

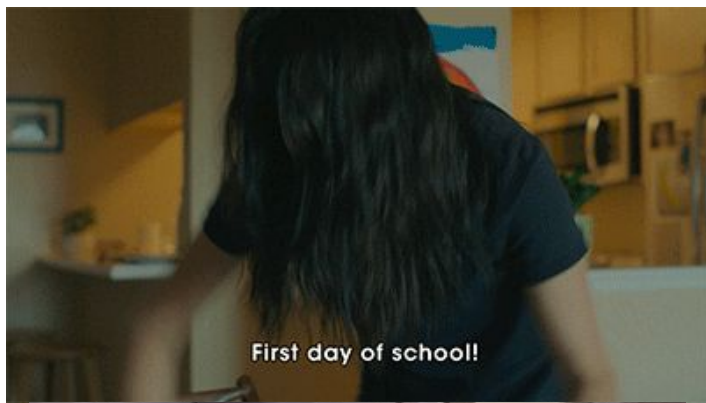
Preparing for Success!

Year 11

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Year 11 Timeline

15.11.23 Period 1&2	Study Skills morning. Students will start the morning with an assembly with Mrs Martin and Mrs Nunneley on keeping healthy during the revision period and what not to do when revising. They will then join 4 short study skills sessions with the senior leadership team on revision strategies that are scientifically proven to work.
4.12.23 - 8.12.23	Mock exams week. Mocks will take place in the main hall for core subjects only at this point in the year (English, maths and science). The French and Spanish listening mock will also take place in the hall during this week.
10.1.24	Year 11 reports are sent to parents and carers.
11.1.24 4.30-5.30 6.00-7.00	Exam Preparation Evening for all year 11 students and parents/carers. These sessions will offer all parents and carers the opportunity to understand how they can support their child with revision and through the exam period. Information on core subjects will be shared and how period 6 revision sessions will work.
15.1.24 3.05-3.50	Period 6 revision sessions begin and will run every week until the exams start. They will run on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. Period 6 will be a combination of silent, independent study time and subject teachers' revision lessons. A timetable will be shared nearer the time.
11.3.24 - 22.3.24	Mock exams in all subjects.
24.4.24	Year 11 reports are sent to parents and carers.
9.5.24	GCSE exams start!

“You can’t go back and change the beginning, but you can start where you are and change the ending.”



