



KENSINGTON  
PARK  
SCHOOL



# GCSE SUBJECTS

2024 - 2025

# ART, CRAFT & DESIGN

SUBJECT: Art, Craft & Design

EXAM BOARD: AQA

COURSE CODE: 8201

GCSE/IGCSE? GCSE

EXAMINATION VS ASSESSMENT/NEA  
WEIGHTING:

60% coursework  
40% examination  
(1) exam in total

## COURSE CONTENT

If you enjoy being creative, want to increase your practical skills, and improve your analytical, communication and research abilities, art and design is a great choice. It is a way of seeing things and making sense of the world around you. It can help you with further study and prepare you for the world of work.

### Component 1: Coursework Portfolio (60%)

This is a sustained project, responding to a theme set by the school which evidences the journey from initial engagement to the realisation of intentions. As well as practical work, this portfolio must demonstrate the research and critical study of artists which connect with the chosen area of study.

### Component 2: Exam (40%)

This is a shorter project, where students respond to starting point from an externally set paper. A preparatory period is then followed by 10 hours of supervised time in which to create a final outcome.

Students' coursework and exam portfolios will be assessed using the following assessment objectives:

- **AO1 (25%):** develop ideas through investigations, demonstrating critical understanding of sources.
- **AO2 (25%):** refine work by exploring ideas, selecting and experimenting with appropriate media, materials, techniques and processes.
- **AO3 (25%):** record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions and demonstrate understanding of visual language.
- **AO4 (25%):** present a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and demonstrates understanding of visual language.



## HOMEWORK AND EXTENSION TASKS

Students will be responsible in working from and keeping up with a list of objectives and outcomes provided to them in a checklist format at the start of their GCSE course.

Written and verbal feedback is provided informally during each lesson and formally every half term to promote progress.

## HOW TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILD

Encouraging students to work outside of class to develop their portfolio by recording through drawing and photography as well as visiting further galleries/locations to expand their project.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The skills you gain in Art, Craft, and Design make it a great complement to other subjects. You will develop problem solving, creative thinking, investigation, research, communication and teamwork skills, and gain the ability to develop, refine and present ideas. You will also be able to explore different approaches to art and use lots of different media, techniques and materials. Additional support is provided outside of lessons where students can benefit from both teacher and peer support. After school Art Club is compulsory for all GCSE students.

Alongside improving your practical expertise, you'll learn how to:

- Develop, refine and record your ideas
- Present a personal response that realises your intentions

- Improve your creative skills through the effective and safe use of media, materials, techniques, processes and technologies.
- Successfully use visual language and the formal elements e.g. colour, line, form, shape, tone, texture.
- Use drawing skills for different needs and purposes.



# BIOLOGY

**SUBJECT:** Biology

**EXAM BOARD:** Edexcel

**COURSE CODE:** 4BI1

**GCSE/IGCSE?** IGCSE

**EXAMINATION VS ASSESSMENT/NEA WEIGHTING:**

100% examination:  
Paper 1: 110 marks  
Paper 2: 70 marks

## COURSE CONTENT

The course is split into five topics, some of which have already been taught in Year 9. The first two topics cover the variety of living things on earth and how the structure of a living organism (different cell types, tissues and organs) allows them to function. You will learn how to sample cells from different living things and observe them through the microscope before learning to recognise different cell types by identifying key defining features. You will also study the importance of different biological molecules such as carbohydrates and proteins as well as a topic on plant Physiology. The two topics towards the end of the course focus on biology on a larger scale. First we study the interactions between organisms and the rules which govern ecology. Finally, we look at how the use of biological resources in fields such as biotechnology, conservation and food production can impact our environment.

### Year 10

#### Topic 1: Structures and Functions in Living Organisms

- Gas exchange
- Excretion

- Homoeostasis
- Coordination and response

#### Topic 2: Reproduction and Inheritance

- Sexual reproduction in humans
- Sexual reproduction in plants

#### Topic 3: Ecology and the Environment

- The organism in the environment
- Feeding relationships
- Cycles with ecosystems
- Human influences on the environment



### Year 11

#### Topic 1: The nature and variety of living organisms

- Variety of living organisms

#### Topic 2: Use of Biological Resources

- Food production
- Selective breeding
- Genetic engineering
- Cloning

## HOMEWORK AND EXTENSION TASKS

Homework will be set weekly and is varied in format. It gives either an opportunity to practise a recently learned skill (such as calculations relevant to a key practical) or to pre learn new course content ahead of a lesson. Being able to answer exam questions appropriately is key to success in the subject so practise exam questions are also used regularly in homework activities.

## HOW TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILD

Pupils use exercise books to take notes in class and student sheets for information. The E Book and CGP practise question books are provided as part of the course and provide a bank of exam style questions.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The course content will be supplemented with the learning of key practical and investigation skills to equip you as a competent scientist. The ability to plan, carry out, analyse and evaluate a full investigation are a requirement of the course and will be assessed in the examinations. The course, therefore, is largely practical based, with several opportunities to use laboratory equipment and learn how to use it. The course content will be supplemented with the learning of key practical and investigation skills to equip you as a competent scientist.

The ability to plan, carry out, analyse and evaluate a full investigation are a requirement of the course and will be assessed in the examinations. The course, therefore, is largely practical based, with several opportunities to use laboratory equipment and learn how to use it. Course notes will be accessed and edited on your computer so that a bank of digital resources are built up over the two years. This also makes it very easy for pupils to catch up missed lessons or access notes from previous topics. Extended written work and homework is completed in your exercise book.

A Biology IGCSE gives you access to a wide variety of careers in the biosciences such as medicine, engineering, sports and research.





# BUSINESS

**SUBJECT:** Business

**EXAM BOARD:** Edexcel

**COURSE CODE:** 1BS0

**GCSE/IGCSE?** GCSE

**EXAMINATION VS ASSESSMENT/NEA WEIGHTING:**

100% examination:  
Examination 1: 90 marks  
Examination 2: 90 marks

## COURSE CONTENT

### Component 1

Component 1 concentrates on the key business concepts, issues, and skills involved in starting and running a small business. It provides a framework for students to explore core concepts through the lens of an entrepreneur setting up a business. In this theme, students will be introduced to local and national business contexts and will develop an understanding of how these contexts impact business behaviour and decisions.

Local contexts refer specifically to small businesses or those operating in a single UK location and national contexts relate to businesses operating in more than one location or across the UK. Students must develop an understanding of the

interdependent nature of business activity through interactions between business operations, finance, marketing and human resources, as well as the relationship between the business and the environment in which it operates. Students must understand how these interdependencies and relationships underpin business decisions.

### Component 2

Component 2 examines how a business develops beyond the start-up phase. In this theme, students will be introduced to both national and global business contexts and develop an understanding of how these contexts impact planning and growth.

National contexts build on those in Component 1 and relate to businesses operating in more than one location or across the UK. Global contexts relate to non-UK or transnational businesses. Students must develop an understanding of the interdependent nature of business activity through interactions between business operations, finance, marketing, and human resources, as well as the relationship between the business and the environment in which it operates.



## HOMEWORK AND EXTENSION TASKS

Homework is set once a week and is usually based on examination practice. Students sit a progress test every half-term.

## HOW TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILD

- Create a consistent study routine and a quiet study area at home.
- Help your child gather the necessary study resources like textbooks and past papers.
- Engage in conversations about business concepts to reinforce their understanding.
- Assist with research on business topics and real-life examples.
- Practice exam-style questions to get together and provide constructive feedback.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Students will gain a comprehensive understanding of business concepts, terminology, and objectives, as well as the

interconnectedness of various business activities and their impact on individuals and society.

They will learn to analyse and address contemporary business issues in diverse contexts, including local, national, and global settings, while developing an entrepreneurial mindset that fosters commercial and creative thinking.

Critical thinking and investigative skills will be emphasised, enabling students to construct well-reasoned arguments based on evidence. The curriculum will also focus on quantitative skills, equipping students to effectively interpret data for informed decision-making.

