

Year 9

Information Evening

Mr Gannon

Headteacher

September 2023

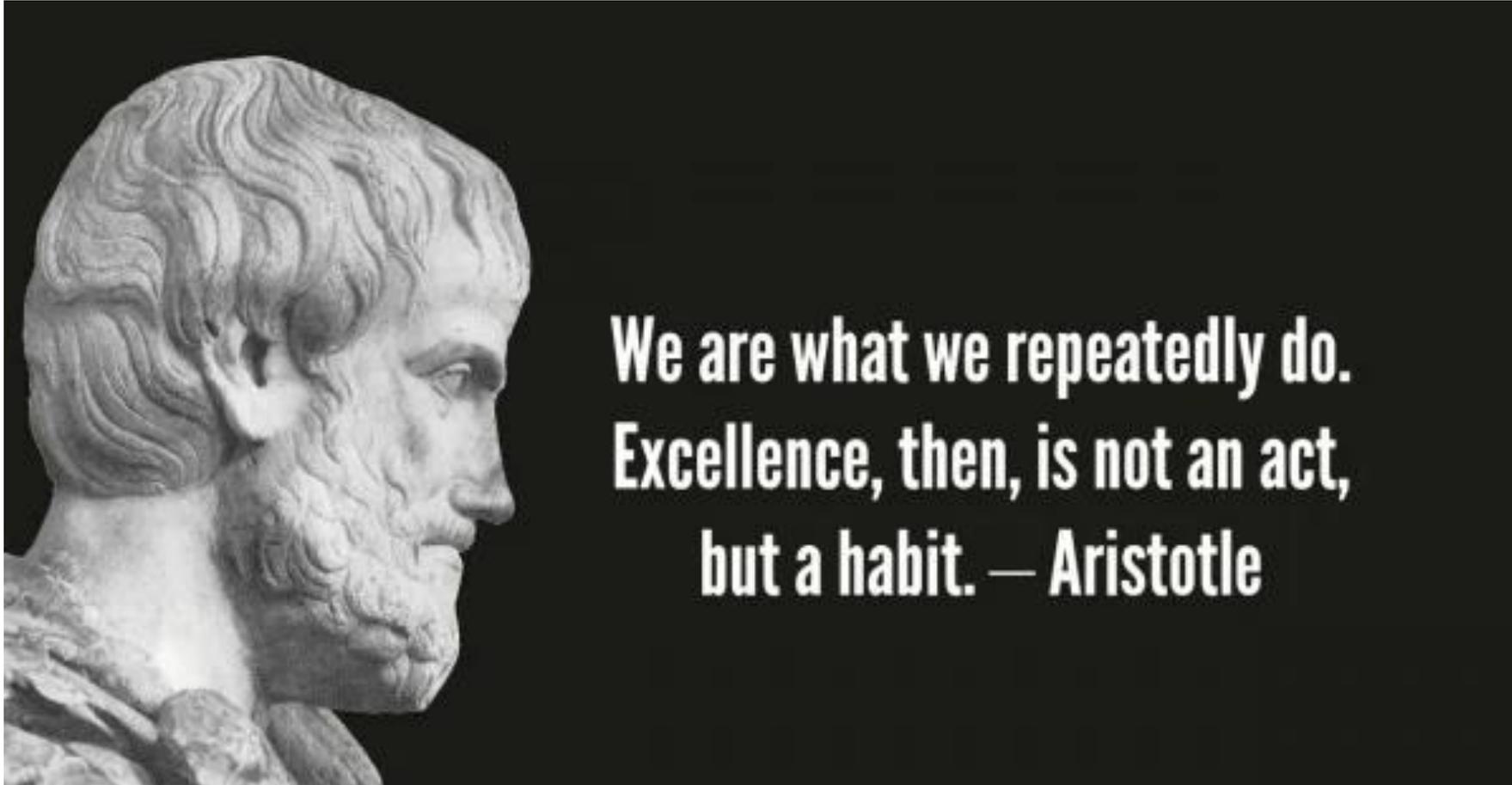




GCSEs and A Levels results



Final message from me:



The Academic Year

Some key dates already in the calendar:

7th March 2024 – Personal Development Day (subject tbc)

14th May 2024 – Personal Development Day (subject tbc)

22nd April – 3rd May 2024 – Trial Exams Fortnight

6th -7th June 2024 – Vaccinations for Td/IPV & Meningitis

20th June 2024 – Year 9 Student Progress Evening (SPE)

18th July 2024– Rewards Trip



Work Hard, Be Kind, Follow the Rules

Getting it right, first time, every time!



Work Hard!

- Greet your teacher
- Follow instructions first time, every time
- Be fully equipped for school
- Track the teacher
- Avoid distractions
- Don't distract others
- Answer questions when asked
- Complete all work to the best of your ability
- Complete all homework by deadlines set
- Go the extra mile – complete the challenges in the lessons
- Thank your teacher



Be kind!

It isn't enough to be able to say I wasn't unkind. It's about going out of our way to be kind.

