

**Mark Twain** 

Work Hard | Be Kind | Take Responsibility



# The Journey Begins

- Year 10 marks the beginning of Key Stage 4 a new chapter in each student's school career.
- A two-year journey of effort, growth, and resilience leading to GCSE success.
- Together students, parents/carers, and school we form the team around each learner.
- It's a Marathon, Not a Sprint

"The secret of getting ahead is getting started." - Mark Twain



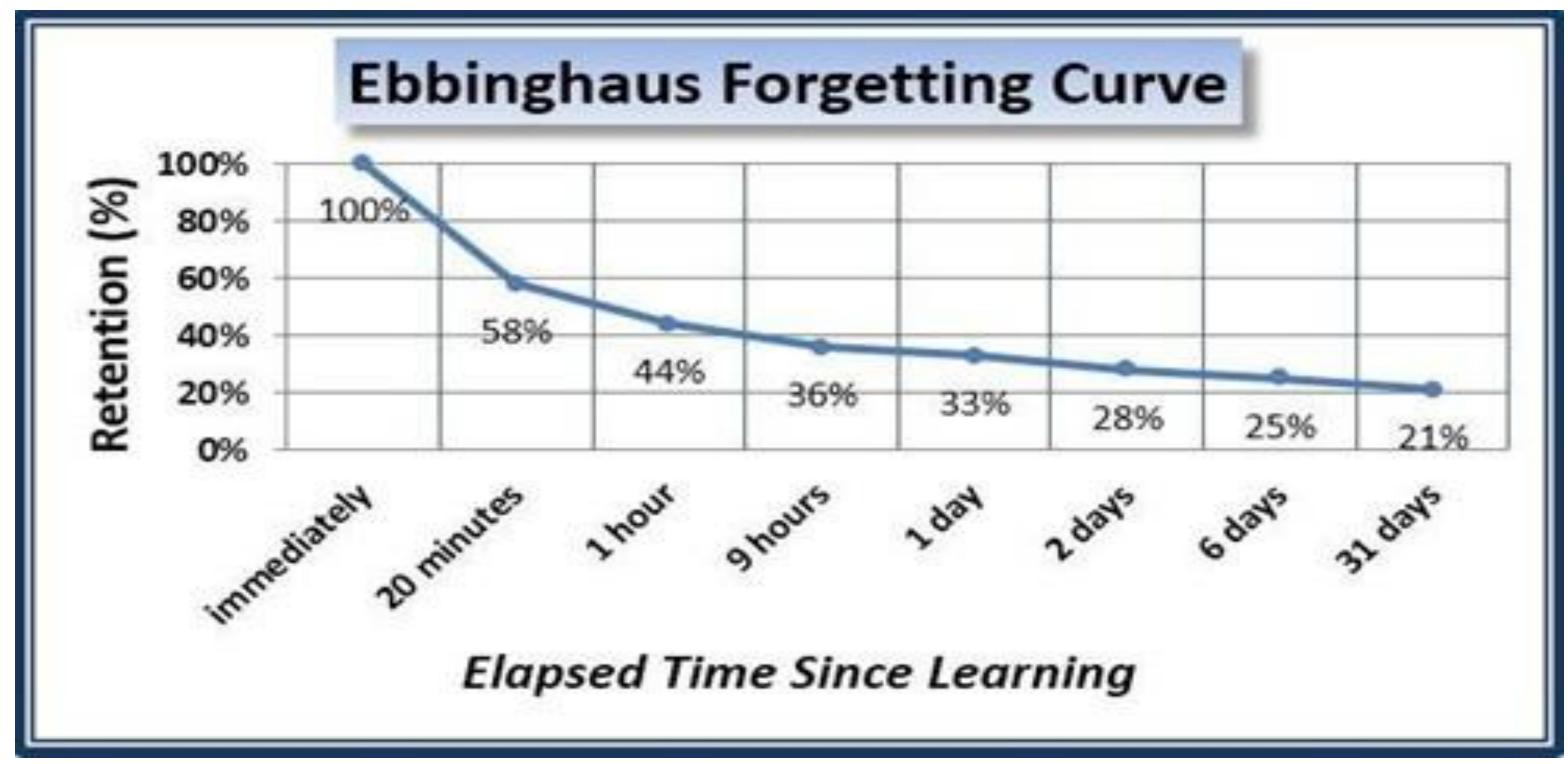
# Navigating the Challenges of Year 10

- Increased Academic Rigour and Increased Cognitive Demand: GCSEs require greater depth, retention, and independence (EEF, 2023).
- The Pressure of 'Firsts' and Balancing Priorities:
- Consistency matters: Regular attendance and home study habits correlate strongly with outcomes.
- Support structure: High expectations, clear routines, and strong pastoral care underpin progress.
- Encourage daily review of learning 'little and often' strengthens long-term memory

"We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit." —
Aristotle



#### The 'Forgetting Curve' (Hermann Ebbinghaus):



# The Power of Partnership: How You Can Help

Your support is the single most important factor in your child's success.

Here's how we can work together:

- Encourage a Routine
- Focus on Effort, Not Just Grades
- Talk and Listen
- Stay Connected
- Provide a quiet, device-limited workspace.
- Maintain open communication with teachers and Miss Green (Y10 PL)