By engaging with different business sizes and types, students will understand how contextual factors influence behaviour and decision-making processes across operations, finance, marketing, and human resources.

Ultimately, they will learn to evaluate business opportunities and challenges, making justified decisions using both qualitative and quantitative data and application of quantitative skills relevant to business. Students will learn to use and interpret data effectively, which will aid them in decision-making processes.





# CLASSICAL CIVILISATION

**SUBJECT:**  
Classical Civilisation

**EXAM BOARD:** GCSE

**COURSE CODE:** (9-1) – J199

**GCSE/IGCSE?** GCSE

**EXAMINATION VS ASSESSMENT/NEA  
WEIGHTING:**

100% examination:  
Component 1: 50%  
Component 2: 50%

## COURSE CONTENT

Throughout the course, students study both literary and visual/material culture from ancient Greece and Rome in order to develop an understanding of the cultural, historical, and social context. They will gain the analytical and critical skills that are used to interpret many different kinds of evidence, in order to present their thoughts clearly and effectively. Students are encouraged to develop their own opinions and interpretations of the material, providing a level of freedom throughout the course.

The modules are designed to work comparatively, showing the similarities, the differences, and the connections between the two ancient civilisations. Throughout the curriculum the students also learn to appreciate the influence of the classics on specific works in modern literature, art, and culture.

### Component 1: Myth and Religion

In Year 10, students study both the mythology and religion of the ancient Greeks and Romans, which enables them to focus in on aspects of the ancient world that may have initially interested them before they took the course.

This module is totally comparative and showcases the similarities and differences between the two civilisations.

### Component 2: The Homeric World

The Homeric World encapsulates both The Odyssey and study of the ancient Mycenaean World, which is thought to have been the cultural context behind it. Students study the Mycenaeans through their cultural artefacts. They always enjoy getting to know the civilisation by studying its pottery, jewellery, trade evidence and linear B tablets.

## HOMEWORK AND EXTENSION TASKS

Homework for Classical Civilisation is often based upon whichever topic is being covered in lessons at the time. This may take the form of flipped learning, where students research topic fully before a lesson, in order to better understand it themselves. It may also take the form of essays, as these play a vital role in the assessment. These are aimed at developing analytical skills and utilising a detailed level of knowledge, which are fundamental to success in the examination.

Sometimes homework can be more fun, such as watching an Assassin's Creed Odyssey walk through video, to support learning about the Mycenaean World.

## HOW TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILD

An important way to further support the study of Classics is by reading complete ancient works in translation. Alternatively, you can support your child by watching videos and listening to audiobooks or podcasts about the texts themselves, or other related classical subjects. Another key way to increase interest in the subject is with direct contact, by visiting all that London's theatres and galleries have to offer in connection with the ancient civilisations. There are, for instance, regular museum events around London that relate to the subject.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The Classical Civilisation course is an excellent entryway into the fascinating worlds of ancient Greece and Rome. Its parallel focus on Greece and Rome supplies the student with comparative skills and allows for a greater appreciation of the influence of ancient culture on our modern world.

The study of ancient culture is an incredible opportunity to observe the development of ideas across the history of humanity: from poetry and drama to mathematics and philosophy, ancient Greece has a lasting impact on today's world; the ability to see and appreciate this impact is a gift that will last a lifetime.





# COMPUTER SCIENCE

**SUBJECT:**  
Computer Science

**EXAM BOARD:** OCR  
**COURSE CODE:** J277  
**GCSE/IGCSE?** GCSE

**EXAMINATION VS ASSESSMENT/NEA  
WEIGHTING:**

100% examination:  
Component 1: 50%  
Component 2: 50%

## COURSE CONTENT

The Computer Science course is split into Computer Systems (50%) and Computational thinking, algorithms and programming (50%).

### Component 1: Computer Systems

In the Computer Systems unit students learn about the central processing unit (CPU), computer memory and storage, data representation, wired and wireless networks, network topologies, system security and system software. It also looks at ethical, legal, cultural and environmental concerns associated with computer science.

### Component 2: Computational Thinking, Algorithms and Programming

In the Computational Thinking, Algorithms and Programming unit, students apply knowledge and understanding gained in unit 1. They develop skills and understanding in computational thinking: algorithms, programming techniques, producing robust programs, computational logic and translators. Students are to be given the opportunity to undertake a programming project during their course of study which

allows them to develop their skills to design, write, test and refine programs using a high-level programming language. Students will be assessed on these skills during the written examinations.

## HOMEWORK AND EXTENSION TASKS

Computing homework is designed to consolidate students' knowledge, and broaden their understanding of the content. Students are assigned worksheets and glossaries to complete, videos to watch, and research to do. Many of the worksheets are based on exam-style questions. Students are expected to spend one to two hours per week on homework.



## HOW TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILD

Students may wish to purchase the GCSE OCR Computer Science: Illustrated Revision and Practice textbook.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Computer Science GCSE has a strong focus on systems architecture, data representation, logic, networks and programming. The skills they will master include project management and critical thinking. Whether students study Computer Science at A level/university or choose a different path, the knowledge and skills they will learn during Computer Science GCSE classes will equip them to succeed in the future.





# ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

**SUBJECT:** English Language and Literature

**EXAM BOARD:** Pearson Edexcel

**COURSE CODE:** 4EA1/4ET1

**GCSE/IGCSE?** IGCSE

**EXAMINATION VS ASSESSMENT/NEA WEIGHTING:**

Both English Language and Literature are assessed through examination route only, sitting two papers for each.

## COURSE CONTENT

### Year 1

#### Literature

- Of Mice and Men
- Comparative Poetry through the set of Pearson
- Anthology of Poetry
- Unseen Poetry

#### Language

- Language Paper 1: Non-Fiction Reading Extracts
- Transactional Writing

### Year 2

#### Literature

- An Inspector Calls
- Romeo and Juliet

#### Language

- Language Paper 2: Poetry and Prose texts
- Imaginative Writing

## HOMEWORK AND EXTENSION TASKS

Students should be set one homework task a week that takes a minimum of 40 minutes to complete.



## HOW TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILD

Parents can support their children in a range of ways throughout their time studying English Language and Literature.

Encouraging your children to read their set texts prior to teaching is a great way to develop a deep understanding of the literature we are studying. Supporting your children in completing practice questions and papers too is enormously beneficial in examination seasons.

Available productions that are not offered on the course can also be a powerful teaching tool. For example, both the Globe Theatre and the National Theatre offer regular occasions to attend a production of Shakespeare.

These are just a few suggestions but please do talk to your children's teacher who would be more than happy to provide a list of activities that can be done to support learning at home.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Students will develop an array of skills through the study of literature and language such as: critical thinking skills, communication skills in reading, writing and speaking, essay writing skills, research skills, amongst others. The study of English opens doors to a plethora of other subjects such as History, Sociology, Psychology, Media Studies, Classical Civilisation, or Art.

Universities like to see subjects grouped together rather than randomly selected and therefore if you are looking to study English at A level, choosing one History based subject and an 'ology' would create a complimentary route.





# FRENCH

SUBJECT: French

EXAM BOARD: AQA

COURSE CODE: 8652

GCSE/IGCSE? GCSE

EXAMINATION VS ASSESSMENT/NEA  
WEIGHTING:

4 papers; 25% each.  
Listening, Speaking, Reading,  
Writing

## COURSE CONTENT

Over the course of two years, the AQA GCSE programme provides students with the chance to fully develop their French language abilities, building a foundation of knowledge and confidence that they can apply both in school and in their daily lives.

The assessments are designed to be straightforward and accessible while differentiating skill levels effectively. The curriculum is both engaging and relevant, covering three main topics: People and Lifestyle, Popular Culture, as well as Communication and the World Around Us. Each theme branches into various subtopics, including areas like personal identity, relationships, maintaining a healthy lifestyle, cultural festivals, and travel, among others. This course is not only aimed at equipping students for the GCSE exam but also at fostering strong linguistic skills.