- C.S Lewis

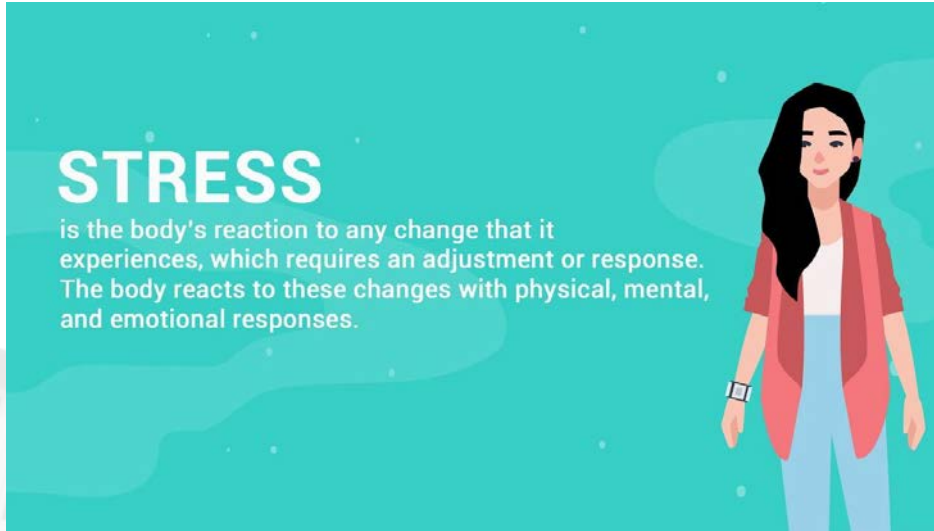
#MotivationMonday

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Students Well Being

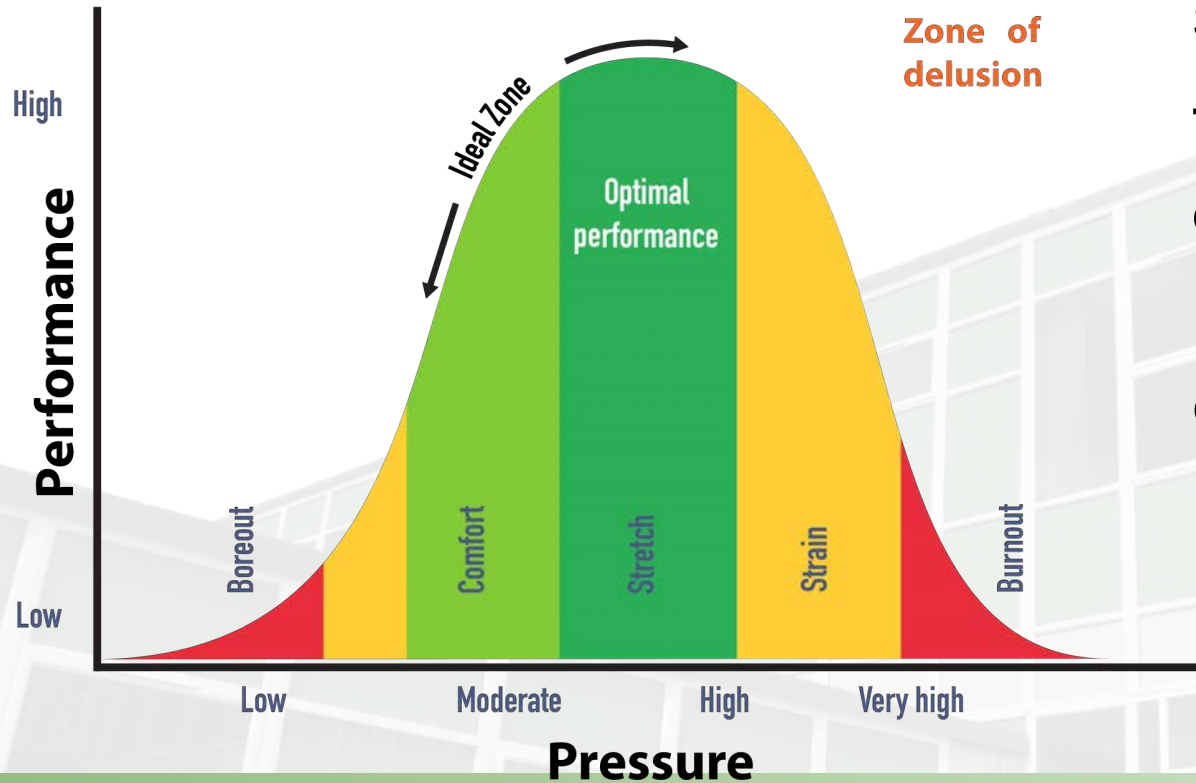


- Too many demands
- Few resources
- What is required of me exceeds my ability to cope.

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Support our students in their comfort zone and encourage appropriate pressure to stretch and challenge for optimal performance at GCSE.

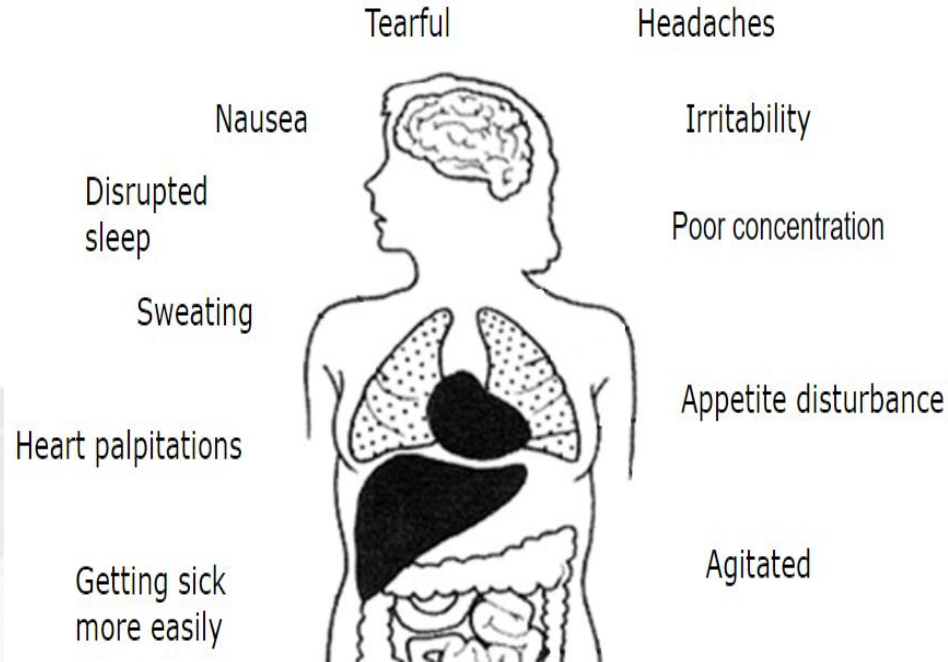
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The Signs

Understanding stress: Physical effects



How can we help prevent stress?