"The future depends on what you do today." — Mahatma Gandhi



# Building Blocks for Success: Practical First Steps

- Organisation is Key
- Embrace Technology Wisely
- Wellbeing and Balance

#### The Trinity:

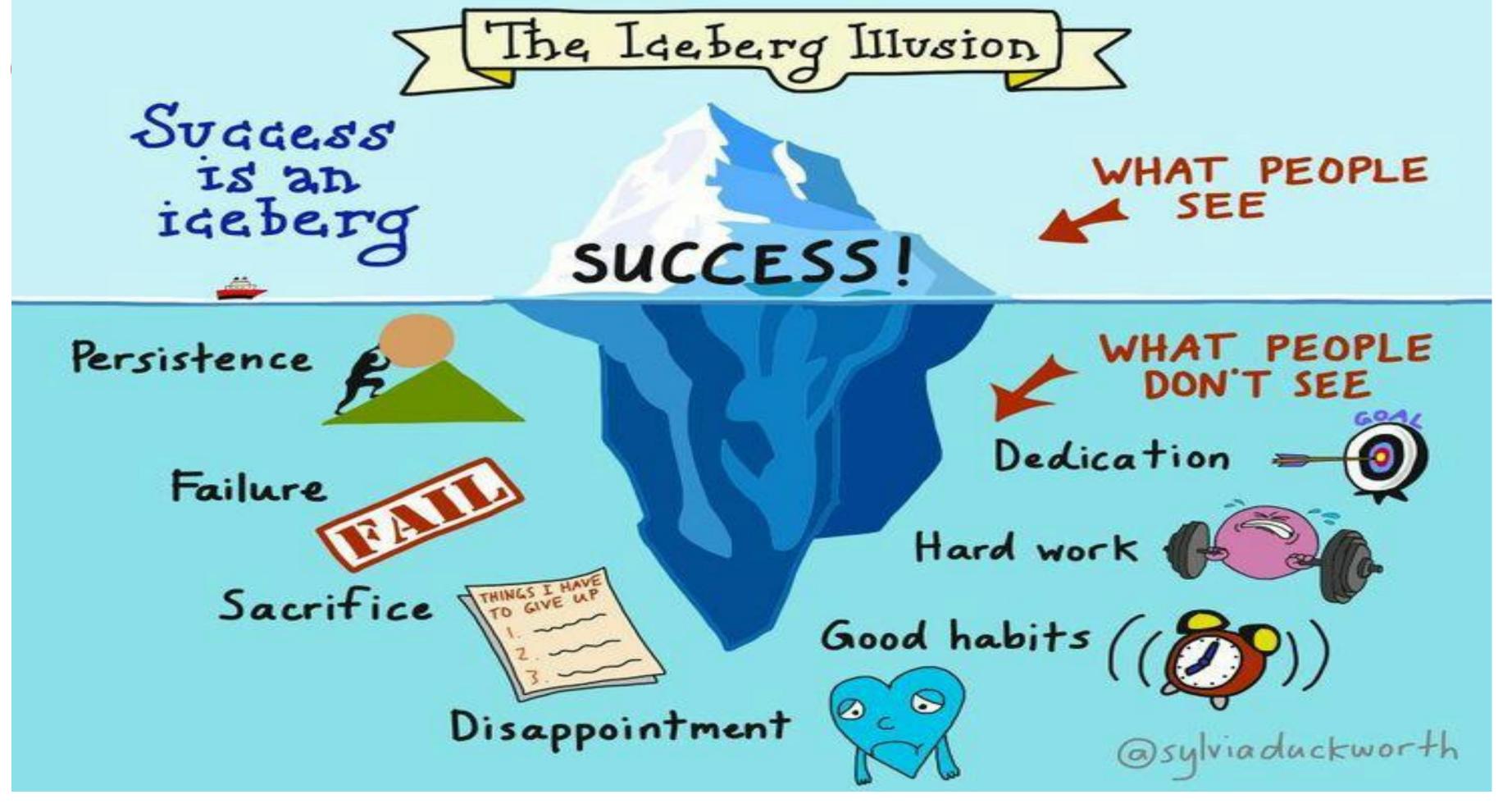
- School: High-quality teaching, targeted intervention, wellbeing support.
- Students: Effort, attendance, responsibility, and resilience.
- Parents/Carers: Encouragement, structure, and partnership with school.

#### **Looking Forward:**

- Year 10 sets the foundation for Year 11 success early effort compounds.
- Progress reviews, student progress evenings, and pastoral contact ensure continuous collaboration.

"Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated day in and day out." - Robert Collier

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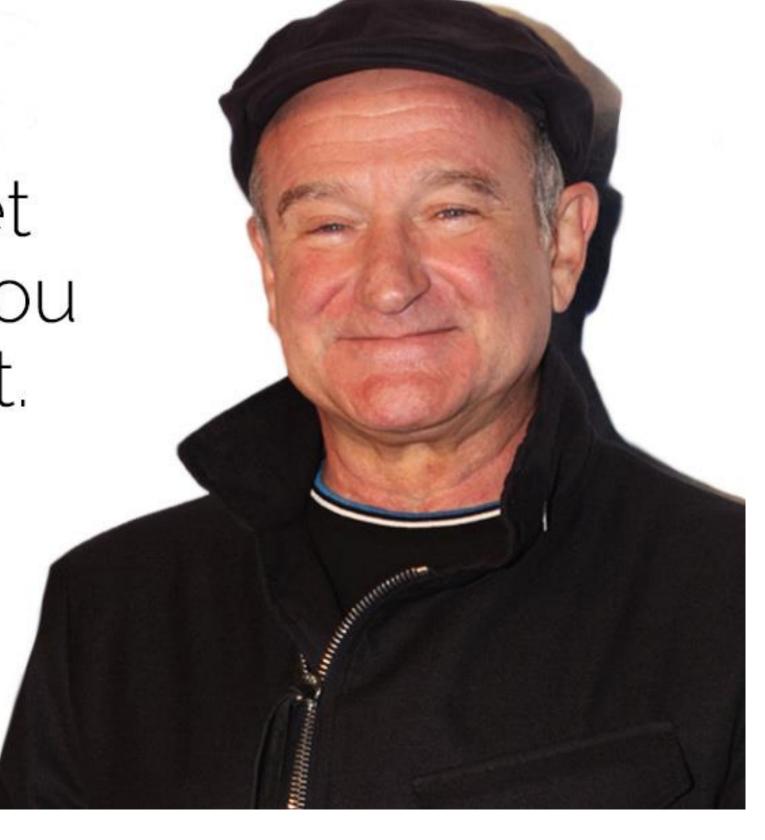


# ROBIN WILLIAMS

"Everyone you meet is fighting a battle you

know nothing about.

Be kind."





# An ambitious curriculum



- The curriculum and learning journey for child is well under way!
- The KS3 curriculum was ambitious, broad and balanced
- Now, the KS4 curriculum with increasing demands on memory retention
- Sheer breadth of concepts and topics demands more knowledge and understanding

This lesson we are learning about: Hindu beliefs in the nature of Brahman and why Hinduism is monotheistic and not polytheistic.

How this links to future learning:

You will learn about the trimurti today and in the future compare and contrast it to the Christian concept of the trinity.

and theism and how religious believers may describe the nature of

How this links to

previous learning:

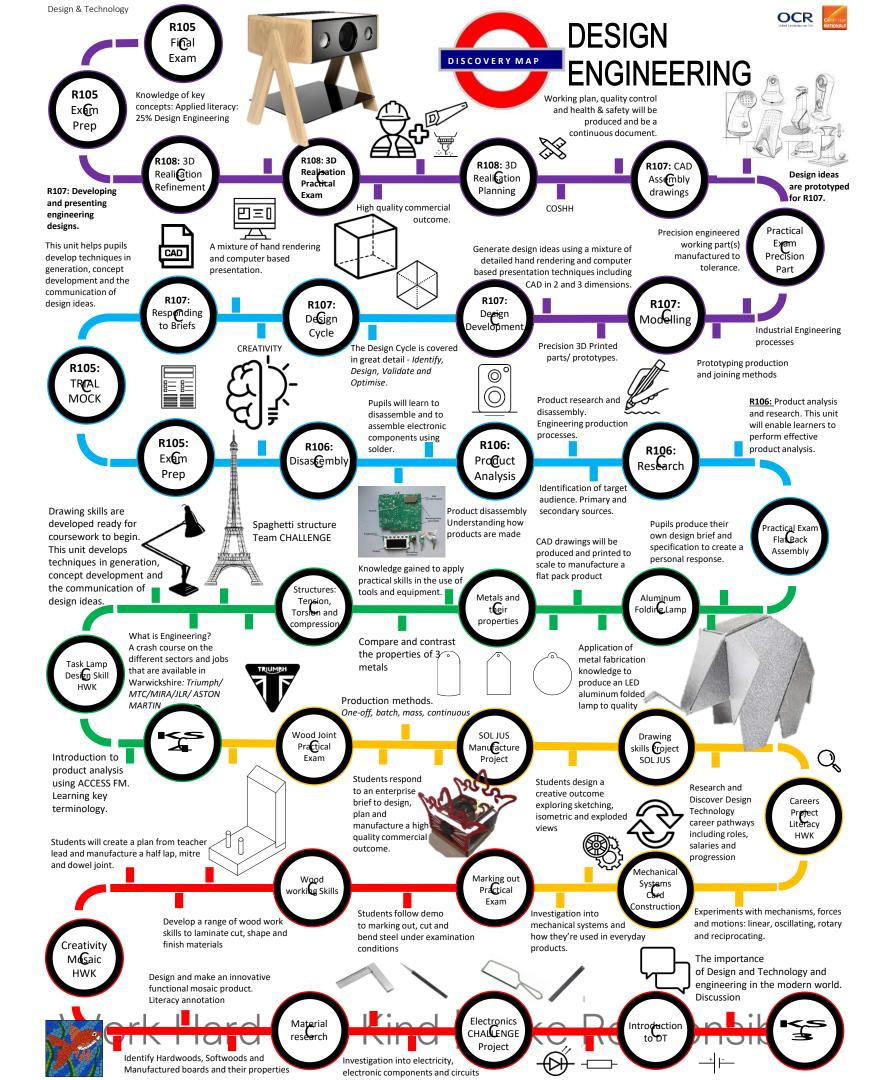
We have looked at the

difference in atheism

God.