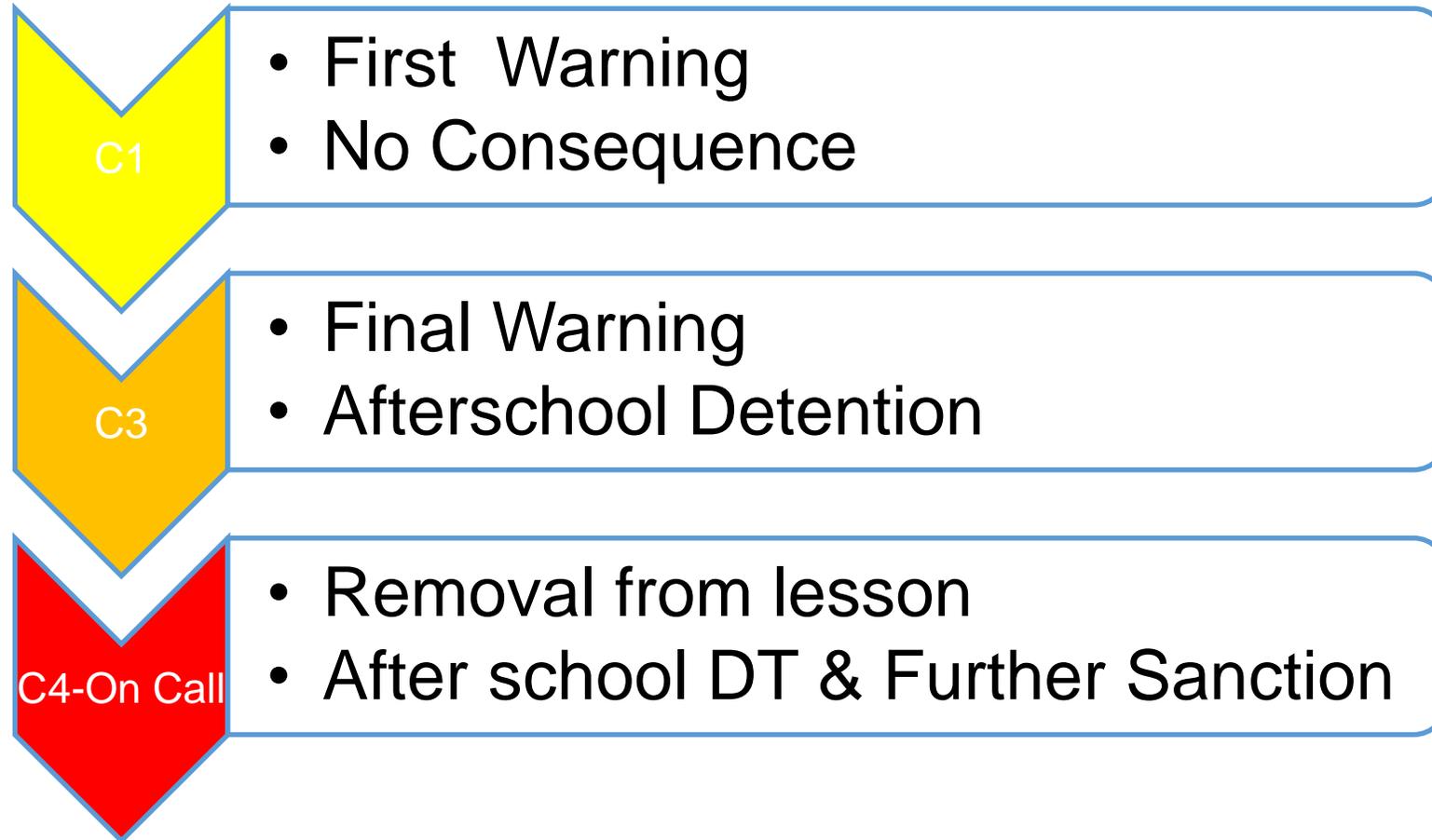


Social media: Connect with kindness

- Ask yourself:
- Is my comment negative or hurtful?
- Would I say this to someone face to face?



Consequence Behaviour Policy



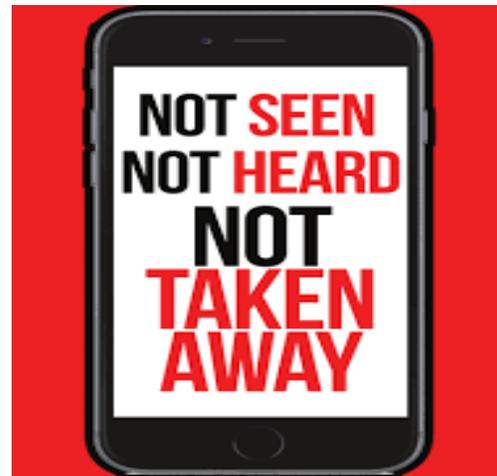
Follow the uniform rules

- Uniform looks smart.
- Uniform encourages a sense of belonging.
- Dressing for school is associated with positive work habits.
- Uniform helps reduce the lure of expensive branded clothes. We have a cost of living crisis and cannot exclude students.

“Uniforms show that you are part of an organisation. Wearing it says we're all in this together.”



Standards and Expectations



Punctuality & Attendance

8.35am - Be on School Site
 8.40am - Main Gate Closes/Start to move to Line Up



Every school day counts BUT every minute is equally important!

Attendance Ladder



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.



The dangers of vapes and vaping



- There is just the one single, straightforward, hard and fast rule: Buying a vape under the age of eighteen is illegal.
- It is also illegal to vape under the age of 18, even with parents' permission.



Vapes and Vaping – your support is appreciated



- We know that the large majority of our students do not vape. Thank you for your support in reiterating these messages at home.
- Please continue to have conversations at home around the effects of vaping: peer pressure can be strong at this age
- We continue to teach messages to students around the negative effects of vaping
- We are legally allowed to conduct searches if vaping has been reported/suspected
- Support nationally is available through online websites. Please also see the handout for further help/advice or speak to us if concerns remain.



Safeguarding

Principles

- Safeguard and promote the welfare of all students.
- Children who are safe and feel safe are better equipped to learn.

Staff

- Over 16 trained DSLs.
- Full-time counsellor.
- Behaviour intervention and reintegration staff.
- Learning mentor.
- All staff receive regular training and updates.



Safeguarding – Support and Signposting

- Speak to a trusted adult.
- HLS_help@highamlaneschool.co.uk

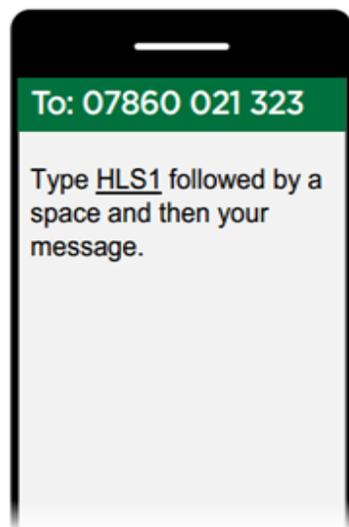




PROBLEM?