Pursuing French at the GCSE level enables students to deepen their understanding of French grammar while exploring cultural elements from France and other Francophone regions. They will learn how holidays like Christmas and Easter are observed in these cultures, and gain insight into contemporary issues. In today's world, acquiring a second language is increasingly valuable and can open doors in future career paths.

### Component 1 : People and Lifestyle

- Identity and Relationships with Others
- Healthy Living and Lifestyle
- Education and Work

### Component 2 : Popular Culture

- Free-time Activities
- Customs, Festivals, and Celebrations
- Celebrity Culture

### Component 3 : Communication and the World Around Us

- Travel and Tourism, including places of interest
- Media and technology
- The environment and where people live



## HOMEWORK AND EXTENSION TASKS

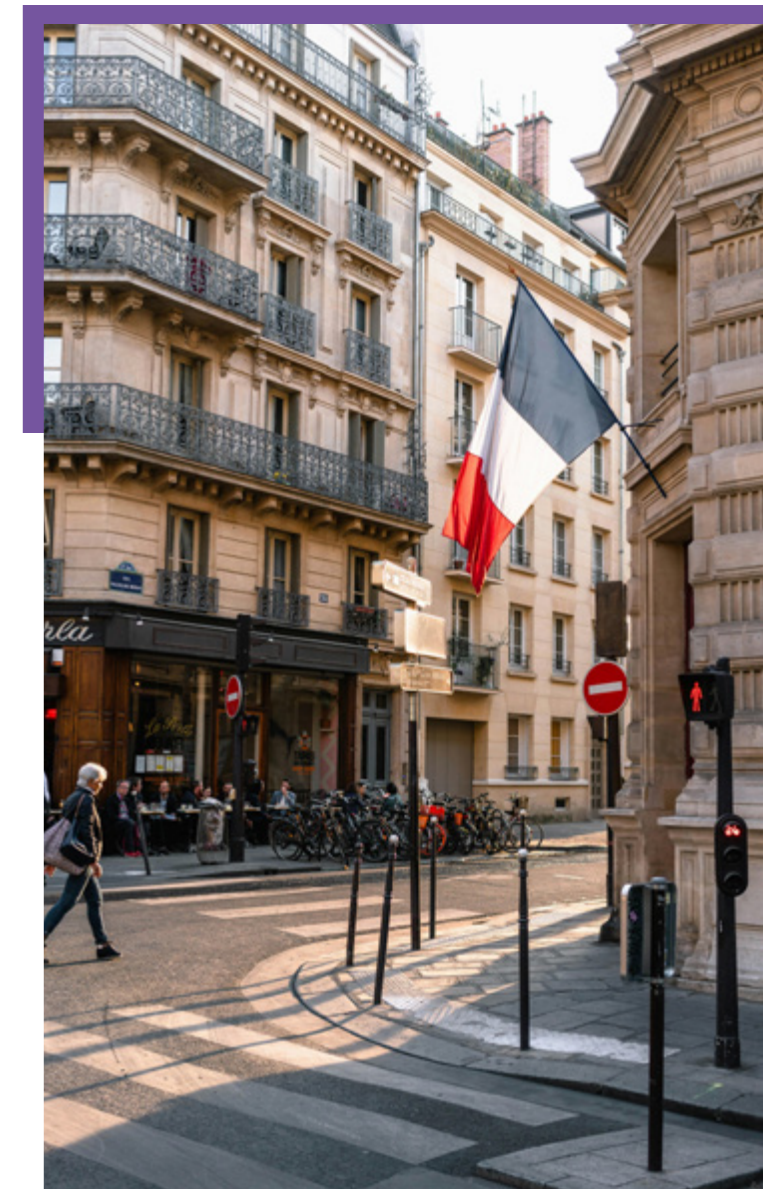
Homework is set once a week and should approximately take 40 minutes. It will be a mix of reading, writing, listening skills and translation activities. This can also include cultural projects.

## HOW TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILD

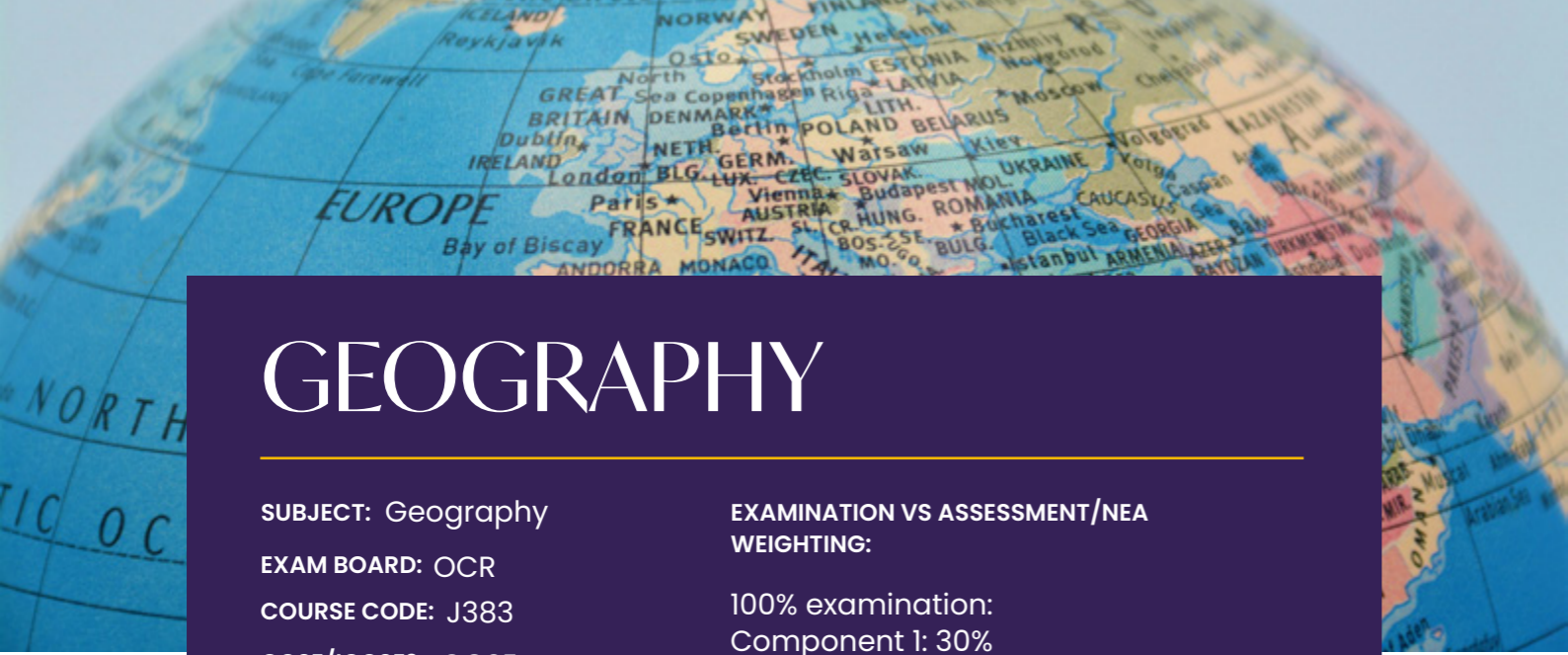
To support your child during this course, you can quiz them on vocabulary and grammar concepts. You can also make dictations which will help them with French spelling and accents. Encourage them to use language apps such as Quizlet and Memrise that are largely used for both GCSE and A level.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The French GCSE exam is divided in four skills: reading, writing, listening and speaking. Each skill is worth 25% in the exam. All the skills are assessed in each end of unit test, so that the students familiarise themselves with the exam.







# GEOGRAPHY

**SUBJECT:** Geography

**EXAM BOARD:** OCR

**COURSE CODE:** J383

**GCSE/IGCSE?** GCSE

**EXAMINATION VS ASSESSMENT/NEA WEIGHTING:**

100% examination:  
Component 1: 30%  
Component 2: 30%  
Component 3: 40%

## COURSE CONTENT

### Year 1

This component investigates the dynamic and diverse geography of the UK.