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# The Journey Ahead

- Consistency and Habits
- Seeking Support Early
- Closing Message

We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit." — Aristotle





## The Academic Year

January 5th Year 10 Assessments

January 15th Student Progress Report

March 27th USA Trip

13th April Year 10 Trial Exams week 1

20th April Trial Exams week 2

5th & 6th May Geography Field trip

11th May Year 10 Work Experience

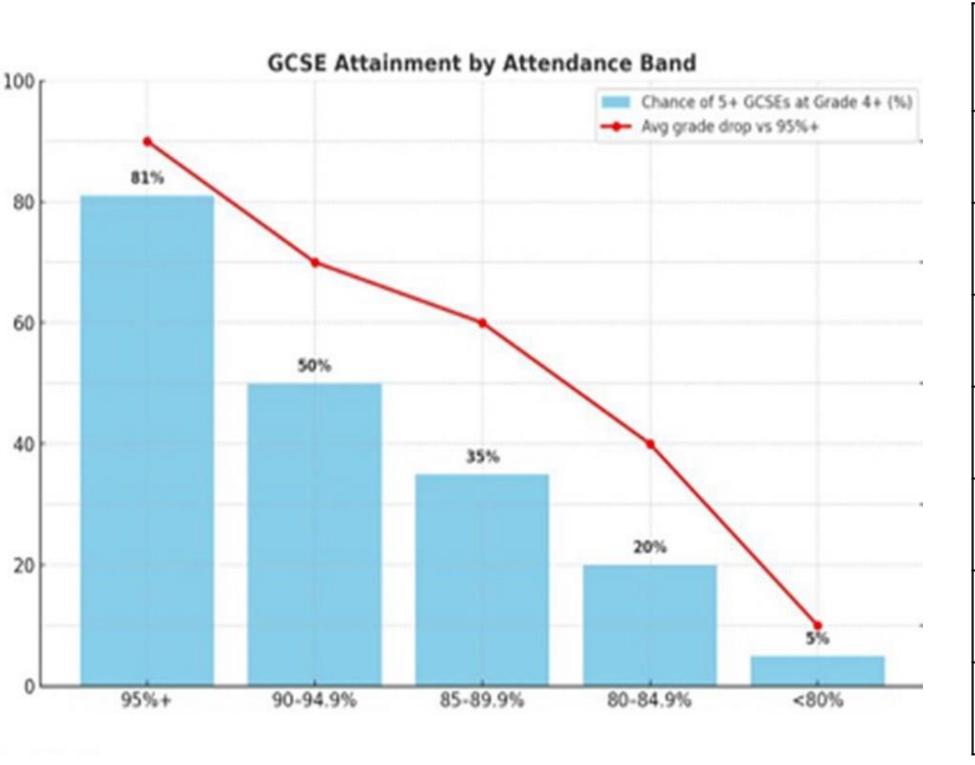
3rd June Student Progress report

4th June Student Progress Evening (Online)

W/C 22nd/29th June French Speaking trial exams

July Sports day and Rewards day: Details TBC

# Attendance and Academic Progress



Percentage Attendance	Attendance Description	Number of days missed in a year	Number of lessons missed in a year
100%	Outstanding Attendance	Zero days missed in a year	Zero
98-99%	Good attendance	Missing up to 4 school days a year	Up to 20 lessons
97%	Expected attendance	Missing up to 6 school days a year	Up to 30 lessons
96-95%	Area for improvement	Missing up to 10 school days a year	Up to 50 lessons
94% - 93%	Area of concern	Missing up to 13 school day a year	Up to 65
92% - 90%	Unsatisfactory	Missing up to 20 school days a year	Up to 100 lessons
Below 90%	Serious Concern	Missing 20+ school days a year	100 lessons +



# Attendance is critical to GCSE success

- Jenny misses a day from school because she has a bit of a cold.
- During that day she misses 5 lessons.
- P1 Maths: practising Algebra where the questions practised account for 16 marks. This section turns up on Paper 1.
- P2 History: work on a 16 mark question on a topic that is in the exam on Crime and Punishment
- P3 English: Macbeth revision 'Power and Control' essay 40 marks
- P4 Science: key revision on atoms and particles, working on 2X 6 mark questions
- P5 Sociology: 12 mark question evaluating whether prison is an effective measure of social control
- A potential 96 marks lost in GCSE success!
- It is crucial that if students miss any lesson for whatever reason, they catch
  up on any work missed.



# Holiday requests

- "Headteachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances".
- Holidays are not considered exceptional circumstances.

Any leave of absence requests will be dealt with individually, and absence can be granted under exceptional circumstances, holidays do not fall into this category. It is such an important year we want your son or daughter here as often as is possible.

#### Behaviour Steps Process Step 2+ (Good Neighbour)

#### **Praise Stage**

All students demonstrate Higham Lane Learner Values (Work Hard, Be Kind & Take Responsibility), contributing to a positive learning environment, house points awarded

#### **Step 1 (S1)**

Verbal Warning & reinforcing expectations of Higham Lane Learner Values

#### Step 2 (S2)

#### 45 Minute same day detention & final warning issued

Continued S1 behaviours, homework/work missed deadline/ Lateness, Mobile Phone confiscation, Bullying/Unkind Behaviour, Persistently Incorrect uniform/equipment (form tutor)

#### Step 2 + S2+ 'Good Neighbour'

45 Minute same day detention & student works in 'Good Neighbour' Classroom for remainder of the lesson.

Continued S1/S2 behaviours

#### **Step 3 (S3)**

Continued failure to follow teacher instructions after S2 issued, Internal Truancy/Refusal to attend lesson, Bullying/Unkind Student immediately removed from lesson and placed in On Call Room for remainder of lesson Student placed in Reflection Room for following day or remainder of day, if appropriate + 45-minute detention

#### **Step 4 (S4)**

Dangerous/Violent/Sexual/Discriminatory behaviour, Verbal abuse towards staff, Possession of prohibited item, Theft, Bullying Student immediately removed from lesson & placed in On Call Room or Reflection Room for remainder of the day



# Safeguarding

#### **Principles:**

- Safeguard and promote the welfare of all students.
- Children who are safe and feel safe are better equipped to learn.
- Speak to a trusted adult.
- HLS help@highamlaneschool.co.uk





If you have a problem or concern in school or at home, you can report it to a member of staff anonymously.

#### To: 07860 021 323

Type <u>HLS1</u> followed by a space and then your message.