Whisper it!

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



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 – Support 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.



Safe, responsible and appropriate social media use

- Use of social media to make unkind, hurtful, threatening and defamatory comments about other students, often in 'social media groups' with a very large number of members/followers which occur outside of school will not be investigated by the school and parents/carers are advised to contact the Police. These comments are examples of cyberbullying and many would be labelled as hate crime.



Safe, responsible and appropriate social media use

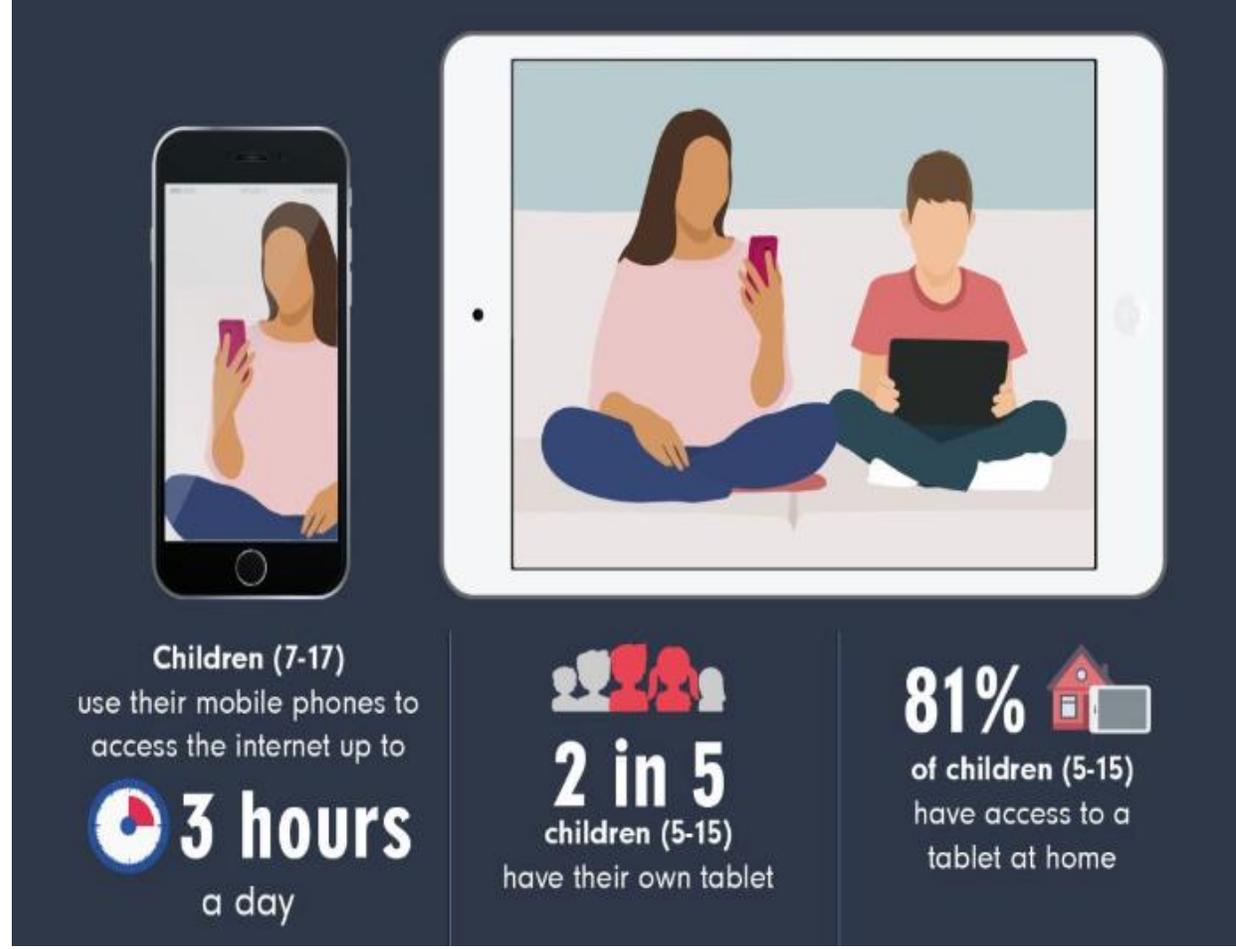
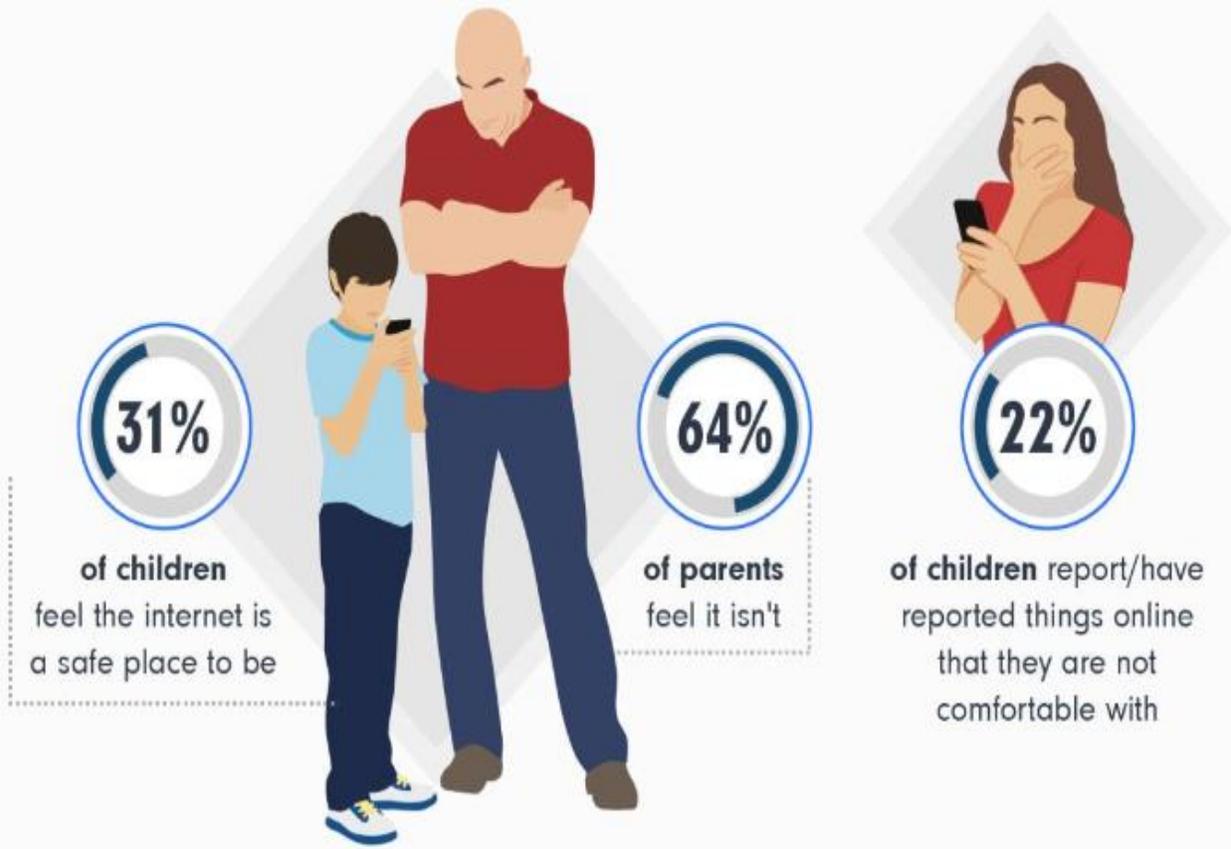
- Please model and discuss safe, responsible and appropriate social media use, to check the social media sites/apps which your son/daughter is a member/follower of and monitor the comments made and received by your son/daughter.



