level 1 Merit criteria for all learning aims; or • having achieved the Level 1 Pass criteria and showing a good standard of performance in the final assignment, as defined by the Level 2 Pass criteria.
Level 1 Pass	A learner must satisfy all Level 1 Pass criteria for the learning aims through: • showing basic knowledge and ability to complete routine tasks.
U	A learner who does not satisfy all the Level 1 Pass criteria should be reported as having a U grade.



LEARN, RESPECT, ASPIRE, ACHIEVE BTEC Level 2 TECH Award Health & Social Care

Course Components:

Learners are required to complete and achieve all the components included in the qualification.

Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award in Health and Social Care					
Component number		Component title		Level	How assessed
Y9	1	Human Lifespan Development	36	1/2	Internal
Y10	2	Health and Social Care Services and Values	36	1/2	Internal
Y11	3	Health and Wellbeing	48	1/2	Synoptic External

Y11 HSC Component 3... 40%

Component	Description of task	Availability	
Component 3: Health and Wellbeing	 Task set and marked by Pearson, completed under supervised conditions. The set task will be completed in two hours in the period timetabled by Pearson. 60 marks. 	February and May/June from 2019 onwards	

- There is one external assessment, Component 3, which provides the main synoptic assessment for the qualification.
- Component 3 builds directly on Components 1 and 2 and enables learning to be brought together and related to a real-life situation.
- Component 3: Health and Wellbeing requires learners to assess an individual's health and wellbeing and use this to create a health and wellbeing improvement plan.
- The external assessment contributes 40% of the total qualification



LEARN, RESPECT, ASPIRE, ACHIEVE BTEC Level 2 TECH Award Creative Media



Course Components:

Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award in Creative Media Production				
Component number	Component title	GLH	Level	How assessed
1	Exploring Media Products	36	1/2	Internal
2	Developing Digital Media Production Skills	36	1/2	Internal
3	Create a Media Product in Response to a Brief	48	1/2	External Synoptic

Y11 Creative Media Component 3... 40%

Component	Description of task	Availability
Component 3: Create a Media Product in Response to a Brief	 Task set and marked by Pearson completed under supervised conditions. The set task will be completed in 9 hours of supervised sessions in a period timetabled by Pearson. 60 marks. 	From May 2019 onwards

Completed in the classroom under exam conditions.

It isn't 9 continuous hours! It is done over a number of weeks with breaks in between to collect assets, take photographs etc.





Connect

Students will complete three courses during Key Stage 4.

Year 9

WJEC Humanities Entry Pathways

- A series of investigations into different history and geography topics.
- Assessment takes place in the classroom.

Year 10 & 11

AQA Functional Skills Maths

- This consists of two 30 minute papers (one calculator, one non-calculator).
- Students will be entered into the Level 1 or Level 2 course as appropriate.

Year 11

Eduqas Entry Level Certificate English

- Component 1: One-hour written examination.
- Component 2: Four 30 minute topic tests to be completed in class.
- Component 3: Two 2 hour speaking and listening assessments.