#### When To Report...

You or a friend are being bullied

You are concerned for a student's welfare

A student, member of staff, or parent has behaved inappropriately

You need to talk to someone about a problem

Suggestion for changes or improvements in school

Report via SMS or visit:

https://swgfl.org.uk/whisper/hls1/







# Safeguarding and signposting

- Samaritans provide a 24 hour listening service. Call 116123
- If you are 11-18, talk to someone today: 02476 641799 (8am to 8pm) or 0300 200 0011 (overnight) or download the Stay Alive app www.cwrise.com
- Papyrus Call 0800 068 41 41 Mon-Fri 10am-10pm, Weekends 2.00pm to 10.00pm and Bank Holidays 2.00-5.00pm. Text 07786 209 697
- https://www.kooth.com/
- https://www.meetoo.help

All of these support networks and more information can be found on the school website under 'Parents and Students' – the Health and Wellbeing Hub.



## Year 10 Careers Events

- Year 10 Work Experience will take place from the 11<sup>th</sup> May- 15<sup>th</sup> May- 2026 (dates are inclusive).
- Your son/daughter will need to find their own placement. Please start looking now for potential employers – use your networks.
- A full launch will happen before Christmas. This will give information about how to let school know what your child is doing for that week.
- Year 10 Summer Enrichment (25<sup>th</sup> June 2026) will involve your child visiting a local university or further education placement.
- 1:1 careers interviews will start in the summer term, with a post 16 focus

   school sixth forms, apprenticeships, local sixth form colleges and A levels, T levels, other vocational subjects and the world of work all explored with our trained careers advisor.





## KS4 French – Curriculum Plan

Students will receive a **bespoke program** of study tailored to continue **developing** their **language skills** and **cultural awareness** in line with the demand of the GCSE exams.

Students will continue to be accompanied and supported to develop their knowledge of French. They will revisit and deepen their understanding of French grammar and their knowledge of the francophone world.

**Year 10 Scheme of Learning** 

**Autumn:** Town and region

**Spring:** Holidays

Summer: School
(GCSE speaking trial exam)

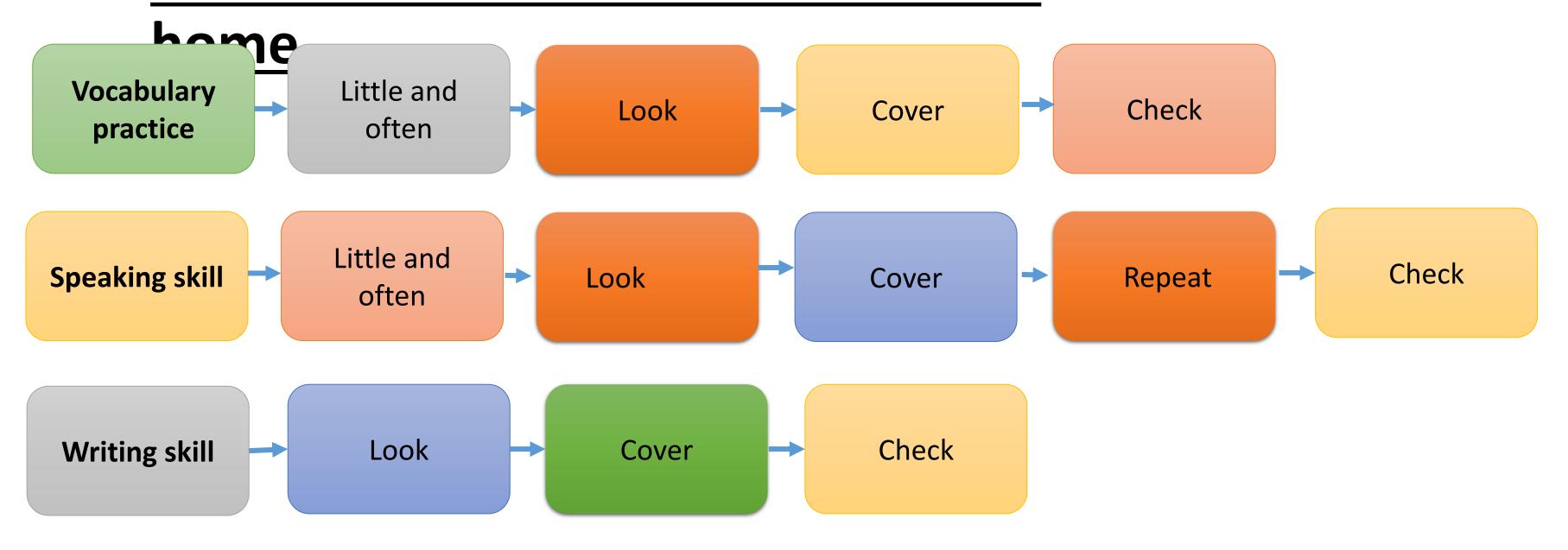
Differentiated course
(Foundation / Higher) in line
with students' abilities.

## KS4 French – Learn More, Do More

Excellent progress in French is developed through regular practise and resilience to overcome those barriers in understanding.

'Linguists aren't people who find languages easy. They're people who enjoy how hard it is'

## How to Learn and Revise French at



Work Hard | Be Kind | Take Responsibility



## **Using Online Resources to Support Learning**

# How will Google Classroom / Class Charts be used to enhance Teaching and Learning in French?

Students will be invited to join their class on **Google Classroom** so that class teachers are able to:

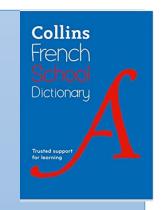
- Share Home Learning resources and deadlines
- Share additional resources such as online videos and useful websites that will support your son/daughter's progress

Students and parents/carers are also invited to download **Class Charts** so that they can check what homework has been set.

# Equipment

## **Key Information**

Students need to come fully equipped to lessons.



#### Students must have:

- Pen, pencil, ruler, purple pen, glue stick.
- Mini white board pen and rubber
- If possible, a small school French dictionary

#### French sets

- Your son's/daughter's progress is monitored closely by their French teacher
- The French groups are reviewed each term to ensure that each student is making the appropriate progress in line with their ability.

# Success in French – How you can help your child?

- Are there any topics they are struggling with? What are they doing about it?
- Ensure they are learning vocabulary each week – Little and often.
- Ask to see their homework check the quality of it, are they putting in maximum effort? How long are they taking?
- Support their revision prior to end of topic tests —Do they revise from their Knowledge Organiser? Do they do revision little and often.