Youth Produced Sexual Imagery

- It is against the law to produce, possess or share explicit images of anyone under 18, even if this is done consensually, or if a child makes an explicit image of themselves.
- You should take steps to get an explicit image or video removed if it's been posted online.
- Report the image to the site or network hosting it.
- Contact the [Internet Watch Foundation \(IWF\)](#).
- Children and young people under 18 who are worried that a sexual image or video of them may have been shared online can use Childline and IWF's [Report Remove tool](#) to see if it can be taken down.





13 is the recommended age to use social media





of 8 to 11 year olds
have a social media profile

On average,
children (5-15) use
4
social networks



of 12 to 15 year olds
have a social media profile

64%
of children
consider themselves
knowledgeable
about Snapchat



Only
26%
of parents consider
themselves knowledgeable



41%

of children said they found it easier
to be themselves on the internet than
when they are face-to-face



Threats and Trends 2022

Peer-on-peer abuse
(Cyberbullying)

Misinformation
("conspiracies")

Scams

Sexual Exploitation

Influencers

Non-fungible token
(NFTs)

Deepfakes

Virtual Reality

AI Friends and
Companions

Esports

Disconnection

Gambling
Behaviours

Mistrust and
Cynicism

Online
Radicalisation

Reliance on
Technology



What we are doing at Higham Lane

- Internet usage monitoring
- Incorporating Online safety in our curriculum such as in Computer Science/ICT and PD/PHSE lessons
- Updating Policies and Practices regularly to keep children safe
- Raising awareness via Safer Internet Day
- Keeping all staff up-to-date with trends and dangers online
- Respond to incidents that occur in school
- Parent/carer, student and school agreement



Family Information Service

- The Family Information Service provides free information to support families in Warwickshire with children and young people aged 0-25 regarding issues such as: childcare, SEND, help with finances and parenting support.
 - Further information is available from <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/fis>



Please encourage your child to get involved!



- A range of extra-curricular activities to attend: look out for the booklet
- Whole year events to get involved in – more coming soon!
- Student Leadership opportunities: House Captains, Form Reps, Anti-Bullying Ambassadors, Events Team, Prefects, Senior Prefects, JLT, Head Students
- Memorable Moments Passport completion – details every week on the newsletter and via Google Classroom
- Able and Ambitious opportunities - details every week on the newsletter and via Google Classroom



