

English

In Y10&11 students follow the AQA specifications for English Language and English Literature. This includes the study of a Shakespeare play, 19th century prose, a modern drama/novel, selected poetry and various non-fiction texts. Students must develop writing skills over several genres, notably literary criticism as well as descriptive/narrative. Finally, they will be assessed on Spoken Language, a requirement of the course though this does not contribute to their overall GCSE grades. Final assessment is as follows:

English Language

Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing	Paper 2: Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives	Non-examination Assessment – Spoken Language
Exam – 1 hour 45 mins 50% of GCSE	Exam – 1 hour 45 mins 50% of GCSE	Teacher set task. Marked by teacher. Separate endorsement - 0% of GCSE
Section A: Reading - one literature fiction text Section B: Writing - descriptive or narrative writing	Section A: Reading - one non-fiction text and one literary non-fiction text Section B: Writing - writing to present a viewpoint	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • presenting • responding to questions and feedback • use of Standard English

English Literature

Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th century novel	Paper 2: Modern texts and poetry
Exam – 1 hour 45 mins - 40% of GCSE	Exam – 2 hours 15 mins - 60% of GCSE
Section A: Shakespeare one question on a play studied in class (extract-based question). Section B: 19th-century novel one question on a text studied in class (extract-based question).	Section A: Modern texts one essay question from a choice of two on their studied prose/drama text. Section B: Poetry one comparative question based on poems studied in class. Section C: Unseen Poetry one question on one unseen poem then one question comparing this with a second unseen poem.

As expected, homework for KS4 will focus on developing skills which will not only improve their English standards, but will also best prepare them for the examinations they will face at the end of Y11

Maths

Students in years 10 and 11 follow a scheme of work based upon the Edexcel GCSE specification (Edexcel GCSE Mathematics (9-1) 1MA1). This is a linear GCSE course and students will take all examinations in year 11; there is no controlled assessment or coursework in the Mathematics course. There are two levels of entry at GCSE, Higher and Foundation, Grades 4 to 9 can be awarded from the Higher Tier and grades 1 to 5 can be awarded from the Foundation Tier. As far as is reasonably possible we enter students for the Higher Tier however where we feel that it best suits an individual they will be entered for the Foundation Tier. Compared to key stage 3, key stage 4 adds an extra emphasis on the ability to use and apply Mathematics to solve problems in the examination papers.

There are three examinations, all must be taken at the same tier. Paper 1 is a non-calculator assessment and a calculator is allowed for Paper 2 and Paper 3. Each paper is 1 hour and 30 minutes long, and each paper has 80 marks. Each paper will cover all Assessment Objectives, in the percentages outlined below:

	Foundation	Higher
Number	22 - 28%	12 - 18%
Algebra	17 - 23%	27 - 33%
Ratio, Proportion and Rates of change	22 - 28%	17 - 23%
Geometry and Measures	12 - 18%	17 - 23%
Statistics & Probability	12 - 18%	17 - 23%

Each paper has a range of question types; some questions will be set in both mathematical and non-mathematical contexts.

Internal assessments take place throughout the year to prepare for these final examinations. The progress of students is closely monitored, and movement between sets may take place when appropriate.

Revision sessions are held in the lead up to the terminal exams in Year 11. Extensive revision materials are available on our website.

Tutoring and support is available throughout the year in the Maths workshop in M6 every lunchtime and after school Tuesday – Friday. There is a breakfast club for students aiming for A*.

Students should expect to receive written and MYMATHS homework tasks each week.

Science

Students in Y9, 10 and 11 follow the AQA suite of science qualifications, specifically the combined science option (Trilogy), alongside the separate science options.

Combined science students have 10 lessons of science per fortnight. Each class has three lessons of each specialism and then an assessment lesson over the two-week cycle. The final assessment is through 6 exams (2 in each of Biology, Chemistry and Physics) each lasting 1 ¼ hours with 70 marks available on each. Each exam is available at foundation and higher tier and a mix of tiers can be taken. Each exam is worth 16.7% of a GCSE. In these examinations, students are tested on the content below as well as the 8 required practicals they will have carried out in each subject during the two-year period of study. Questions in these exams can be multiple choice, structured, closed short answer or open response. Students earn two GCSEs based on their performance across these elements

Biology Paper 1	Cell Biology; Organisation; Infection and response; and Bioenergetics.
Biology Paper 2	Homeostasis and response; Inheritance, variation and evolution; and Ecology.
Chemistry Paper 1	Atomic structure and the periodic table; Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter; Quantitative chemistry; Chemical changes; and Energy changes.
Chemistry Paper 2	The rate and extent of chemical change; Organic chemistry; Chemical analysis; Chemistry of the atmosphere; and Using resources.
Physics Paper 1:	Energy; Electricity; Particle model of matter; and Atomic structure.
Physics Paper 2:	Forces; Waves; and Magnetism and electromagnetism

Triple science students have 15 lessons of science per fortnight. Each class has five lessons of each specialism over the two-week cycle. The final assessment is through 6 exams (2 in each of Biology, Chemistry and Physics) each lasting 1 ¾ hours with 100 marks available on each. Each exam is available at foundation and higher tier and a mix of tiers can be taken. Each exam is worth 50% of a GCSE. In these examinations, students will be tested on the content above as well as the 10 required practicals they will have carried in each subject during the two-year period of study. Questions in these exams can be multiple choice, structured, closed short answer or open response. Students will be awarded three separate and independent GCSE grades.

Homework for all students is a mixture on online questions (from Educake) and exam question practise.