# Higham Lane School



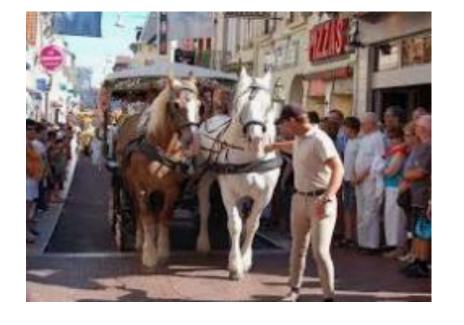
# Trip to Le Touquet, northern France



Tuesday, 14th July to Thursday, 16th July 2026









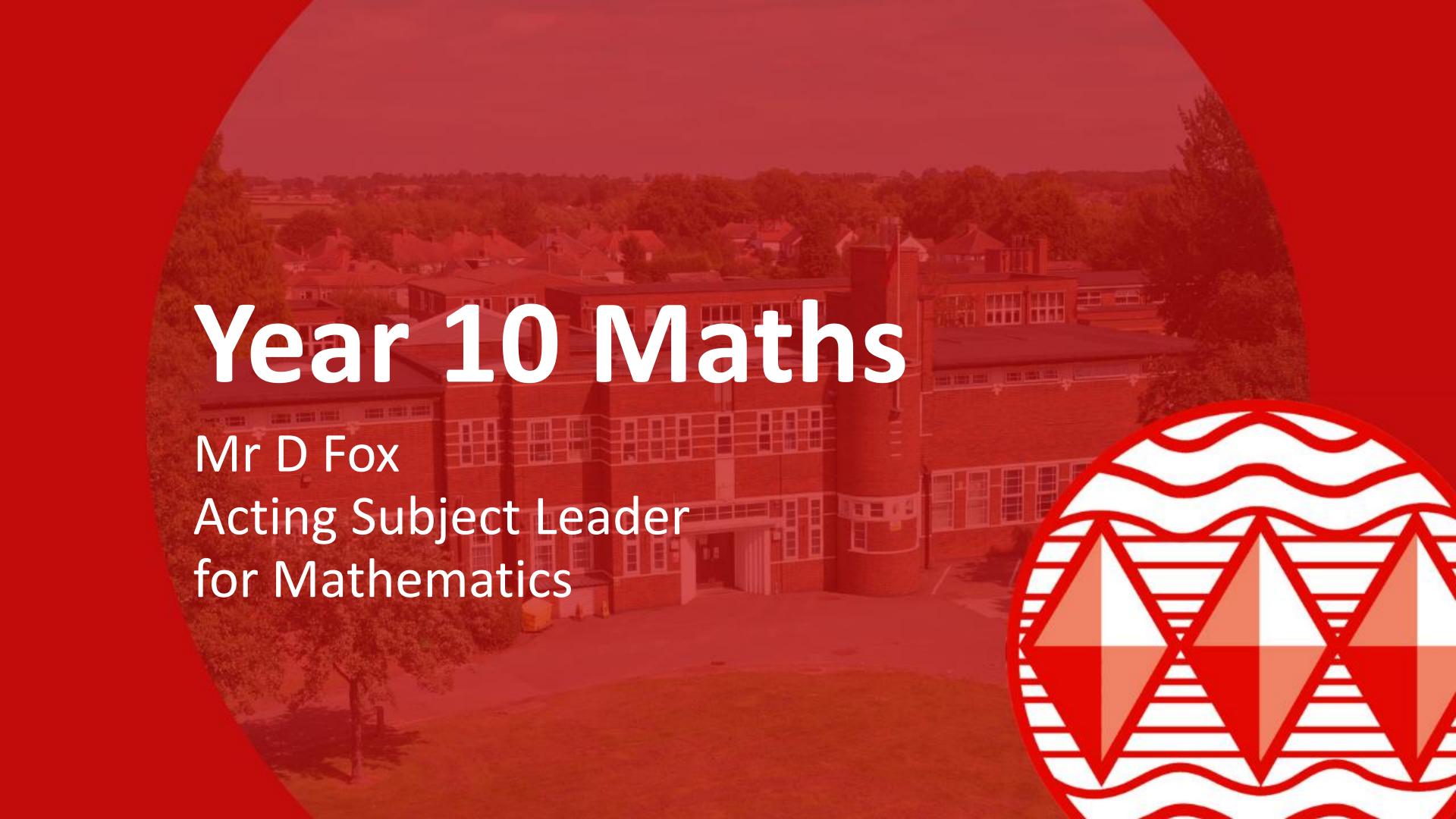
Places to join the trip will be awarded based on:

- Interest
- Behaviour record from September 2025

Details to follow in the autumn term

Visit a bakery
A chocolate factory
A snail farm
An apple farm
etc...





## GCSE Mathematics – Curriculum Plan – Y10

Number \*=

Algebra ×2



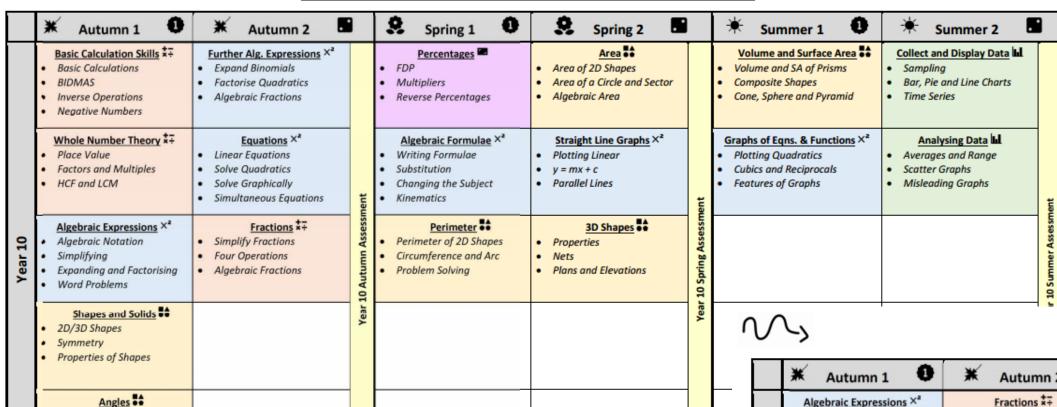
Angle Facts

Parallel Lines

Number \*=

Polygons

#### KS4 Mathematics – Learning Journey – Y10 Crossover

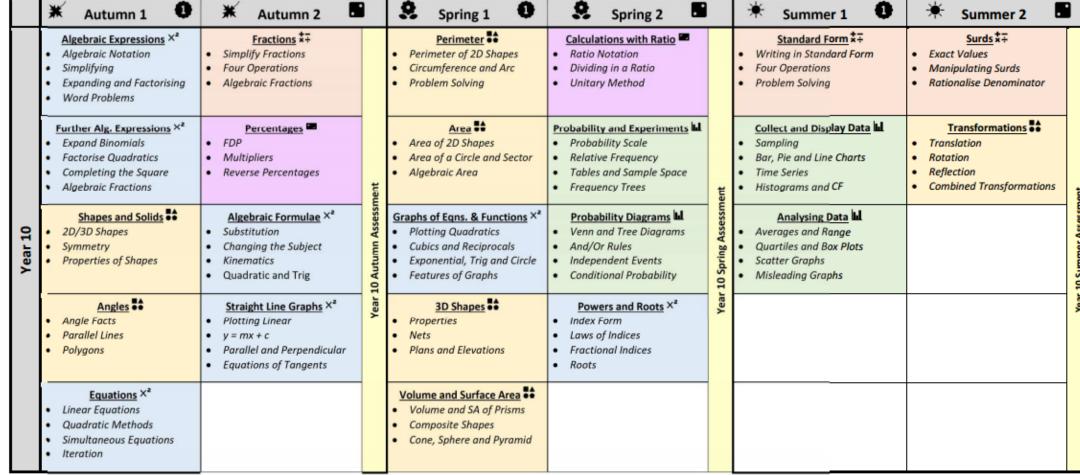


Ratio 🖾

Geometry #

Students began their KS4 journey in the Summer term of Y9. Students will now work through the Year 10 Scheme of Learning following a pathway appropriate to their targets and potential outcomes. This builds on their KS3 learning, deepening understanding and preparing for their GCSEs.

#### KS4 Mathematics – Learning Journey – Y10 Higher



Ratio E

Statistics L

Geometry :



Algebra ×2



Review &

# **Key Information**

# Tiered Entry – not decided until after Year 11 Spring Trial Exams

- Foundation Grades 5, 4, 3, 2, 1
- Higher Grades 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4

#### Three exam papers

- 1h 30mins each and 100 marks each
- One Non-Calculator paper
- Two Calculator paper

#### The Dual/Dual Plus Set

Some students have been offered the chance to sit extra qualifications in Maths. This was decided based on their ability at the End of Year 9.