Year 9 French

2023-2024

Mrs N Finley – Subject leader in MFL



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 9 Scheme of Learning

Autumn: Family & friends

Spring: Free time

Summer: Daily life & celebrations

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



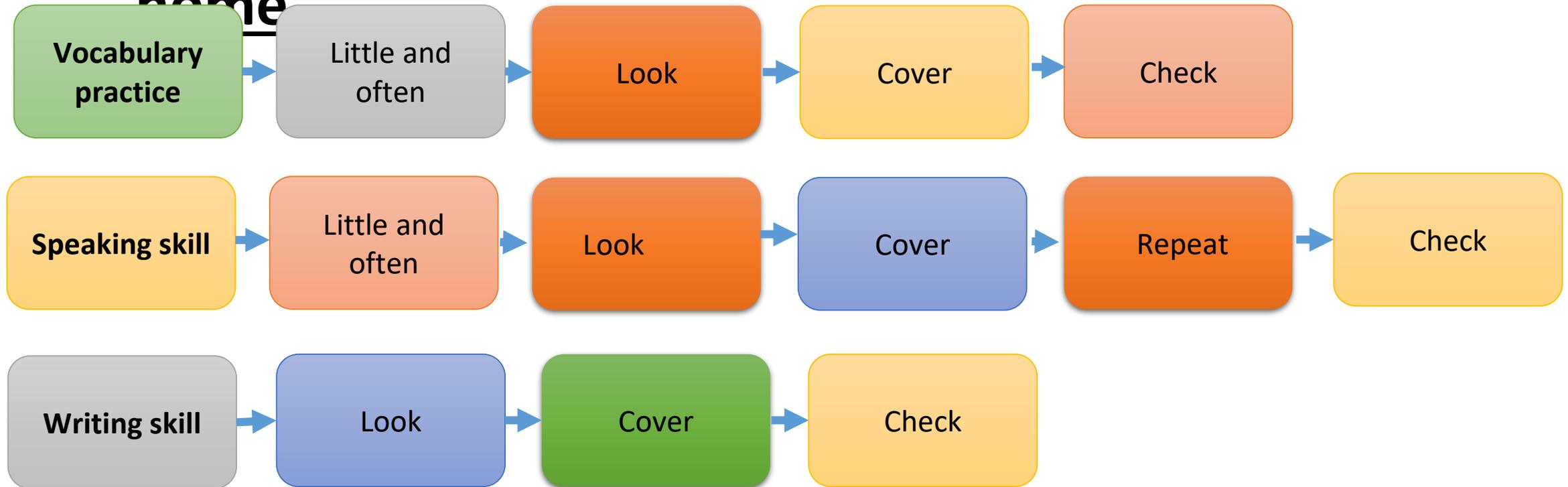
KS4 French – Learn More, Do More

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

home



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.

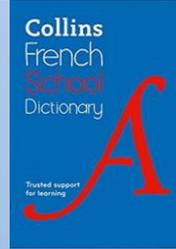


Equipment

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.

Key Information

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, 16th July to Thursday, 18th July 2024
(enrichment week)





Places to join the trip will be awarded based on:

- Interest
- Behaviour record from September 2022

Details to follow in the autumn term

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



Year 9 Maths

N Charnell

Subject Leader for Mathematics



GCSE Mathematics – Curriculum Plan

Students will work through the Year 9 Scheme of Learning.

Students will complete their study of the National Curriculum for KS3 before moving onto the KS4 Curriculum in a transition year. This allows them to secure and deepen KS3 Content before revisiting the foundations of the GCSE Content.

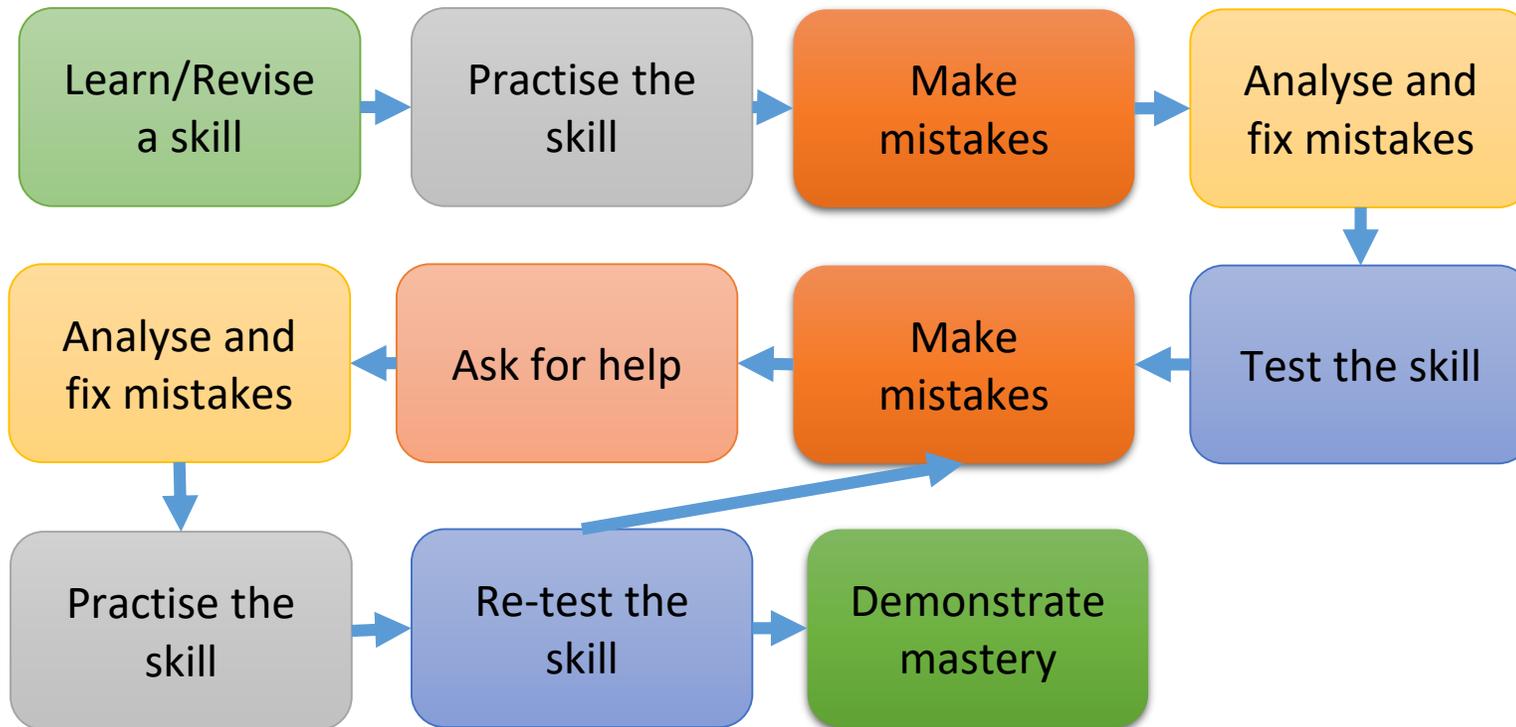
 Higham Lane School Maths Department 		
KS3 Scheme of Work		
YEAR 9		
Unit Number	Topic	Hours <i>(inc.test and FOTs)</i>
Autumn Term: 15 weeks (52 hours)		
19	Equations and Inequalities	12
20	Circles	10
21	Direct and Inverse Proportion	10
22	Transformations	14
24a	Real Life Graphs (Part 1)	4
	Termly Assessment 1 and Analysis	2
Spring Term: 12 weeks (42 hours)		
24b	Real Life Graphs (Part 2)	6
25	Non-Linear Graphs	12
18	Pythagoras and Trigonometry	16
	Revision/Catch Up	6
	Termly Assessment 2 and Analysis	2
Summer Term: 10 weeks (35 hours)		
*	KS4 Scheme of Work	31
	Termly Assessment 3 and Analysis	4