It draws on a range of themes to explore the changing but distinctive physical and human environments, the processes which drive them and the challenges they create. The content is divided into three themes exploring landscapes of the UK, the UK's economic development and the people who live in the UK, and some of the environmental challenges that the country faces.

### Landscapes of the UK

The UK has a very distinct natural landscape which has been shaped over millions of years by a core set of geomorphic processes.

This theme gives learners an understanding of the physical geography of the UK, its key landscapes and the geomorphic processes which have driven the changes to UK landscapes. Case studies will be used to contextualise how climate, geology and human activity work in combination with geomorphic processes to shape two landscapes in the UK.

### People of the UK

The UK has a unique position within the world, with complex global interconnections. The history of the UK has influenced its current political and economic power on a global scale and has produced a rich culture, contributed to by a number of ethnicities. This theme should develop an appreciation of the changes within UK society, its population and development. Case studies will be used to investigate the growth and/or decline of a place or region and to examine the character of a city in the UK, including the ways of life of the people who live in it.

### UK Environmental Challenges

The UK faces many challenges through people's interaction with the physical environment and the use of resources. This theme investigates some of the environmental challenges faced by the UK. Learners will look at extreme weather events in the UK, particularly the links between extreme weather conditions and flooding. Learners will develop an understanding of the factors affecting the UK's energy use and security, the decision makers involved, as well as sustainability and management.

### Year 2

This component explores the complexities of the planet and the interconnections that take place. It draws on a range of themes to examine the changing, dynamic nature of physical and human environments, the role of decision makers and the sustainable nature and management of these environments. The content is divided into three themes exploring ecosystems of the planet, global development and the people who live on the planet, and some of the environmental challenges that the world faces.

The course is in three sections: the UK, the Planet and Geographical Skills. The UK module covers the physical landscapes of the country, including coastal landscapes and river processes; the causes and consequences of a changing UK population, as well as a detailed study of life in London; and environmental challenges ranging from extreme weather events to using our natural resources sustainably.

The planet module looks at various ecosystems around the world, with a focus on tropical rainforests and coral reefs; development variations across the globe, with a detailed case study of Ethiopia; and environmental threats to the planet, from climate change to natural weather hazards such as drought.

There is also a module in geographical skills and fieldwork, which includes both human and physical geography Investigations.

## HOMEWORK AND EXTENSION TASKS

To build on what is discussed in lessons, homework usually involves practice questions and reading recent news articles showing how the topics covered relate to real world events.

## HOW TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILD

Watching, reading and discussing the news puts their studies at school into context. Students are frequently surprised to discover that what we study on the course occurs in real life.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The geography course is very contemporary and relates to everyday life, both in the UK and around the globe, helping you understand the world in which you live.

The broad range of topics explored means that it supports your studies in science and arts subjects. Building your understanding of the wider world around you is useful for a variety of future careers, including working in international development, travel, and environmental and sustainable work.







# HISTORY

**SUBJECT:** History

**EXAM BOARD:** CIE

**COURSE CODE:** 0977

**GCSE/IGCSE?** IGCSE

**EXAMINATION VS ASSESSMENT/NEA WEIGHTING:**

100% examination:

Paper 1: 60 marks

Paper 2: 40 marks

Paper 3: 40 marks

## COURSE CONTENT

### Year 1

#### 20th Century International Relations from 1919: Pre-WWII

- Was the Treaty of Versailles fair?
- To what extent was the League of Nations a success?
- How much is Hitler's foreign policy to blame for the outbreak of war in Europe in 1939?

#### 20th Century International Relations from 1919: Cold War

- Who was to blame for the Cold War?
- How effectively did the United States contain the spread of communism?
- How secure was the USSR's control over Eastern Europe, c.1948–1989?

### Year 2

#### Depth Study: Germany 1918-1945

- Was the Weimar Republic doomed from the start?
- Why was Hitler able to dominate Germany by 1934?
- The Nazi regime
- How effectively did the Nazis control Germany from 1933–1945?

Please note that the order in which the topics are taught across the two years is dependent on the focus of Paper 2. Students may study the Depth Study in Year 10 and complete Core Content in Year 11. This is interchangeable and the teacher will choose accordingly.

## HOMEWORK AND EXTENSION TASKS

The tasks are targeted at developing the students' skills to reach substantiated judgments regarding the historical events taught as well as to guide them through the process of interpreting and contextualising sources.

Students should expect a range of past paper questions, source analysis as well as research opportunities to further their understanding of the content covered.

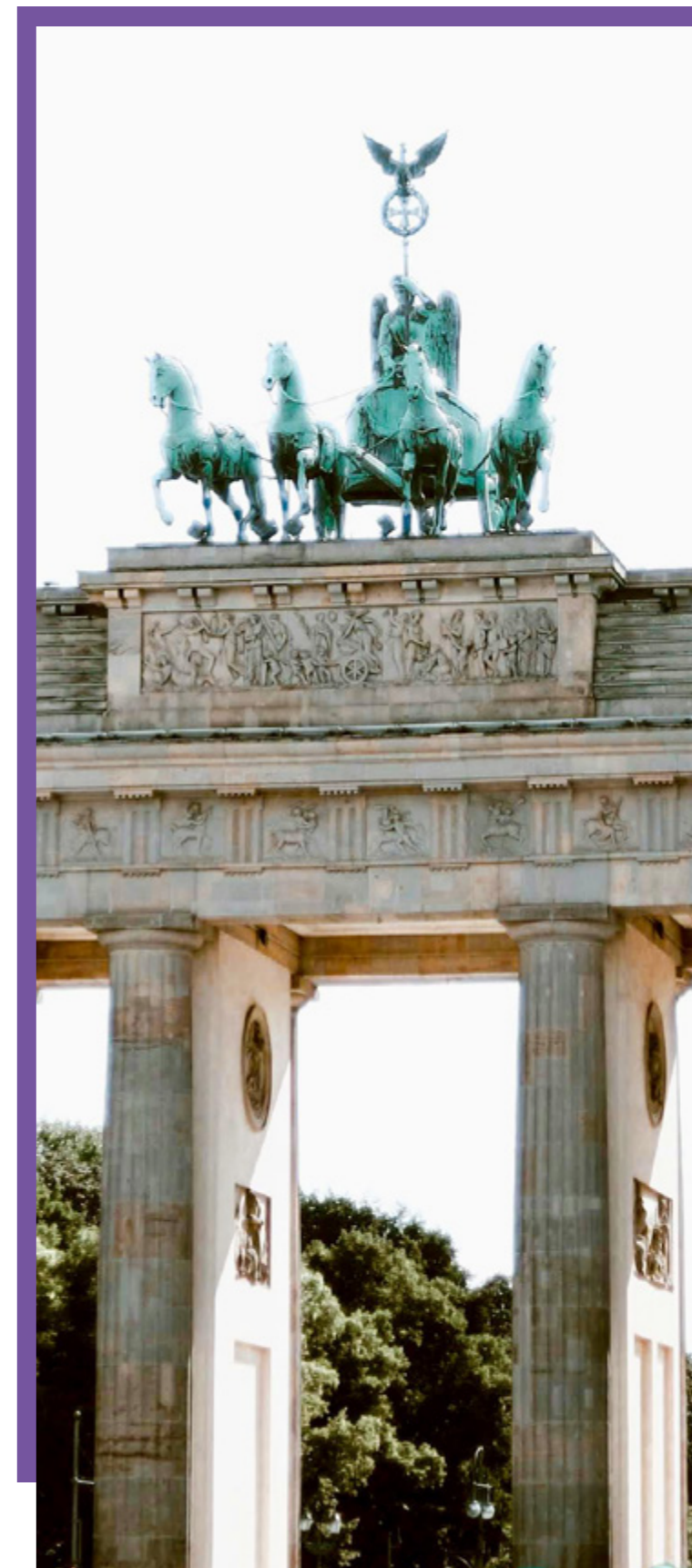
## HOW TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILD

We are fortunate to be based in London, a city full of museums, libraries and home of the National Archives! It is highly recommended to visit the Imperial War Museum, especially the First World War rooms and the 'Peace and Security' exhibition. Parents could also encourage students to watch videos and documentaries that shed light on different aspects of the events taught and stimulate further independent study.