Students in the 'Dual Set' study GCSE Maths and GCSE Statistics concurrently over the course of Year 10 and Year 11.

The 'Dual Plus Set' will study GCSE Maths, GCSE Statistics and Level 2 Further Mathematics concurrently over the course of Year 10 and Year 11.

All students will sit all examinations at the end of Year 11.



## **Essential Top Tips**

#### Success in Maths – how you can help your child?

Students need to come fully equipped to lessons – they need to practise with the equipment they'll have in the exam.

Key learning time is wasted if students are not properly equipped.

#### Students must have:

- Pen, pencil, ruler, purple pen
- Protractor, pair of compasses
- Scientific calculator

CASIO fx-83GT CW CASIO fx-85GT CW

CASIO fx-991 CW

- For students likely to take
A-Level Maths

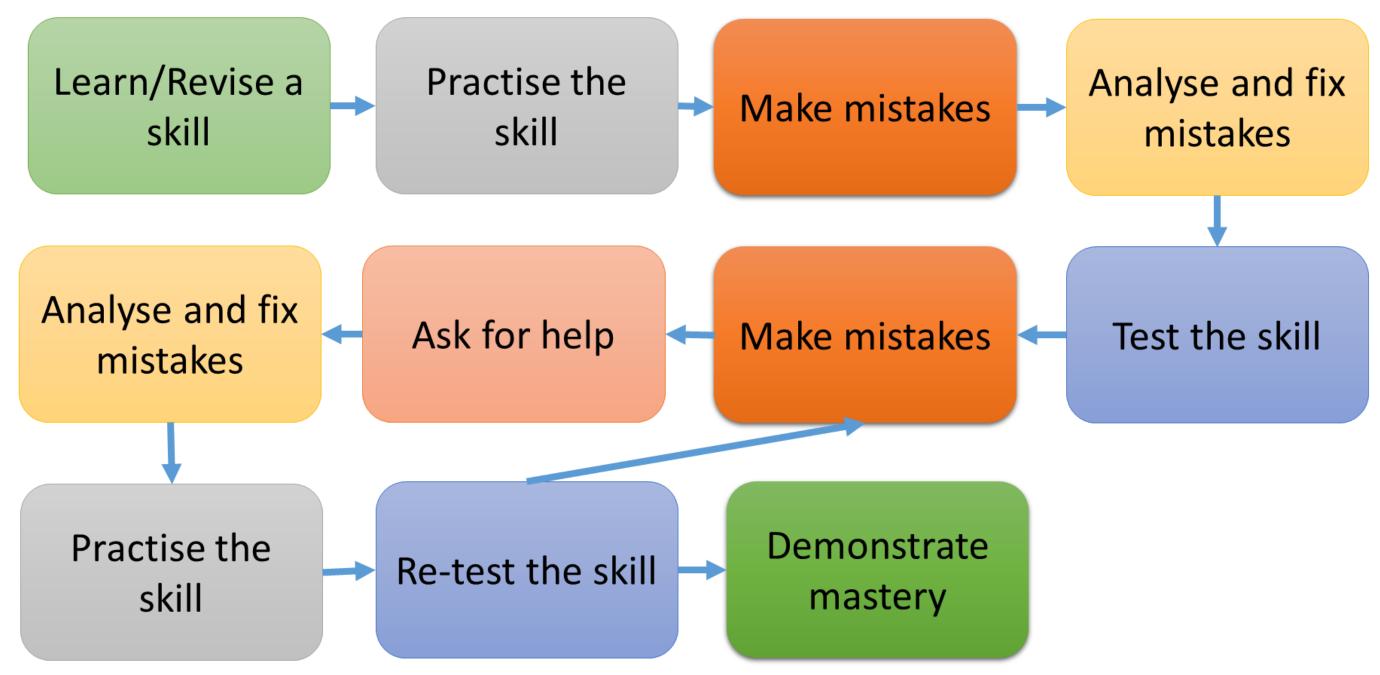
- Ask to see their homework— check the quality of it, are they putting in maximum effort? How long are they taking?
- Are there any topics they are struggling with? What are they doing about it? Have they spoken to their teacher?
- Support their **revision** prior to tests and assessments— do they have a revision list? Have they looked on MyMaths or Dr Frost to practise?
- Ensure they are doing maths practice are they doing the Corbett maths 5 a day on the days that they don't have maths? What about the weekend?





## GCSE Mathematics – Learn More, Do More

Excellent progress in Maths is developed through regular practice and resilience to overcome those barriers in understanding.



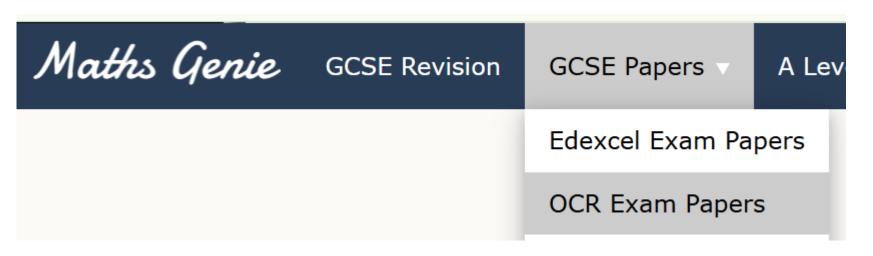


'Mathematicians aren't people who find maths easy. They're people who enjoy how hard it is'

# **Past Papers**

There are a number of places where you can access additional Past Papers online in preparation for your Autumn Mocks:

Maths Genie – PDFs of past papers for printing



On Maths – Online self-marking predicted papers



OCR 2025 June Paper 1 Foundation Prediction [J560/01]

OCR 2025 June Paper 1 Higher Prediction [J560/04]

<u>Dr Frost Maths</u> – <u>Online</u> self-marking past papers

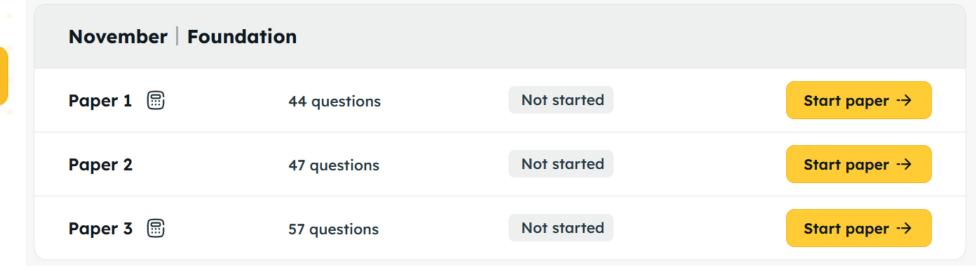
#### New Easier Access to GCSE Past Papers for Students

We've streamlined past paper practice for GCSE students with easy access, progress tracking and the ability to quickly pick up where they've left off. Share with your class to support their independent revision!



#### Past exam papers

GCSE / OCR / Mathematics 2 Change





## When You Get Stuck

When completing a past paper, there will be questions that you get stuck on – this is where the most important bit of revision happens!

