



# Revision Tips

Revision  
that sticks!

Tips for supporting your child through  
their GCSEs.



# General Tips

- Help your child to make a revision plan. It is important that students can balance revision with leisure time.
  - ⇒ **During Term Time** - an effective study routine will involve your child starting and ending their revision at approximately the same time each day. Encourage your child to make a brief plan of the topics they will revise each evening.
  - ⇒ **During the Holidays** - during the holidays, your child will have more time to revise. Ensure that they balance revision time between subjects and vary the subjects throughout the course of the holidays.
- Ensure that your child has a suitable area where they can revise. Ideally this is a place that is quiet, well-lit and with minimal disruption or distractions. Alternatively, your child can revise in the school library from 3.05pm-4.00pm.
- Revision sessions should be between 1-3 hours with regular breaks. An effective revision session follows the pattern below:
  - ⇒ 40 minutes revising
  - ⇒ 10 minutes testing (e.g. exam questions)
  - ⇒ 10 minutes resting
- Students should always try and end their sessions with testing their knowledge.
- The best way to maintain high concentration levels is to take regular breaks. For every hour that they revise they should have a 10 minute break.
- Students should avoid revising in front of the TV or streaming videos on their devices (unless these are revision based!)
- Students should avoid the distraction of their mobile phones whilst revising.
- Some students prefer to revise to music. If this is the case, they should have it at a low volume and it should not distract them.
- A good night's sleep is vital so a regular bed time is crucial. It is also important that they relax after revising.
- Do not compare your child to others as this can cause tension. What works for other children may not be effective for your child.



## Example Revision Timetable

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
<b>7.30am-8.30am</b>		Science (in school)		GCSE PE (in school)	
<b>8.30am-3.05pm</b>	School	School	School	School	School
<b>3.05pm - 4.00pm</b>	English – language paper 2 (at school)	Homework club	Netball practice	Media Studies coursework	Homework club
<b>4.00pm-4.30pm</b>	Travel home + break	Travel home + break	Travel home + break	Travel home + break	Travel home + break
<b>4.30pm - 5.30pm</b>	Maths - algebra	English literature – ACC Context	Science - Bonding	English - poetry	History - explanations of the cause of disease
<b>5.30pm - 6.00pm</b>	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner
<b>6.00pm-7.00pm</b>	Science - Atomic structure	RE –The Mitzvot	Geography— global atmospheric circulation	Science— Forces	Cadets

An effective revision timetable will have specific topics, not just subjects.



# English Language and English Litera-

## AQA English GCSE Exams:

**Language Paper 1 (1 hour 45 minutes)** – Reading an unseen text and narrative writing

**Language Paper 2 (1 hour 45 minutes)**- Reading two unseen texts and writing for genre, audience and purpose.

**Literature Paper 1 (1 hour 45 minutes)** – Romeo and Juliet and A Christmas Carol

**Literature Paper 2 (2hours 15minutes)** - Inspector Calls, Conflict anthology and an unseen poem.

## Core texts to be studied:

**AQA Power and Conflict anthology**

**A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens**

**Romeo and Juliet by Shakespeare**

**An Inspector Calls by J.B Priestley**

## Suggested Revision Texts:

**Language Paper Revision AQA Workbook:** <https://www.waterstones.com/book/revise-aqa-gcse-english-language-revision-workbook/harry-smith/9781447987833>

**A Christmas Carol Study Guide:** <https://www.waterstones.com/book/a-christmas-carol-york-notes-for-gcse-9-1/lucy-english/9781447982128>

**A Christmas Carol Workbook:** <https://www.waterstones.com/book/a-christmas-carol-york-notes-for-gcse-9-1-workbook/beth-kemp/9781292138077>

**An Inspector Calls Study Guide:** <https://www.waterstones.com/book/an-inspector-calls-york-notes-for-gcse-9-1/john-sciicluna/mary-green/9781447982166>



**An Inspector Calls Workbook:** <https://www.waterstones.com/book/an-inspector-calls-york-notes-for-gcse-9-1-workbook/mary-green/9781292100791>