In addition, on Firefly there is a wider reading page which students are encouraged to access in order to engage with developing their understanding further.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

History develops critical thinking and analysis skills useful for an array of careers such as Law, International Relations and/ or History/ Politics. Students studying History at GCSE may wish to study this further at A level and History would also pair well with Government & Politics, English Literature, Economics, and Psychology.





# LATIN

**SUBJECT:** Latin

**EXAM BOARD:** OCR

**COURSE CODE:** (9-1) – J282

**GCSE/IGCSE?** GCSE

**EXAMINATION VS ASSESSMENT/NEA WEIGHTING:**

100% examination:  
Language J282/01 – 50%  
Prose Literature B J282/03 – 25%  
Verse Literature B J282/05 – 25%

## COURSE CONTENT

At GCSE level, pupils develop their knowledge of Latin, focusing both on the vocabulary and syntax of the language, and on its wonderful literature. Through careful study of original texts by understanding the linguistic and cultural features, students develop their understanding of the Roman world and its cultural values. They also develop the analytical and critical skills used to interpret different kinds of evidence, in order to present their thoughts clearly and effectively.

In Year 10, students focus on the grammar and vocabulary of the ancient Romans, learning in detail about the many varied grammatical concepts that the Romans teach us. By studying this Latin grammar, students can develop their own understanding of the grammatical features used in other modern languages, such as English.

In Year 11, students move on to study of ancient Roman literature. The texts for this change every two or three years, meaning that students will always be introduced to new and diverse literature. They study both verse and prose, and works used in the past have included the Aeneid, the Metamorphoses, Tacitus' Annals, and more.

By studying this literature in Year 11, students are enabled to gain insight into the ways in which our society developed from the ancient Romans, and to question whether societal values have really changed very much.

### Year 1

- Recognise, analyse and/or deploy, as appropriate, the accent and syntax listed in Appendix 5d and 5e
- Demonstrate knowledge of the vocabulary in the Defined Vocabulary List (DVL)
- Accurately translate unseen material into English
- Demonstrate an understanding of unseen Latin, confected or adapted material, including an understanding of individual words, phrases or sentences
- Explain the derivation of English words from Latin as evidence of the continuing influence of the classical world on later times

### Year 2

#### Prose Literature B: Cambridge Latin Anthology

- Messalina: Adultery, Messalina is denounced, the death of Messalina
- avunculus meus: A day in the life of Pliny the Elder

#### Verse Literature B: Oxford Classical Text

- Virgil, Aeneid, 1.12-123

## HOMEWORK AND EXTENSION TASKS

Latin homework is designed to support your child in the acquisition and retention of the language. Latin can be a challenging subject, but with focus and sustained effort, it can be hugely rewarding to any student.

Latin homework usually consists of short translations and grammatical exercises. These will be based on the work that students have completed in lesson time. Sometimes, homework may follow a flipped learning style, and the student will prepare information about a new grammar topic to present in class. Often, students will be given vocabulary learning as a regular aspect of their homework.

## HOW TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILD

Fundamental to the study of Latin is knowledge of its vocabulary and grammar. In order to support with these, there are many websites for vocabulary learning and grammatical support. A great offline way to engage your child is by working with them on flashcards. These can target both vocabulary and endings, which are a fundamental aspect of the language. In order to support with the literature, you may wish to read the texts in an English translation, or to find videos about their stories. Direct contact with opportunities in London such as museums displaying artefacts with Latin inscriptions, theatre productions about the texts and other opportunities connected to ancient Roman society are highly recommended.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

By teaching students about the essential constituents of language as a construct, Latin, like ancient Greek, provides an excellent framework for the study of modern languages, and not just those derived from Latin. Most of all, the study of ancient culture – especially when sustained by the ability to read texts in the original – is an incredible opportunity to observe the development of ideas across the history of humanity: from poetry and drama to mathematics and philosophy, ancient Rome has a lasting impact on today's world; the ability to see and appreciate this impact is a gift that will last a lifetime.





# MANDARIN

SUBJECT: Mandarin

EXAM BOARD: AQA

COURSE CODE: 8673

GCSE/IGCSE? GCSE

EXAMINATION VS ASSESSMENT/NEA  
WEIGHTING:

4 papers, 25% each:  
Listening, Speaking, Reading,  
Writing

## COURSE CONTENT

Studying Mandarin at GCSE level provides students with an opportunity to deepen their understanding of both the Chinese language and its cultural context. As Mandarin Chinese is the most widely spoken language in the world, mastering it is seen as crucial for young people in the UK to stay globally competitive. Students with knowledge of Mandarin and Chinese culture will be better prepared for future international workplaces and societal interactions.

### Component 1: Identity and Culture

- Me, My Family, and My Friends
  - Technology in Everyday Life
  - Free-time activities
- Customs and festivals in Chinese-speaking communities

### Component 2: Local, National, International and Global Areas of Interest

- Home, town, neighbourhood, region, education, and work
- Social issues
- Global issues
- Travel and tourism

### Component 3: Current and Future Study and Employment

- My studies
- Life at school/college
- Education from 16+
- Jobs, career choices, and ambitions

## HOMEWORK AND EXTENSION TASKS

Mandarin homework typically consists of listening and reading exercises, character writing exercises, sentence translations, grammatical exercises, and short essay writing. Occasionally, students will engage in comprehensive project work on specific topics, allowing for deeper exploration and understanding.



## HOW TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILD

Homework is set once a week and should approximately take 40 minutes. It will be a mix of reading, writing and translation activities. This can also include cultural projects.

## HOW TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILD

Making a regular revision schedule with your child is an excellent first step. Mandarin study requires a lot of repetition when it comes to memorising vocabulary and character writing. Revising for a short amount of time daily with Quizlet/Skritter is proved to be very helpful. Chinese newspapers, books, Podcasts and TV/films of the appropriate level are also highly recommended.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### Cultural Enrichments & Trips

To enhance language acquisition and cultural understanding, we regularly organise trips to East Asia. These trips provide students with the opportunity to immerse themselves in the

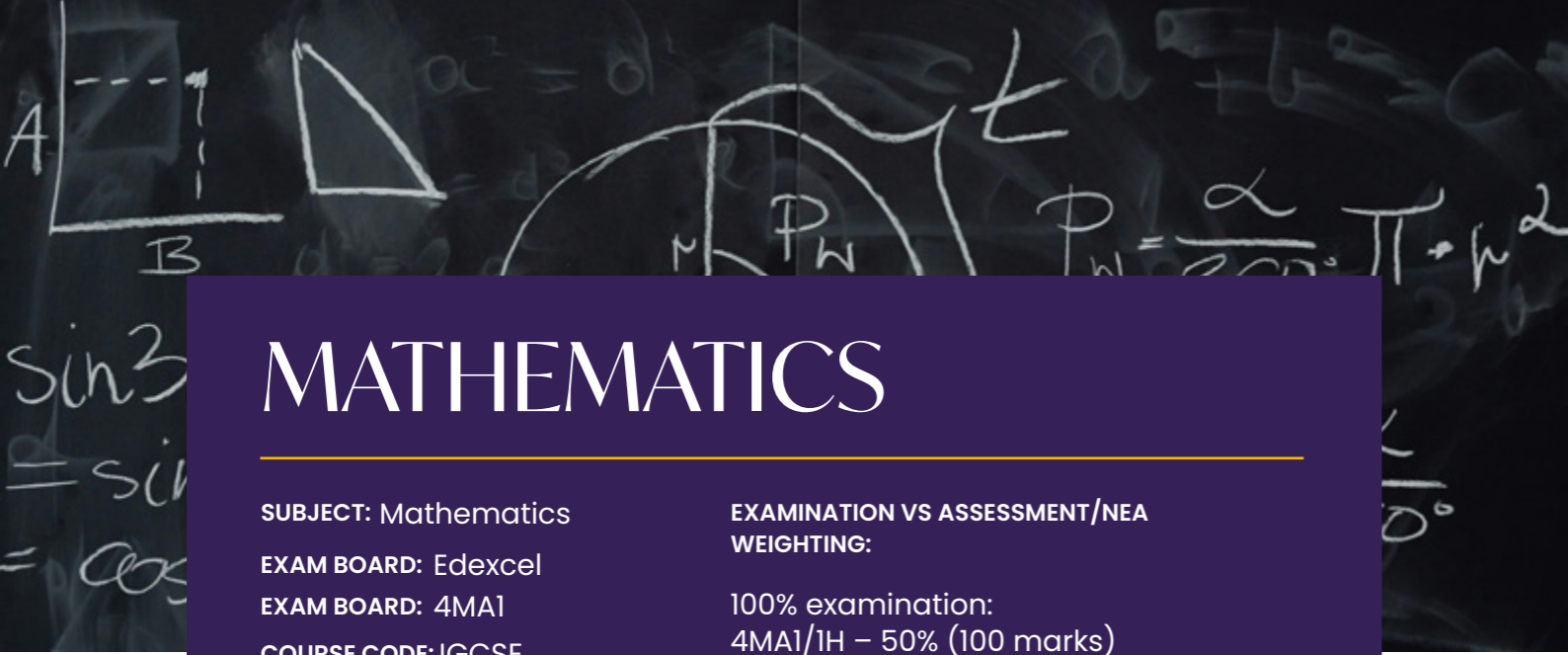
language and culture, practising their skills in real-life contexts and gaining invaluable experiences. Participation in these trips is highly encouraged as it significantly enriches the learning journey and deepens students' appreciation of Chinese culture.

