

Year 10 Curriculum evening 2016

All students embarking on the second of a three-year Key Stage 4 (Years 9-11) should be extremely conscious of the fact that they have only five terms left until their exams in the Summer of 2018. Students who have worked consistently for the past 12 months will be able to build on the firm foundation they have created. For others who may reflect on Year 9 and think they could have done more, the time to give of their best, is now.

As you will know the Government have raised the bar in respect of the demands placed on all students and this year group are only the second to sit the new English and mathematics exams and the first to sit many of the new exams in other subject areas. For guidance students should be working for 2 ½ hours per evening on home learning, research, revision and planning.

Mathematics is much larger, more 'challenging' in terms of content, has more emphasis on solving problems that require multi-step solutions, includes new topics such as ratio and proportions and students are expected to learn key mathematical formulae by heart.

All students will be entered for English Language and Literature. They will be expected to read 'a wide range of texts' with a greater emphasis on accurate use of spelling, punctuation and grammar as well as coping with unseen texts as a part of the new requirement in Literature.

Lessons and qualifications

	Number of lessons per year		Qualifications
	Year 10	Year 11	
Mathematics	5	4	1
English	4	5	2
Science	6	6	2 or 3*
4 Preferences	12	12	4
Philosophy & Ethics	1	1	1
Physical Education	2	2	*
PSHCEE	1	1	.-.
	Total		11*

*All students have the opportunity to pass a Sports Leadership Award, a NGB award and a First Aid award in Physical Education lessons.

Grades and styles of qualifications

GCSEs will be graded from nine to one, replacing A*-to-G grades

- Grade 9 will be highest
- The top three grades (9, 8 and 7) will replace the current top two (A* and A), with the top 20% of those being graded 9.
- **Grade 5**, equivalent to the current low B or high C is regarded as a 'good pass'
- Grade 4 will be equivalent to current low C grade
- Grade 1 will be lowest

BTEC

- Have the same currency as GCSE's
- Allow for a modular and more linear pathway
- Regular points of reference and deadlines to submit work throughout the course plus an exam worth 25% of the final mark
- Level 2 courses, equivalent to 2 GCSE grades are available in all BTEC courses
- Pathway to further education is positive

The full curriculum booklet and this evenings presentation is available via the school website under the Parents tab.

Assessment, recording and reporting.

Supporting the key stage 4 examination changes we have made changes to how and what we report home to parents. In line with other schools nationally we will be reporting home **three** times in the year.

Towards the end of each term you will receive information on attainment, behaviour, engagement and home learning. Year 10 will have an exam week in the summer term and the outcomes of these exams will be reported to parents. The outcomes will contribute towards predicted grades in Year 11.

There will continue to be review days and parent teacher consultation opportunities; in addition, you may be contacted by your child's subject tutor or form tutor if there are any concerns.

2 nd November 2016	Year 10 (Band B) Parents' Evening
10 th November 2016	Year 10 (Band A) Parents' Evening
17 th November 2016	Student Review Day 1
14 th December 2016	Progress Check 1 'goes live'
8 th February 2017	Student Review Day 2
2 nd March 2017	Year 10 UK Maths Challenge
8 th March 2017	Progress Check 2 'goes live'
20 th – 29 th June 2017	Year 10 Practice Examinations
30 th June 2017	Preparing for Future Opportunities (PFO) Day
3 rd July 2017	Work experience begins
13 th July 2017	Student Review Day 3

Helpful websites for the Core subjects

English

GCSE English Language – Eduqas

25% VSPaG (Vocabulary, Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar)

Paper 1: 20th Century Fiction 40%

Paper 2: 21st Century and 19th Century Non-fiction 60%

*Speaking and Listening is compulsory, but unweighted. Both papers test students' reading and writing skills.

GCSE English Literature –AQA

Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th century novel

Paper 2: Modern Novel or drama, AQA poetry Anthology, Unseen poetry.

BBC Bitesize and BBC Learning Zone are particularly useful for English Literature as is EMC poetry.

http://www.literacytrust.org.uk/schools_teaching?gclid=CK3awZe33ccCFasEwwodZl4JPw

<http://www.thechildrensbookreview.com/weblog/2010/07/20-sites-to-improve-your-childs-literacy.html>

Mathematics

3 terminal examinations in June 2019 at higher level or foundation level.

mymaths

Edexcel GCSE (9-1) Higher Pearson ISBN 978-1-4479-8020-9

Username : park high

Password : triangle

Edexcel GCSE (9-1) Foundation Pearson ISBN 978-1-4479-8019-3

Science

BBC news: Science and Health tabs

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news>

BBC: iWonder

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/iwonder>

NHS choices: science behind the headlines:

<http://www.nhs.uk/News/Pages/NewsIndex.aspx>

Kerbooble

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/levels/z98jmp3>

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