- Do not just skip the question
- Do not just look up the answer in the mark scheme
- Do look through your notes/revision guides/knowledge organisers
- Do watch a video on the topic (walkthroughs are on GC for Summer Work)
- Do try similar questions
- Do ask your teacher for help in lessons or via Google Classroom

## Maths Genie GCSE Revision

#	Videos	Exam Questions	Exam Questions Booklet	Solutions
6.1	Recurring Decimals to Fractions	Exam Questions	Converting Recurring Decimals to Fractions	Solutions
6.2	Fractional and Negative Indices	Exam Questions	Fractional and Negative Indices	Solutions
6.3	The Product Rule for Counting	Exam Questions	The Product Rule for Counting	Solutions





Videos and Worksheets

Algebraic fractions: simplifying <u>Video 24</u> <u>Practice Questions</u> <u>Textbook Exercise</u>

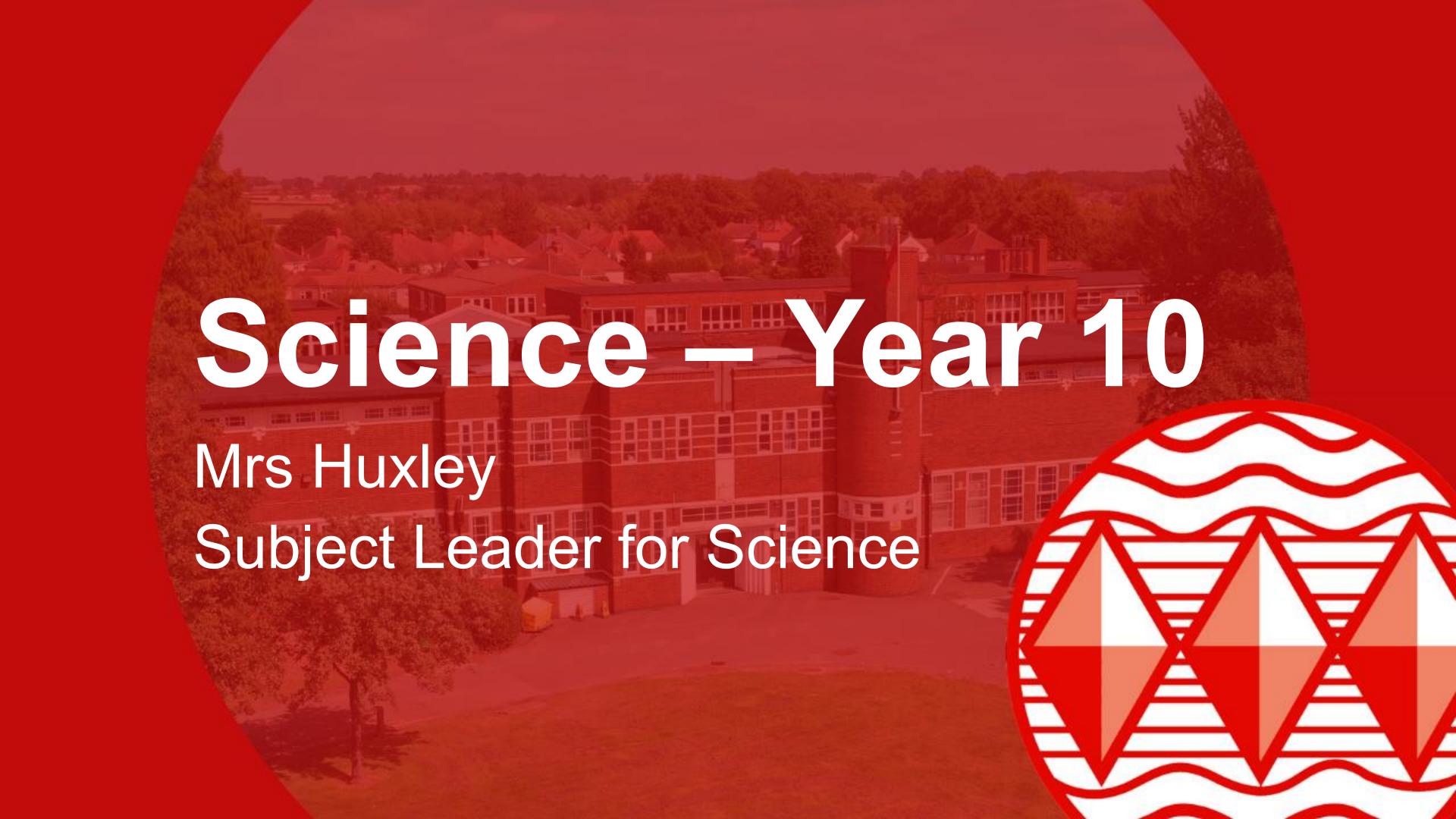
Angles: parallel lines <u>Video 25</u> <u>Practice Questions</u> <u>Textbook Exercise</u>

Angles: bearings <u>Video 26</u> <u>Practice Questions</u> <u>Textbook Exercise</u>

Angles: given bearings from two points <u>Video 27</u> <u>Practice Questions</u> <u>Textbook</u> Exercise

Angles: back bearings <u>Video 27a</u> <u>Practice Questions</u> <u>Textbook Exercise</u>

Angles: compass directions Video 27b Practice Questions





# Science qualifications

- Awarding body AQA
- GCSE Combined Science Trilogy (equivalent to 2 GCSEs)
- GCSE Biology
- GCSE Physics

GCSE Chemistry 
 — Single Sciences (equivalent to 3 GCSEs)

- Foundation and higher tier papers
- Both the Single Science and Combined Science routes allow access to all Science A-level.



## GCSE Science content

Two areas are assessed through exam papers:-

- The key ideas and concepts of Biology, Chemistry and Physics
- ➤ Working scientifically
- Practical skills will also be assessed through exam papers.
- 8 key practical tasks that students will complete per GCSE (16 for Combined Science; 24 for Single Sciences)
- 15% of marks will be based on maths skills.
- Physics equations students must be able to recall and apply in the Foundation and Higher tier paper



# Year 10 Science topics

Biology	Chemistry	Physics
Bioenergetics	Atom structure & the	Waves
Homeostasis	periodic table	Forces
Variation & inheritance	Bonding	Motion
	Organic Chemistry	
	Chemical changes &	
	electrolysis	

10.1.1 and 10.2.1 will be taught content from the Single Science GCSEs. All other groups follow the Combined Science course.



# Google classroom

Students are in a whole year group Google classroom as well as individual ones for each of their Science teachers.

- Quizzes
- Video tutorials
- Revision resources, knowledge organisers and exam checklists
- Key word definition lists
- Links to BBC Bitesize and other useful websites
- All homework will be set on Class charts



- Make sure you revise for all assessments and exams.
- Personalised Follow On Tasks based on exam question performance in mid and end of topic assessments.
- Exam question booklets that focus on exam question practice for each topic and contain model answers.
- Learn the key word definitions.
- Review content regularly using knowledge organisers.
- Ask your teacher for help if you are struggling.