### Partnerships and Future Plans

We have established two partner schools in Taiwan, which provide our students with additional opportunities for cultural exchange and language practice. Furthermore, we are actively seeking to become a Confucius Classroom in collaboration with the Confucius Institution at Goldsmiths, University of London. This initiative will further enhance our Mandarin programme by providing additional resources and cultural links in China, thereby enriching the students' learning experience.







# MATHEMATICS

**SUBJECT:** Mathematics

**EXAM BOARD:** Edexcel

**EXAM BOARD:** 4MA1

**COURSE CODE:** IGCSE

**EXAMINATION VS ASSESSMENT/NEA WEIGHTING:**

100% examination:  
4MA1/1H – 50% (100 marks)  
4MA1/2H – 50% (100 marks)

## COURSE CONTENT

- Numbers and the number system
- Equations, formulae, and identities
- Sequences, functions, and graphs
- Geometry and trigonometry
- Vectors and transformation geometry
- Statistics and probability

### Year 1

#### Component 1

- Decimals
- Special numbers and powers
- Algebraic manipulation
- Expressions, formulae, rearranging formulae
- Linear equations and inequalities
- Sequences
- Graphical representation of data

#### Component 2

- Statistical measures
- Fractions
- Percentage
- Ratio and proportion
- Indices and standard form
- Compound measures
- Geometry of shapes
- Real life graphs

### Year 2

#### Component 1

- Linear graphs
- Quadratic equations, inequalities, and graphs
- Constructions and bearings
- Perimeter, area, and volume
- Pythagoras' theorem and trigonometry
- Transformations
- Harder graphs and transformation of graphs
- Simultaneous equations

#### Component 2

- Probability
- Degree of accuracy
- Set language, notation, and Venn diagrams
- Circle properties
- Advanced trigonometry
- Similar shapes
- Function notation
- Vectors
- Calculus

## HOMEWORK AND EXTENSION TASKS

Homework is set through a variety of mediums such as Mathswatch tasks set on the Mathswatch platform; paper homework. Each homework task is uploaded on Firefly and is set weekly.

## HOW TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILD

Practice Maths questions from websites such as Corbettmaths, Mathsgenie, and official IGCSE Edexcel Maths A student book 1 and 2.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### Prior learning and other requirements:

The qualification builds on the content, knowledge and skills developed in the Key Stage 3 Programme of Study (ages 11–14) or international equivalences for Mathematics.

**Progression:** Students can progress from this qualification to several further programmes:

- Pearson Edexcel International GCSE in Further Pure Mathematics
- GCE Advanced Subsidiary and Advanced Level
- The International Advanced Subsidiary and Advanced Level
- Other equivalent, Level 3 Mathematics qualifications
- Further study in other areas where mathematics is required
- Other further training or employment where numerate skills and knowledge are required.





# MUSIC

SUBJECT: Music

EXAM BOARD: AQA

COURSE CODE: 8271

GCSE/IGCSE? GCSE

EXAMINATION VS ASSESSMENT/NEA WEIGHTING:

40% Exam Paper

30% Performance – one solo performance and one ensemble performance

30% Composing – free composition and composition to a brief

## COURSE CONTENT

- Understanding Music: Western Classical Tradition 1650–1910, Popular Music, Traditional Music and Western Classical Tradition since 1910.
- Performing Music: One performance must be as a soloist and one piece must be as part of an ensemble lasting a combined minimum of four minutes. The performance as part of an ensemble must last for a minimum of one minute. Repertoire will be determined by the student and teacher and can be in any chosen style or genre.
- Composing Music: Students must learn how to develop musical ideas, including extending and manipulating musical themes and compose music that is musically convincing through two compositions. One must be in response to an externally set brief and the other a free composition. The combined duration of the compositions must be a minimum of three minutes.

### Year 1

#### Component 1

- Western Classical Tradition 1650–1910
- Popular Music
- Traditional Music

#### Component 2

- House Music Competition
- Lunchtime Concert Series
- Arts Week performances
- Young Songwriter's Competition
- End of term concerts
- Classroom concerts

#### Component 3

- Free Composition:
- Classical piece – Sibelius
- Pop song – Logic
- Film music – free
- Programme music – free

### Year 2

#### Component 1

- Western Classical Tradition since 1910
- Study piece for Western Classic Tradition 1650–1910
- Study pieces for Popular Music

#### Component 2

- House Music Competition
- Lunchtime Concert Series
- Arts Week performances
- Young Songwriter's Competition
- End of term concerts
- Classroom concerts
- Official solo recording
- Official ensemble recording

#### Component 3

- Composition to a brief

## HOMEWORK AND EXTENSION TASKS

- Listening to set music and wider repertoire
- Musical score analysis
- History of music
- Instrument/Voice
- Practice
- Theory of music
- Composition

## HOW TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILD

Encourage your child to work to a high standard on their instrument, through regular practice and performance. Listen to and appreciate a wide range of music, including classical music. Develop a confident ability in music theory prior to Year 10.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Students who embark on the GCSE Music programme should have a minimum of Grade 3 on one instrument and be preparing for higher grades. GCSE Music students are expected to take part in the choir and other ensembles which suit their instrument. They are expected to fully participate in the musical life of the school outside of lessons through concerts, shows & musicals, recitals and other events.





# PHYSICAL EDUCATION

**SUBJECT:** Physical Education

**EXAM BOARD:** AQA

**COURSE CODE:** 8582

**GCSE/IGCSE?** GCSE

**EXAMINATION VS ASSESSMENT/NEA WEIGHTING:**

**Paper 1:** 30%

**Paper 2:** 30%

**Practical Assessment:** 40%

## COURSE CONTENT

Studying PE for your GCSE exam is an exciting journey that combines practical sports skills with a deep dive into the science and theory behind physical activity. This subject is split into two main areas, with each contributing to your final grade.

In practical assessment, worth 40% of your grade, you'll choose three sports to focus on. Here, you'll demonstrate your skills, techniques, and tactical prowess. The other 60% of your grade comes from theoretical underpinnings. In theory lessons, you will explore:

- Applied anatomy and physiology
- Movement analysis
- Physical training
- Use of data
- Sports psychology
- Socio-cultural influences
- Health, fitness and well-being
- Use of data

### Year 1

**Paper 1 – The human body and movement in physical activity and sport:**

- Applied anatomy and physiology
- Movement analysis

- Physical training
- Use of data

### Year 2

**Paper 2 – Socio-cultural influences and well-being in physical activity and sport:**

- Sports psychology
- Socio-cultural influences
- Health, fitness and well-being
- Use of data

**Non-examined assessment:**

- Practical performance in three different physical activities in the role of player/performer (one in a team activity, one in an individual activity and a third in either a team or in an individual activity).
- Analysis and evaluation of performance to bring about improvement in one activity.