**Romeo and Juliet Study Guide:** <https://www.waterstones.com/book/romeo-and-juliet-york-notes-for-gcse-9-1/john-polley/jo-heathcote/9781447982234>

**Romeo and Juliet Workbook:** <https://www.waterstones.com/book/romeo-and-juliet-york-notes-for-gcse-9-1-workbook/susannah-white/9781292100821>

**Collins Power and Conflict Anthology (revision and practice):** <https://www.waterstones.com/book/aqa-gcse-poetry-anthology-power-and-conflict-revision-guide/collins-gcse/9780008112554>

### **Suggested Revision Websites:**

**Literature GCSE:** Remember you need to know – plot, themes, characters and key quotes for each text.

**Search individual texts on the following websites:**

<http://www.sparknotes.com/>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/>

<http://www.litcharts.com/>

Search key themes and character analysis for individual texts on [www.youtube.co.uk](http://www.youtube.co.uk). Mr Bruff usually has some interesting videos and some explain how to answer exam questions.

**Language GCSE:** Remember you need to be able to read unseen 19<sup>th</sup> century texts, compare two unseen texts, write a creative description/short story and also write for different genres, audiences and purposes.



# English Language and English Litera-

## Suggested Revision Activities to help you revise:

### Literature:

**-Create flashcards for the themes, characters and quotes within each core text.**

On one side can be the theme, name or quote and on the other side how this theme is shown, what the character does and what the quotes mean. You could even have different colours that represent different themes and put those colours on each character/quote.

**-Randomly turn to a page in your core texts to analyse.**

Try to identify the themes shown on this page and explain how they are shown. Your answer could be written up in full paragraphs. Remember you must include terminology (devices), the effect on the reader and text, as well as context and cross-references to other parts of the novel.

**-Create posters on the themes, characters and quotes within each core text.**

Create posters with lots of detail on how themes are shown in the text, each character's role/personality and key quotes for these. Put these on your bedroom wall and you will be surprised how much information you will remember each time you see it.

**-Work your way through the Conflict anthology and analyse each poem.**

For each poem in the conflict anthology, analyse it as if it was an unseen (without help from websites or book notes). Remember when analysing a poem a good place to start is to use **SALSA**: **Subject** of the poem (how shown), **Attitude** (how shown), **Language** devices (why used/effect), **Structural** devices (why used/effect) and any **alternate interpretations** you can give. Giving more than one interpretation of line will get you high marks!

### Language:

**-Analyse unseen texts- both modern and 19<sup>th</sup> century.**

Try to find two texts that have the same idea or theme (with similar or



different views). For example, a Domino's brochure selling pizza could be compared to a leaflet on healthy eating. Think: how are they the same, how are they different? You may want to draw up a table of similarities/differences or write up full analysis paragraphs on the devices they have used for effect to get across different/similar ideas.

Go to the British library website (<http://historicaltexts.jisc.ac.uk/>) to find a range of 19<sup>th</sup> century texts that you can analyse. Try to work out what the texts are about and how they use language devices to emphasise key ideas. If you have an e-reader most 19<sup>th</sup> century texts are free! **In your exam there will be fiction and non-fiction 19<sup>th</sup> century texts**, so look at 19<sup>th</sup> century pamphlets, posters and leaflets as well as stories.

#### **-Analyse GAP and create your own!**

Pick up leaflets, newspapers and brochures that are posted through your door and think about their GAP and how it is shown. Analyse the language devices used, why they have been chosen and their effect on the audience/text. Then try to create your own unique version using the same GAP as the one you have just studied.

#### **-Story time**

Ask a friend, parent or carer to find you a random picture. You must then create a page of detailed description based on this picture.

You could also write random words, phrases and characters on pieces of paper. Muddle them up and then randomly choose two. Those two then have to be included in a description or short story.