- Talk
- Set manageable targets
- Take advantage of support-
Pastoral Care, SSC, Inclusion.
- Attend 'Elevate' sessions for
support with learning and
understanding.

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What Support is available to me?

- Revision aids specific to subjects
- P6 sessions
- Pastoral Support-
- Form Tutor- MMS/ KCS/ AHN/ RCE
- Head of Key Stage- Mrs Martin
- Pastoral Care Coordinator- Ms Brown
- Fearnhill Website updated with resources for Year 11



The screenshot shows the Fearnhill School website. At the top is the school's logo and name, 'FEARNHILL SCHOOL', with the tagline 'GROWING EXCELLENCE EVERY DAY'. Navigation links include 'ABOUT', 'STUDENT WELLBEING', 'LEARNING', 'COVID-19', 'SIXTH FORM', 'NEWS & EVENTS', 'ADMISSIONS', and 'CONTACT'. A 'STUDENTS' button is visible in the top right. Below the navigation bar is a large image of students in a classroom, with a green overlay and the word 'STUDENTS' in white. Below this is a breadcrumb trail: 'Home > Students > Coping with Exams'. The main heading is 'COPING WITH EXAMS'. Underneath is the section 'FEELING STRESSED ABOUT EXAMS?' followed by a paragraph: 'Whether it's end of topic tests, end of year exams, GCSE or A levels, assessment can be a stressful time for students. It is important to try your best in your exams as they can influence your future opportunities so they should be taken seriously, but shouldn't cause you any distress or upset.'

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English

Two separate GCSEs - English Literature and English Language.

English Literature:

- 2 papers;
- Macbeth and A Christmas Carol
- An Inspector Calls, Anthology Poetry, and Unseen Poetry

English Language:

- 2 papers;
- Fiction, 1 unseen extract
- Non-fiction, 2 unseen extracts

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English Literature; exam questions

Paper 1 - Macbeth and A Christmas Carol:

There will be one question for each text.

You will be given an extract.

Answer the question referring to the extract AND the rest of the text as a whole.

Paper 2 - An Inspector Calls and Poetry:

An Inspector Calls:

Two questions and no extracts.
Choose the question you want to answer.

Poetry:

One question, including one poem printed.
You choose your comparison poem.

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English Language; exam questions

Paper 1 - Fiction:

*Section A has **four** questions, all relating to an unseen extract.
Total for section A: 40 marks*

*Section B has **one** question, and tests creative writing (a story or description).
Total for section B: 40 marks*

Paper 2 - Non-Fiction:

Section A has **four** questions, all relating to two unseen extracts.
Total for section A: 40 marks

Section B has **one** question, and tests persuasive writing (an article, leaflet, letter or speech).
Total for section B: 40 marks

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For both papers - remember A02!

Why have they used this word and not a different one?

Why have they put things in this order?

Explain, comment on and analyse the techniques
writers use to create effects.

How do they want the reader to feel?

How does it make you feel?

The words they use
The order they put things in.

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English revision!

DON'T PANIC!

You CAN revise for English Lit *and* Lang. You CAN make huge improvements. You CAN ALL do this!

Slow and steady wins the race. Revising English regularly for 15 minute slots will be much better than huge chunks once a month.

Take control - find a method that works for you and be proud of what you do!

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English Literature revision

Make flashcards

These can be for anything! Choose characters and make flashcards with their key information. Choose themes and make a flashcard detailing which characters and quotes link to these themes.

Making the flashcards will often be more useful than looking over them, so don't be afraid to make the same flashcards over and over again. Soon, you'll have all the information at your fingertips!

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English Literature revision

Plan essay answers

Find a past paper question (*see your Google Classroom or just search 'AQA GCSE English Literature past papers'*).