## HOMEWORK AND EXTENSION TASKS

Your homework will vary and may include reading assignments, exam questions, and analysing real-life case studies of sports performers. You'll use technology like apps and sports analysis programs to enhance performance analysis and feedback. You will also design fitness plans based on theoretical principles and write reports on sports events. Collaborating with classmates on group projects or presentations can also be found here.

## HOW TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILD

Supporting your child in their GCSE PE studies involves showing a keen interest in sports and discussing their psychological, socio-cultural, and physiological aspects. Taking your child to local or professional sporting events allows them to see theories in action and engage in discussions about tactics and performance. Encouraging participation in at least one sports club outside of school provides practical experience and a broader understanding of sports. Promote a healthy lifestyle by modelling positive attitudes towards physical activity, balanced nutrition, and adequate rest. Regular discussions about what your child is learning in their PE course and opportunities for them to share their insights are essential.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Studying GCSE PE can open doors to various opportunities. Beyond A level PE, it can lead to sports leadership and coaching awards, sports science degrees, sports psychology and coaching, sports business management, fitness instructing, and personal training.

It can also pave the way for careers in sports coaching, sports management, nutrition and dietetics, sports engineering, physiotherapy, sports journalism, and sports technology. These paths offer diverse opportunities to work in fields that align with a passion for sports and physical activity.





# PHYSICS

**SUBJECT:** Physics

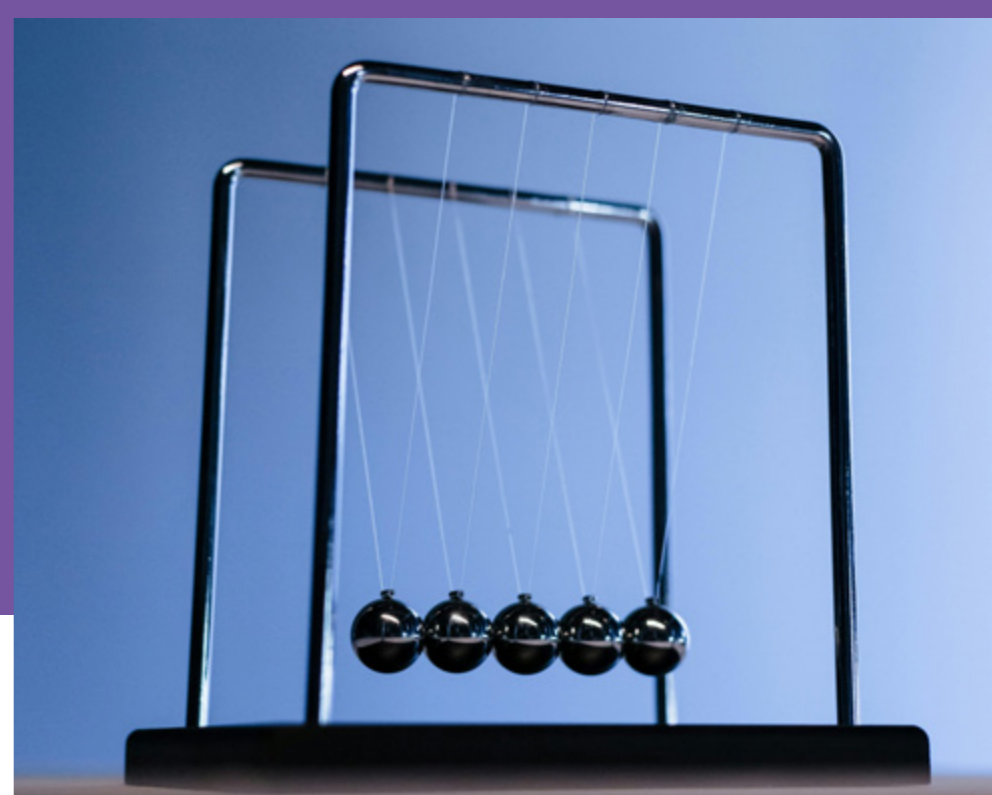
**EXAM BOARD:** Edexcel

**COURSE CODE:** 4PH1

**GCSE/IGCSE?** IGCSE

**EXAMINATION VS ASSESSMENT/NEA WEIGHTING:**

100% Examination:  
Paper 1: 110 marks  
Paper 2: 70 marks



## COURSE CONTENT

The course is divided into eight main topics: forces and motion, electricity, waves, energy resources & energy transfer, solids, liquids and gases, magnetism and electromagnetism, radioactivity and particles, astrophysics. You started the course in Year 9 with the topics of forces and motion, waves, electric charge and magnetism already covered. As you will have experienced, the course builds on from KS3 work and includes many practical investigations, some of which are core practicals and can be referred to in exam questions. These are designed to reinforce learning in order to develop skills such as analysis, synthesis and evaluation. The IGCSE exams consist of 2 papers. Paper 1 is 2 hours long and has total of 110 marks. Paper 2 is 1 hour 15 minutes and has a total of 70 marks.

### Year 1

#### Energy resources and energy transfer

- Energy transfers
- Work and power
- Energy resources and electrical generation

#### Electricity

- Mains electricity
- Energy and voltage circuits
- Electric charge

#### Astrophysics

- Motion in the universe
- Stellar evolution
- Cosmology

#### Solids, liquids, and gases

- Density and pressure
- Change of state

### Year 2

#### Forces and motion

- Movement and position
- Forces, movement, shape, and momentum

#### Radioactivity and particles

- Radioactivity
- Fission and fusion

#### Magnetism and electromagnetism

- Magnetism
- Electromagnetism
- Electromagnetic induction

## HOMEWORK AND EXTENSION TASKS

Homework is used to develop concepts taught in class, allowing you to investigate and research new topics and requiring you to use your analytical skills to solve problems.

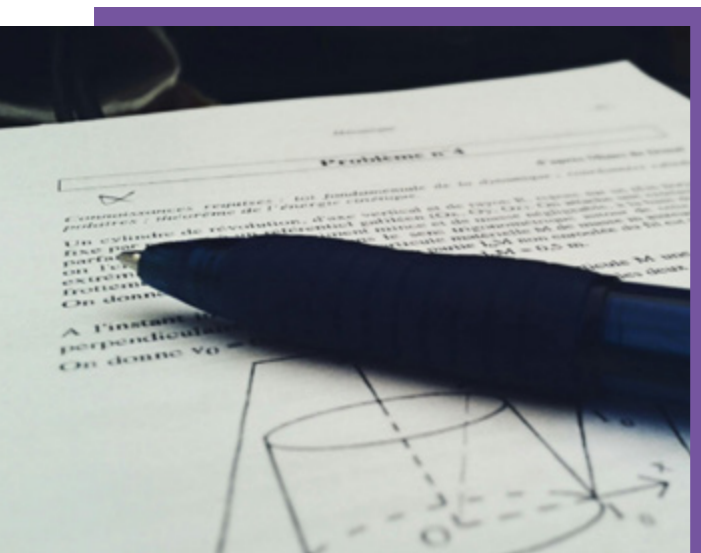
With these skills you'll be able to test out new ideas plus question and investigate other people's theories. Past exam questions are sometimes set for homework in order to build confidence and familiarity, with their questions being clear and straightforward.

## HOW TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILD

Pupil booklets, calculations, application ideas and worked example questions are also included. Pupils unite their answers with extension work and text book chapter questions at the end of the booklet. These booklets compile to give a comprehensive set of notes from Y9-11. Alongside this there is the pupil e-book, CGP practice questions which will be used as part of the course and revision guides. You will also be pointed to relevant revision sites on the internet.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Physics is a useful subject for the majority of STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths) careers. It is especially helpful for jobs that involve building things and developing new technologies, including: engineering (flight, buildings, space etc.), astronomy, robotics, renewable energies, computer science, communications, space exploration, science writing, sports and games technology, research and nanotechnology (engineering on a tiny molecular scale).