GCSE Mathematics – Learn More, Do More

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

How to learn and revise maths



Learn/Revise a Skill strategies

- Lessons
- Video clips – Dr Frost/Maths Genie/Corbett Maths
- Revision Guides/Knowledge Organisers/MyMaths lessons

Practise the skill strategies

- Dr Frost Maths
- Revision packs for Termly Assessments
- Maths Genie Graded Exam Questions
- Practise Questions on Corbett Maths
- MyMaths tasks and booster packs

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



Using Online Resources to support learning from home

How will Google Classroom be used to enhance Teaching and Learning in Maths?

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 that will support your son/daughter's progress
- Provide **targeted intervention** for your son/daughter if they are struggling with a particular topic.

How will MyMaths be used to enhance Teaching and Learning in Maths?

MyMaths is an online learning platform containing interactive lessons and homework tasks for all KS4 topics.

- Students receive **homework** set by their teacher.
- Students can access **interactive lessons** for each topic.
- Students can complete **Booster Packs** of additional practice at the level they are currently working towards.

How will Dr Frost Maths be used to enhance Teaching and Learning in Maths?

Dr Frost Maths is an online learning platform that will enable the Maths department to provide detailed feedback to each student.

- Students receive **homework** set by their teacher.
- Students can access **videos, key skills** and **practise** by topic.
- Teachers receive question by question **analysis**, can see student's working out and can provide individual **feedback** alongside whole class feedback.

Students will receive their own individual logins to each of these online platforms in September, as well as detailed instructions on how to access and use them.

Students are encouraged to familiarise themselves with the features of these platforms and use the revision and review functionality to improve their skills.





Essential top tips – what can students do to improve?

Structure revision programme provided by school

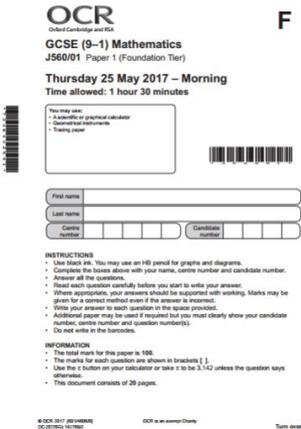
Revision Packs

Year 10
Revision
Higher Tier
Booklet

These questions have been put together to help you prepare for your upcoming Year 10 Assessment.

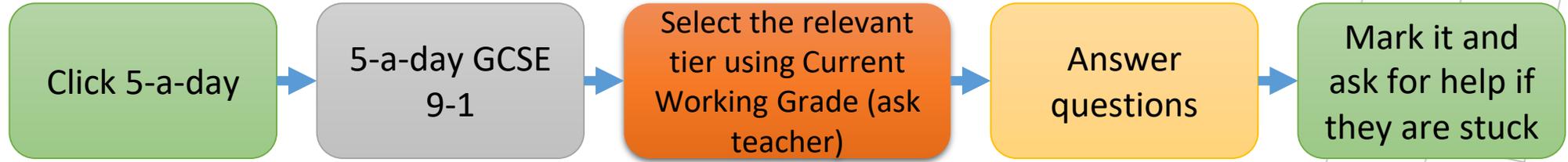
Things to remember:
- If you are unsure, use MyMaths to help you
- MyMaths club is on Wednesday lunchtimes in MA1
- If you get stuck on some of these questions make sure you ask your teacher for help

Exam Papers



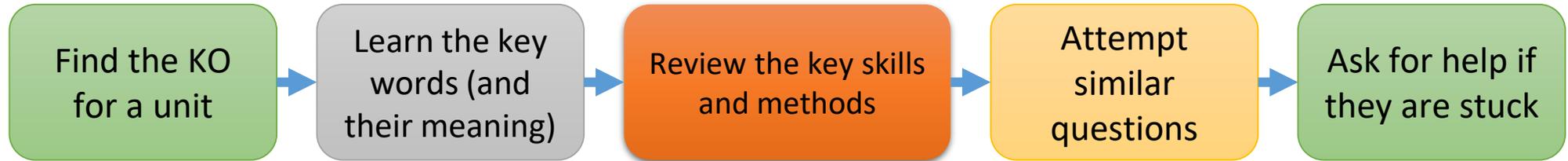
Corbett Maths <https://corbettmaths.com/>

Practise skills using the 5-a-day



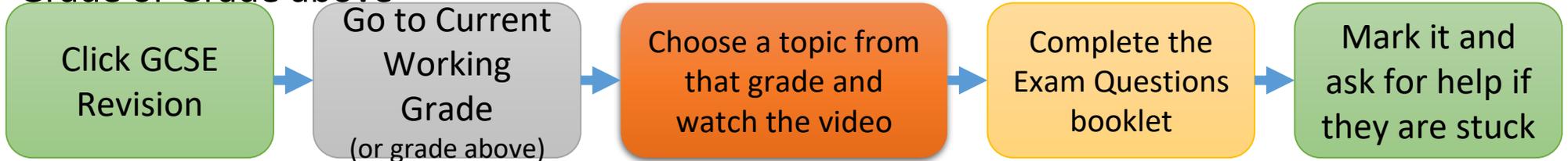
Knowledge Organisers

Test knowledge of the key skills, definitions and methods from each unit



Maths Genie <https://www.mathsgenie.co.uk/>

Use the Exam Questions by topic booklets to fill gaps in knowledge at Current Working Grade or Grade above



Grade 1/2

Videos

Addition and Subtraction

Exam Questions Booklet

Addition and Subtraction

Solutions

Solutions



Essential top tips

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 papers

Maths Intervention

- Your son's/daughter's progress is monitored closely by their Maths teacher
- 'Intervention' groups to be set up each term to support underachieving students. These will be reviewed after each assessment point.