Set a 10 minute timer.

Spend the 10 minutes planning your answer. Remember to include:

- Quotes and why they are important
- Some relevant context
- ANSWER THE QUESTION!

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English Literature revision

Know the texts

Yes, re-read them! But also...

- Set a 5 minute timer. Choose any text (Macbeth, AIC, ACC, Poetry)
- Open the book at a random page. Skim read it. Answer the following questions:
 - What is happening right now?
 - What happened just before this?
 - What will happen just after?
 - What is important about this moment?

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English Language revision

Everything you do for English Literature will help for English Language. It's all about A02 - what is the writer doing to influence the reader, and how do they do it?

Practise analysing quotes:

- Set a 5 minute timer.
- Pick up any novel, or look at a newspaper article.
- Choose one or two sentences that jump out at you.
- What effect does the writer want to have?
- What words help create this effect? How?
- As you get better, set the timer for quicker and quicker!

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English Language revision

Practise your own writing:

- Set a 5 minute timer.
- Look around you and choose an object to write about - a tree, or a door, or a fence, etc...
- Brainstorm words and phrases you could use to describe your object - think about all 5 senses!
- Set another 5 minute timer.
- Use as many of your words and phrases as you can and write a description in full sentences.
- Remember to use at least 5 types of punctuation.

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How we will help you

All your English teachers are here to help, and we all believe in you.

Recall revision homework will be set on Seneca each week.

A revision section has been added to your Google Classrooms containing everything you need.

Thursday lunchtimes - bring food and drop into E5 if you have questions, something you want marking, or support with anything.

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Science

Combined science = 2 GCSEs (most students)

Exam breakdown

6 papers

2 biology, 2 chemistry, 2 physics

Each paper lasts 1h 15 min

Higher or foundation tier

70 marks per paper

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Science

Separate sciences = 3 GCSEs (only a few students)

Exam breakdown

6 papers

2 biology, 2 chemistry, 2 physics

Each paper lasts 1h 45 min

Higher tier

100 marks per paper

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Science exam questions

A mix of:

A01 - basic recall of facts

A02 - application of knowledge to make conclusions and link ideas

A03 - higher order skills e.g. evaluation of experimental methods

Questions may take the format of multiple choice, structured, closed short answer or extended response.

Mathematical requirements comprise 30% of the marks across the GCSEs

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Key considerations when revising - calculations

You must have a calculator and be confident in using your calculator's functions

You MUST show your working for calculation questions!

Use the VECSRAU method to ensure that you can't lose marks

You will be provided with a physics equation sheet - ensure that you refer to this in your exam and practice having the equations nearby when revising

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Key considerations when revising - language

Key words - You must use the correct vocabulary in your answers

Making flash cards or a glossary of key vocabulary for each topic will be hugely beneficial during revision sessions

Students who include key vocabulary in the correct context for the question achieve 20% higher on average - this can make a difference of 2 whole grades!

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Required practicals

Questions based on required practicals comprise 20% of the marks on each paper

For each required practical, a great revision aid is a poster including:

- The independent, dependent and control variables
- How you will change, measure, or keep each variable the same
- What equipment is needed
- A short method
- How you will ensure data are reliable e.g. 3 repeats and calculating a mean
- What variations of the practical you have seen
 - E.g. different colours of light instead of light intensity in photosynthesis practicals

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Additional revision methods

- Science revision guides (provided to you by the school)
- YouTube videos (freesciencelessons channel)
- Educake (more detail on the next slide)
- **Past paper questions and mark schemes**
 - THE BEST way to test your knowledge
 - Can see the language examiners want you to use and styles of questions
 - Freely available on the AQA website
 - Aim for 1 mark per minute if completing under exam conditions
 - OR use any resources available to help you write the best possible answer
 - Mark your own or swap with a friend
 - Ask a teacher to double check your marking isn't too generous

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Educake quizzes that you set yourselves

My Educake

Revision wizard >

View feedback from your teachers



Your Upcoming Quizzes

View all your quizzes

Subject	Quiz name	Assigned by	Due
Biology	year 9 Biology - For students in school on 21/11/23 (40 Qs)	Mr Turner	about 2 months ago
Chemistry	Year 9 Chemistry - For students in school on 21/11/23 (30 Qs)	Mr Turner	about 2 months ago
Physics	Year 9 Physics - For students in school on 21/11/23 (30 Qs)	Mr Turner	about 2 months ago