# RELIGIOUS STUDIES

**SUBJECT:**  
Religious Studies

**EXAM BOARD:** AQA  
**COURSE CODE:** 8062MA  
**GCSE/IGCSE?** GCSE

**EXAMINATION VS ASSESSMENT/NEA  
WEIGHTING:**

100% Examination:  
Exam 1: 50%  
Exam 2: 50%

## COURSE CONTENT

GCSE Religious Studies should not be thought of as a course solely about religion.

Over two years, there is an equal split between philosophy, ethics, and religion. Students will be challenged with questions about belief, values, meaning, purpose and truth, enabling them to develop their own attitudes towards religious issues.

In the first year, students will study Christianity and one other major world religion, examining core teachings and practices. In the second year, students study four religious, philosophical and ethical themes: (1) Religion, human rights, and social justice (2) Religion, crime and punishment (3) The existence of God and revelation (4) Religion and life.

These themes require students to grapple with both secular and religious views.

## HOMEWORK AND EXTENSION TASKS

Homework generally consists of essay writing as the lessons are mainly used for discussing and debating key issues. This is an important part of the course as it allows for students to independently reflect on the teachings and practices being discussed and begin to see their ideas flourish.

## HOW TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILD

AQA have produced a useful series of textbooks, which are the predominant resources for students to access during their studies.

The school also provides students with a revision guide which is an invaluable resource for your child throughout their academic journey on the GCSE programme.

Parents are encouraged to take students to London's many museums which contain religious artefacts that will provide real life context to the philosophical concepts we will be researching.

Additionally, parents can read both classical and contemporary works of religious scholarship available at most major bookshops to better inform themselves on the subject and inspire further inquiry from their children.

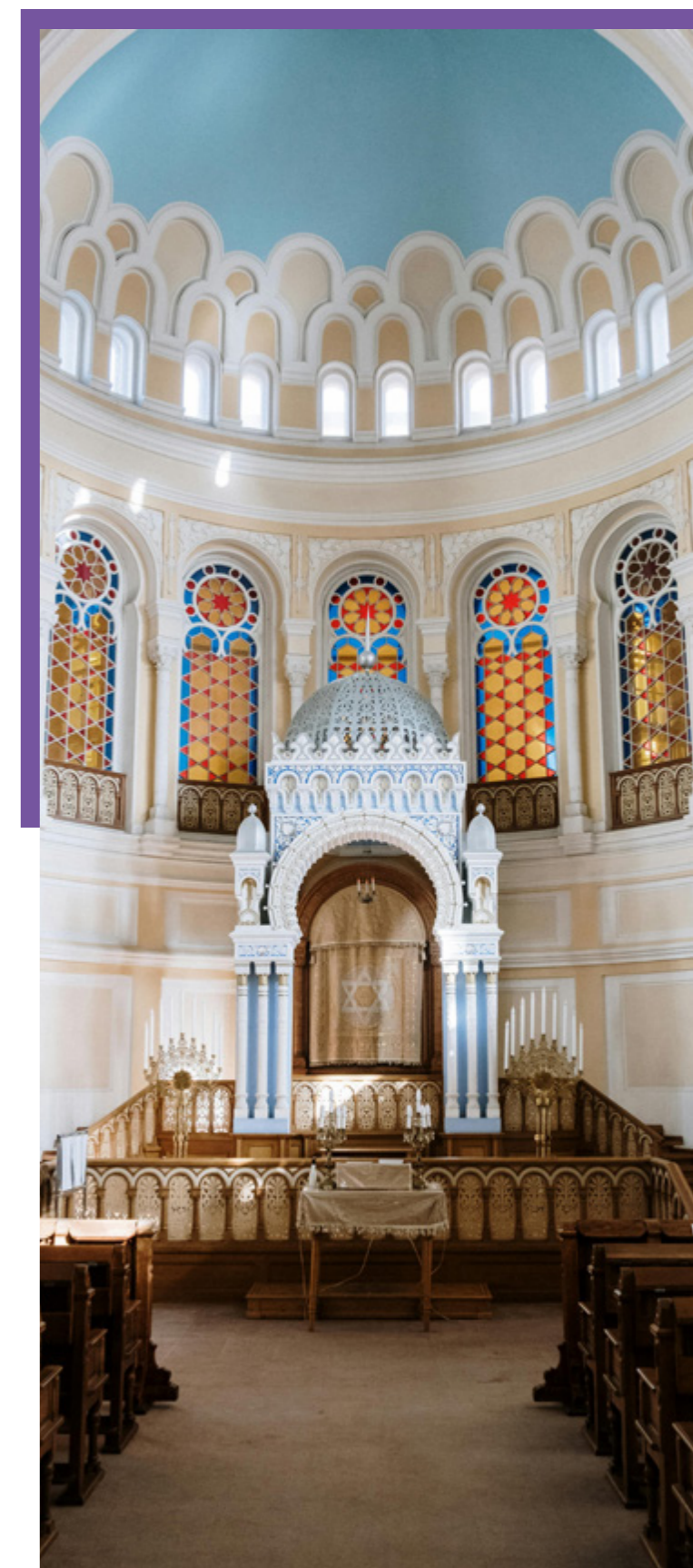
## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Formal assessment will be carried out by exam.

The first year content (component 1) is assessed through one 1 hour 45 minute exam. There are 96 marks, plus 6 for spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPaG). This is worth 50% of the GCSE.

Both religions have a common structure of two five-part questions of 1, 2, 4, 5 and 12 marks. Each religion is marked out of 48.

The second year content (component 2) is assessed in an almost identical manner. However, each theme is marked out of 24. This means they have a common structure of one five-part question of 1, 2, 4, 5 and 12 marks.





# SPANISH

**SUBJECT:** Spanish

**EXAM BOARD:** AQA

**COURSE CODE:** 8692

**GCSE/IGCSE?** GCSE Higher Tier

**EXAMINATION VS ASSESSMENT/NEA WEIGHTING:**

4 papers; 25% each.  
Listening, Speaking, Reading, Writing

## COURSE CONTENT

Over two years, the AQA GCSE course will offer students the opportunity to develop their Spanish language skills to their full potential, equipping them with knowledge and confidence that they can use both in and outside of the classroom. Its assessments are clear, accessible and discriminate effectively, and the content is engaging and relevant.

Students will be studying three main themes: People and Lifestyle, Popular Culture, as well as Communication and the World Around Us. Each theme is divided into sub-themes, and they include topics such as environment, healthy lifestyle, traditions and festivals, travel and tourism and many others.

The course will focus on preparing the students for the GCSE exam while endowing them to become good linguists. Studying Spanish at GCSE level allows pupils to discover more about its grammar alongside culture in Spain the Spanish speaking world. It will give them an insight into different countries, with a glimpse of current affairs. Learning Spanish or any other foreign language nowadays is essential. It improves future employment prospects and promotes inter-cultural understanding.

### Component 1 : People and Lifestyle

- Identity and Relationships with Others
- Healthy Living and Lifestyle
- Education and Work

### Component 2 : Popular Culture

- Free-time Activities
- Customs, Festivals, and Celebrations
- Celebrity Culture

### Component 2 : Communication and the World Around Us

- Travel and Tourism, including places of interest
- Media and technology
- The environment and where people live



## HOMEWORK AND EXTENSION TASKS

Homework is set once a week and should take approximately 40 minutes. It will be a mix of reading, writing, listening skills, and translation activities. This can also include cultural projects.

## HOW TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILD

To support your child during this course, you can quiz them on vocabulary and grammar concepts. You can also make dictations which will help them with Spanish spelling and accents. Encourage them to use language apps such as Quizlet and Memrise that are largely used for both GCSE and A level.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The Spanish GCSE exam is divided in four skills: reading, writing, listening and speaking. Each skill is worth 25% in the exam. All the skills are assessed in each end of unit test, so that the students familiarise themselves with the exam.







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