# Support

- GCSE Science Revision Guides and work book
- Physics and maths tutor website
- Seneca learning website
- How to Revise Student Guide [Share point: Science/Revision Tips (KS3 & KS4)]
- GCSE Biology resources [Share point: Science/AQA Biology]
- GCSE Chemistry resources [Share point: Science/AQA Chemistry]
- GCSE Physics resources [Share point: Science/AQA Physics]







## Component 1: 1 hour and 45 minutes examination:

- Section A: respond to a Literature reading and Creative prose text through structured questions – 20%
- Section B: Prose writing: descriptive, imaginative writing task 20%

## Component 2: 2 hour examination:

- Section A: 19<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century Non-Fiction reading texts respond to structured questions 30%
- Section B: 30% Transactional, persuasive, discursive writing, 2 tasks 30%



#### **GCSE English Literature: 2 exams**

#### **Component 1: 2 hours**

• Section A: 'Macbeth' 2 essay questions

• Section B: Anthology poetry 2 essay questions (18 poems)

#### **Component 2: 2 hours and 30 minutes**

• Section A: 'An Inspector Calls' 1 essay

• Section B: 'A Christmas Carol' 1 essay

• Section C: Unseen Poems 2 essays



#### **Setting in English**

- H/Ha equal top sets (sets 1 and 2 mixed)
- M/Ma/Mb equal mid sets (sets 3 and 4 mixed)
- S support set

## **ONE TIER entry:**

(no foundation/higher papers)

## The Year Ahead:

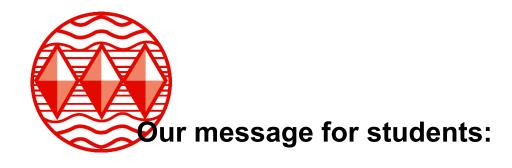
<b>EE</b>	
TERM	CONTENT
AUTUMN	English Language Component 2:
	· C19th and C20th Non-fiction Reading Study and Transactional/Persuasive Writing
	English Literature:
	· A Christmas Carol
SPRING	English Language Component 3:
	<ul> <li>Spoken Language GCSE Exam Module: Speech (Pass, Merit, Distinction)</li> </ul>
	English Language Component 2:
	<ul> <li>19th and 21st Century Non-Fiction Reading and Transactional/ Persuasive writing</li> </ul>
	English Literature:
	· Macbeth
SUMMER	Exams: Monday 13 <sup>TH</sup> April 2026 – Friday 24 <sup>TH</sup> April 2026
	English Language Component 1:
	· 20th Century Literature Reading and Creative Prose Writing
	English Literature:
	<ul> <li>Macbeth</li> </ul>
	· Anthology Poetry



- 1. Tasks based on current scheme of learning
- 2. Vocabulary and spellings tests
- 3. Knowledge Organiser self-quizzing
- 4. Independent reading especially news articles

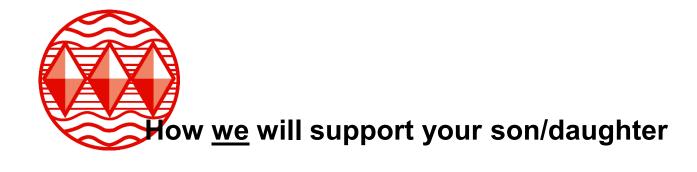
## Independent work:

- Revision for end of year exam (all Literature texts taught so far)
- Active revision of all texts to retain knowledge e.g. making cue cards/posters/learning quotations





- **√** 100% commitment at all times starting TODAY with an exemplary attitude to learning!
- ✓ **Take responsibility** for your learning: get your revision guides, complete homework to an excellent standard, create revision materials, learn your quotations, build your vocabulary bank etc.
- ✓ If you are struggling, **seek help** sooner rather than later.
- ✓ Re-read and re-read texts— **be an expert** on them!
- ✓ Revise for each mock exam/assessment. APPLY the TOP TIPS that your teacher shares with you.





- ✓ Ensure that **poor behaviour is dealt** with so every child can learn without disruption.
- ✓ Excellent lessons to help prepare students with scaffolds to support, clear Top Tips for all papers and regular recall of past learning.
- √ Knowledge Organisers and Exam Booklets for every component
- √ Home learning designed to enhance revision, support and challenge.
- ✓ Lots of EXTRA resources and information on Google Classroom.
- ✓ Intervention programme to for catch-up or targeted support.

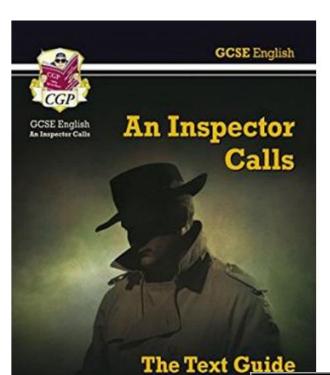




- > Check progress and have regular conversations about behaviour for learning i.e. what are the latest assessment results? What are his/her targets for improvement? How can behaviour/attitude be improved?
- > Monitor the time spent on homework and the quality of work submitted.
- > Encourage active use of revision materials e.g. GCSE Pod, CPG guides, resources on GC, topic booklets, and apps to enhance subject knowledge.
- > Get involved with their understanding of texts by **testing quotations!**
- > Encourage and enjoy your child's writing practice ('transactional' and narrative writing).
- > Encourage reading news articles, re-read of Literature texts, novels
- > Teach your child the importance of organisation i.e. meeting deadlines, keeping all notes/revision materials in labelled folder(s).



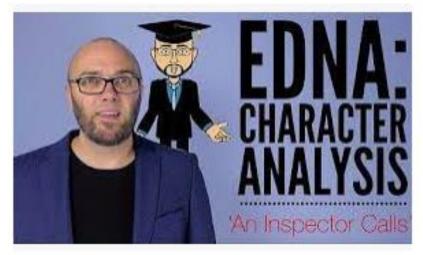
# **So many** resources out there to keep revision interesting:



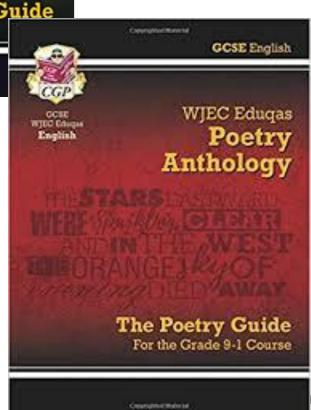


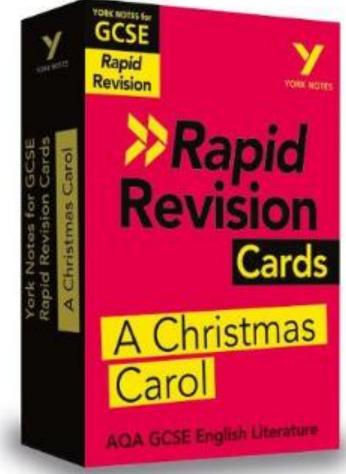


Character Analysis: Lady Macbeth - YouTube .com

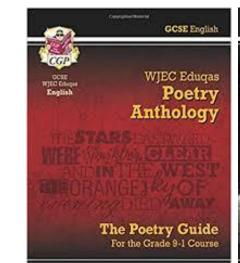


Mr Bruff - YouTube youtube.com

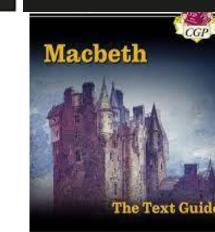


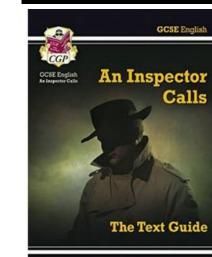


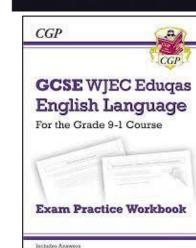












The following revision guides can be purchased as a bundle (not individually):

- An Inspector Calls
- Macbeth
- A Christmas Carol
- Eduqas Anthology Poetry (new)

If you would like to purchase these CGP Revision Guides and the Language workbook please pay £13.00 (RRP £23.80) on ParentPay (details to be sent out via email next week)



Thank you for joining us!

We look forward to working with you this year!

Have a safe journey home!