Study and Quiz Yourself

KS3 GCSE

GCSE Science – AQA	49%	▶
Biology	53%	▶
Chemistry	44%	▶
Physics	45%	▶
Maths for Science	0%	▶
Working Scientifically	47%	▶

Log into Educake home page

Self-study quizzes

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Educake quizzes that you set yourselves

Select what you would like to study

GCSE Science – AQA [Show only weakest topics](#)

Topic	Qs done	%	
Expand all			Select multiple topics
GCSE Science – AQA	1167	49%	Quiz >
▼ Biology	550	53%	Quiz >
▼ Chemistry	322	44%	Quiz >
▼ Physics	261	45%	Quiz >
▼ Maths for Science	0		Quiz >
▼ Working Scientifically	34	47%	Quiz >

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Educake quizzes that you set yourselves

Customise

- Number of questions
- Tier
- Omit stronger topics

GCSE Science - AQA

There are 10 questions in this quiz.

Customise quiz

How many questions do you want? (Max is 100)

Which tier are you studying?

☐ Foundation ☐ Higher ☒ I'm not sure

Leave out questions you got right recently?

☐ Yes ☒ No

[Begin quiz >](#)

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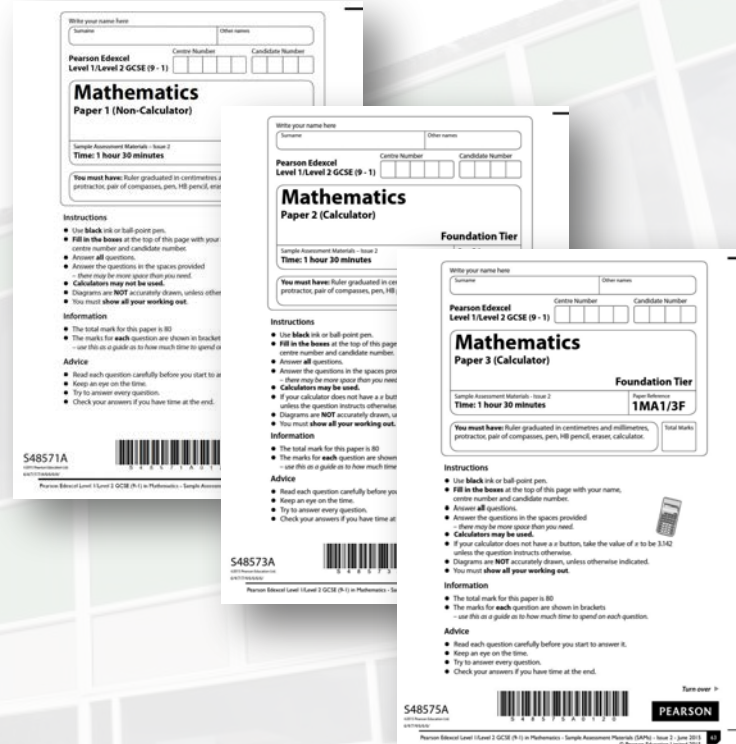
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The Three Papers

- All of the maths GCSE content is spread over three papers
- Each paper is 90 minutes long
- Paper 1 is non-calculator
- Papers 2 and 3 require a calculator



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Every mark is important

- Each paper is worth 80 marks
- Attempt **every** question
- Show all working
- Better to get a mark or two for working than no marks at all
 - On foundation papers, you need approximately 50 marks per paper to get Grade 4
 - On Higher you need 16 marks per paper to get a grade 4, then every additional 10 marks per paper is a higher grade



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Required equipment

ESSENTIAL:

- Black ballpoint pens
- Pencils
- Clear ruler
- Pencil eraser
- Calculator (for papers 2 and 3)

ALMOST ESSENTIAL:

You don't want to have to wait for one in the exam:

- Compass
- Protractor



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Get to know your calculator

- Make sure it is in the correct mode
 - For example, it must be in normal “calculator” mode and using degrees for angles
- Estimate what you think the answer will be
 - This is a skill we will practise: it helps you know if you have made a careless mistake on the calculator
- We are always using BIDMAS
 - Write down what you are going to calculate and type it in carefully
 - use brackets to be extra sure



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How can I prepare? REVISION

- Past papers
- Revision guides
- DIY revision resources
- Revision lessons
- Online resources
 - Sparx!
 - Questions
 - Videos