The Fast/Dual Set

Some students may be offered the chance to sit extra qualifications in Maths. This is decided based on their ability at the End of Year 9.

Historically, students in the 'Fast Set' (the 30 most able mathematicians in the Year) have sat GCSE Maths at the end of Year 10. They have then sat GCSE Statistics and Level 2 Further Maths at the end of Year 11.

Students in the 'Dual Set' study GCSE Maths and GCSE Statistics concurrently over the course of Year 10 and Year 11 and sit all of their examinations at the end of Year 11.

The 'Fast Set' will not run in its historic format during the 2023-24 academic year for current Year 10s due to lost curriculum time. The 'Fast Set' will instead do all of their examinations at the end of Year 11. We will review the decision at the end of Year 9 and decide whether it is appropriate to offer the Fast/Dual Set in September 2024.



Essential top tips

Success in Maths – How you can help your son/daughter?

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?*



Science

Year 9

Mrs E Huxley

Subject Leader for Science



Science qualifications

- Awarding body - AQA
 - GCSE Combined Science Trilogy (equivalent to 2 GCSEs)
 - GCSE Biology
 - GCSE Chemistry
 - GCSE Physics
- } Single Sciences (equivalent to 3 GCSEs)
- Higher and foundation tiers
 - Six exams at the end of Year 11
 - Both the Single Science and Combined Science routes allow access to all Science A-level and degree level courses



GCSE Science content

- Two areas are assessed through exam papers:-
 - The key ideas and concepts of Biology, Chemistry and Physics
 - Working scientifically – Practical skills
- 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.
- 17 Physics equations students must be able to recall and apply in the Foundation and Higher tier papers



Year 9 Science topics

Biology	Chemistry	Physics
Cells Organisation Infection and response	Purity & formulations The atmosphere Reactivity of metals Energy in reactions Rates of reaction	Energy Energy resources Motion Waves Nuclear

At the end of Year 9 students will be assessed in three exams covering all areas of study from Year 9 Science.

We will use the exam results to decide which students will follow the three single sciences in Year 10 and 11 and which students will follow the GCSE Combined Science route.



Google classroom

Students are in the Google classroom set-up by each of their Science teachers, 3 in total. Class codes shared with students at the start of term.

- Homework
- Video tutorials
- Revision resources – knowledge organisers, exam questions
- Links to BBC Bitesize, Seneca learning and other useful websites



Support

- Educake website for homework and independent study
- GCSE Science Revision Guides and work book
- 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]





Working together to maximise achievement in English

Mrs K Somel
Subject Leader for English



GCSE English Language: 2 exams

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:** 19th and 21st 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

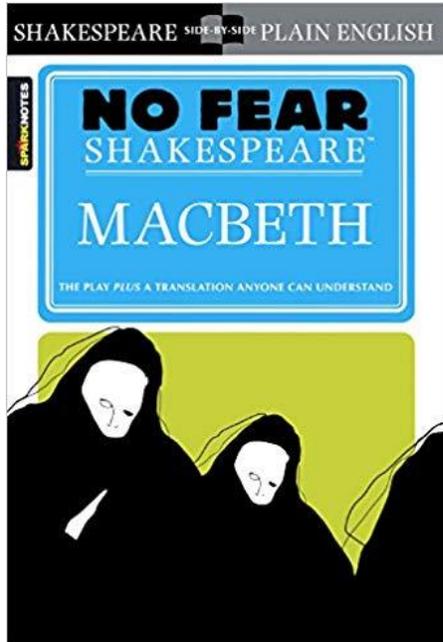
- **Section A:** 'Macbeth' 2 essay questions
- (Section B: Anthology poetry 2 essay questions)

Component 2: 2 hours and 30 minutes

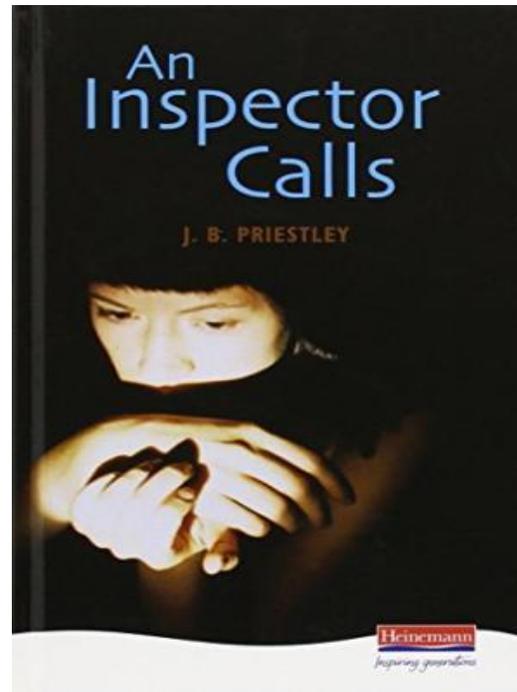
- **Section A:** 'An Inspector Calls' 1 essay
- **Section B:** 'A Christmas Carol' 1 essay
- **Section C:** Unseen Poems 2 essays