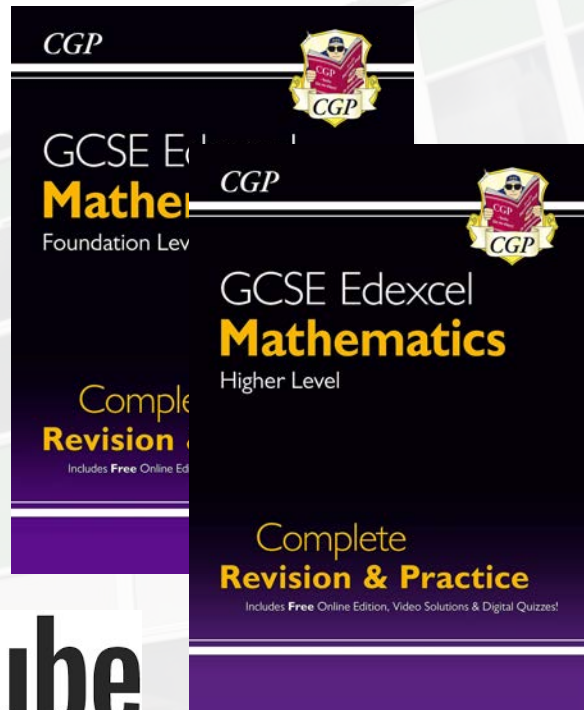


Google Classroom



YouTube

Maths Genie



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Maximising your marks



- Read questions carefully
- Attempt **every** question
- Show working
- Use your calculator in papers 2 and 3!
- Do not round answers too early
- Round to decimal places and significant figures **carefully**
- Simplify fractions and ratios as instructed
- Remember to use and write the correct units for the question
- Pace: aim for one mark per minute

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Avoiding careless mistakes: checking your answers

As we practise with past papers, we will focus on how to identify any careless mistakes. For example:

- Pie Charts: do your angles add up to 360 degrees?
- Mean averages: does your answer make sense?
- Pythagoras: the longest side is the hypotenuse
- Trig: if your angle is less than 1 degree you have probably forgotten to use the inverse function
- Probability: the answer must be between 0 and 1

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Making best use of past papers

1. Go through and answer as much of the paper as you can without help
 - Just use your brain - no revision guides etc.
2. Get a different colour pen and go back to the questions you missed
 - Use revision guides, videos, Sparx etc. to fill in the gaps
3. Mark the paper using the provided mark scheme
 - This will help you understand what examiners are looking for
4. Correct any mistakes, reflect on lost marks
 - Why did you miss a mark? What can you learn from that?

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Using Sparx for revision

- Sparx is a great revision resource!
- Students will each have a Sparx revision skills list
- Other sites:
 - Corbett Maths
 - Onmaths
 - Maths Genie

Sparx Maths

Crossover Skills List

Number

Topic	Topic code	R	A	G
Fractions	U224, U538, U793			
Factors, multiples and primes	U739, U250			
Percentage change	U671, U332, U988			
Standard form	U330, U534, U264, U290			
Error intervals	U657			

Algebra

Topic	Topic code	R	A	G
Linear equations	U325, U870, U599			
Linear inequalities	U759, U738, U145, U337			
Index laws	U662			
Linear simultaneous equations	U760, U757, U836, U137			
Linear graphs and coordinates	U315, U669, U477, U848, U377			
Quadratic graphs and equations	U989, U667, U228, U601			

Ratio and proportion

Topic	Topic code	R	A	G
Ratio	U687, U753, U176, U577, U921, U865			
Speed	U151			
Density and pressure	U910, U527			

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Summary: what is important?

- Practise exam questions “in exam conditions”
 - Encourages learning because you use knowledge from your brain
- List topics you needed help with to ensure you fill the gaps
 - Work through these on Sparx, in lessons or using your revision guide
- Squeeze every mark you can from each paper
 - Attempt all questions, show working, check for careless mistakes
- Have the correct equipment
 - Calculator, pens, pencils etc.

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Attendance	Progress
96-100%	-0.05
93-95%	-0.01
90-92%	-0.83
85-89%	-1.20
Below 85%	-2.25

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What's next?

Revision techniques - shared with students

Details on the school website and videos

Reports were sent yesterday - student should know their current working grade

Period 6 starts on Monday. Opt in/out?

Google form sent out this evening - please respond by tomorrow

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