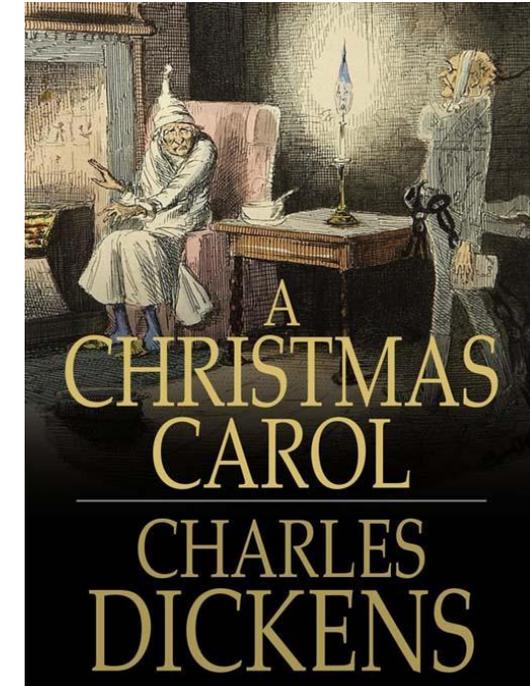
You will need to purchase the 3 Literature books as these will need to be annotated in class:



Macbeth
by William Shakespeare
'No Fear Shakespeare' edition
ISBN:978-0606380058



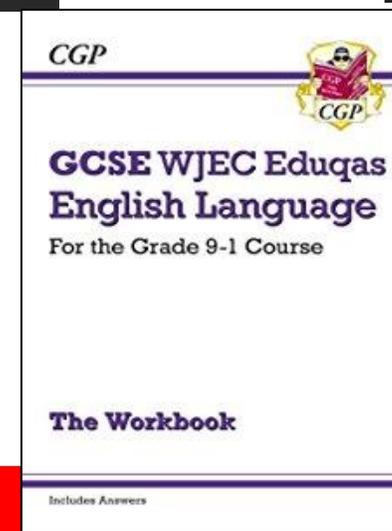
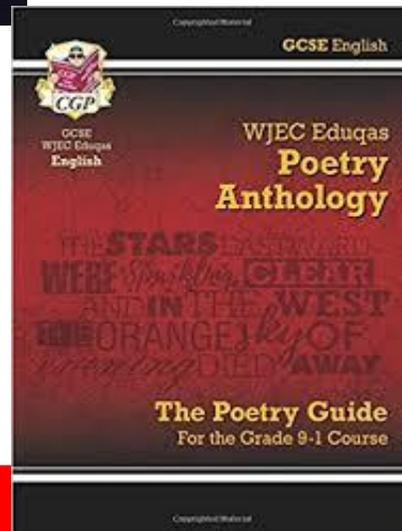
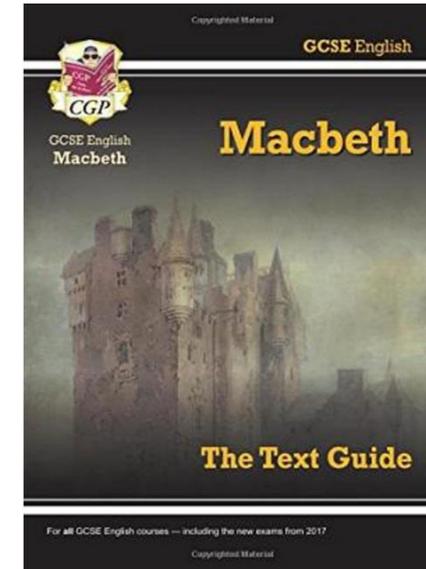
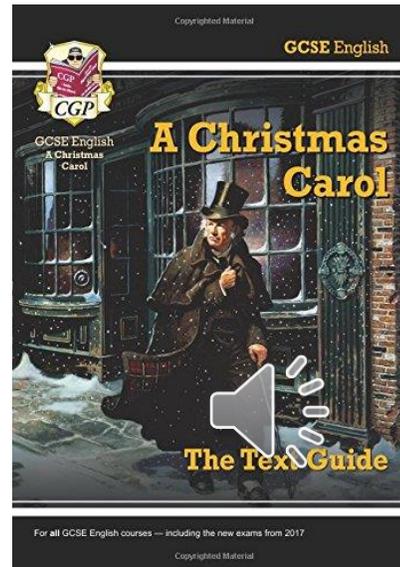
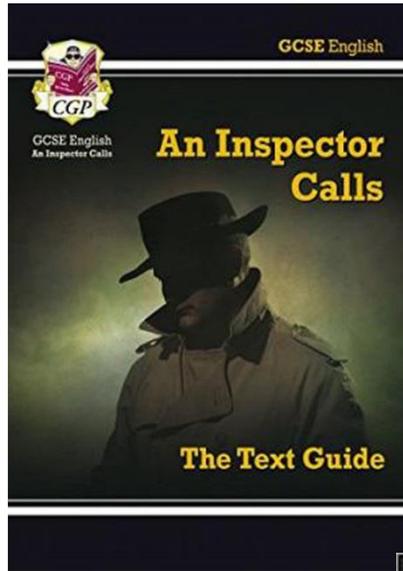
An Inspector Calls
by JB Priestley
Heinemann Plays edition
ISBN: 9780435232825



A Christmas Carol
by Charles Dickens
Any edition but There is a new
'annotation friendly' version with space
for writing: ISBN-13: 978-1707446605.



School discount on the 5 Revision Guides: £15.75 (approx.) for all 5!



The Year Ahead:

Home Learning:

1. Tasks set from unit of work being studied
2. Half-termly reading for pleasure book (LRC)
3. Vocabulary and spellings tests
4. Knowledge Organiser self-quizzing
5. Revision for end of unit exams

Term	Content
Autumn Term	English Language: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gothic fiction English Literature: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The modern novel: To Kill a Mockingbird or Lord of the Flies
Spring Term	English Language: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Crime and Punishment English Literature: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Romantic poetry
Summer Term	Language Component: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dystopia English Literature: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• An Inspector Calls



Thank you for joining us!

We look forward to working with you this year!

Have a safe journey home!