Remember for both of the above tasks you need to proof read your work and check:

**Spelling, punctuation and grammar.**

**Paragraphs are used with connectives.**

**A range of interesting vocabulary is used, with a range of sentence starters.**



# English Language and English Litera-

**A range of different sentence types are used for effect, with a range of punctuation. ! : ; () -**

**Language devices are used effectively (CAMPERS and AFOREST)**

**DETAIL, DETAIL, DETAIL! Use the senses to go into detail and expand on your ideas fully!**

Remember if need any extra support, guidance or more materials to revise from, ask your teacher, or contact the English Department.



# R.E.

## **Revision Guide:**

This has exam style questions to be completed. Answers are in the back of the book. The D type questions would still need to be written out as a practice and include evaluation.

## **Kerboodle.com:**

This is an online textbook and has more detail than the revision guide. It also has additional exam tips/tasks and questions.

Example login for John Smith

**Username:** smitj1.887

**Password:** smitj1.887

**School code:** szl6

## **Senecalearning.com:**

Students can sign up for free (using an email address) for online activities/ multiple choice responses.

## **Intervention sessions:**

These are run from 3.10pm until 4.10pm (room B1 or ask your RE teacher)

Monday – Judaism

Thursday – Catholic Christianity



# Maths

Each student in year 11 has been given a gap analysis (example below) based on their recent PPEs. The red column has a list of topics in which they scored 0 marks; students will need to prioritise these topics. The yellow column has a list of topics in which they have scored some marks but still need to work on to have full understanding of the topic. The green column has a list of topics in which they have scored full marks.

## Mathematics PPE Higher Y11 (Gap Analysis) November 2018



<b>Student Name:</b> ABC	<b>Paper1:</b> 39 <b>Paper2:</b> 22 <b>Paper3:</b> 35
<b>Target Grade:</b> 7	<b>Overall Marks:</b> 96 <b>PAPER GRADE:</b> 5

Topics not yet understood	Topics requiring further work	Topics understood well
<p><b>Paper1:</b> Adding And Subtracting Fractions, Index Laws (Negative And Fractional), Simplify Indices, Index Laws (Negative And Fractional), Circle Theorems, Algebra And Proof, Direct And Inverse Proportion, Expand The Product Of Two Or More Binomials, Probability Of Independent Events, Algebraic Fractions, Trigonometric Graphs, Perpendicular Lines, Solve Quadratic Inequalities,</p> <p><b>Paper2:</b> Index Laws, LCM And HCF, LCM And HCF, Percentage Increase &amp; Decrease, Quadratic Equations (graphical Methods), Enlargements, Fractional SF, Growth And Decay, Vectors, Ratio, Factorising, Circle Theorems, Gradient And Area Under Graphs, Probability Of Independent Events, Equation Of A Circle, Equation Of A Circle, Histograms With Unequal Class Widths, Pythagoras and Trigonometry in 3D,</p> <p><b>Paper3:</b> Trigonometric Ratios, Trigonometric Ratios, Percentage change and reverse %, Scale Factors And Similarity, Gradient And Area Under Graphs, Gradient And Area Under Graphs, Nth Term Of A Quadratic Sequence,</p>	<p><b>Paper1:</b> Dividing Fractions, Plans And Elevations, Transformations, Box Plots,</p> <p><b>Paper2:</b> Quadratic Equations (graphical Methods), Quadratic Equations (graphical Methods), Vectors, Interpret Proportion, Histograms With Unequal Class Widths,</p> <p><b>Paper3:</b> Area Of Triangles, Trapezia And Parallelograms, Standard Form, Percentage Increase &amp; Decrease, Product Rule.</p>	<p><b>Paper1</b> Ratio Sharing, Percentage Changes, Estimation, Estimation, Surface Area, Coordinates In Four Quadrants, Ratio Sharing, Box Plots, Surds, Factorising Difficult Quadratic Expressions,.....</p> <p><b>Paper2</b> Simplify Indices, Index Laws, Graphs Of Linear Functions, Problems With Compound Units, Graphs, Charts and Tables, Probability Of Independent Events,</p> <p><b>Paper3:</b> Scatter Graphs, Scatter Graphs, Scatter Graphs, Expanding Binomials, Probability Of Independent Events, Relative Frequency, Relative Frequency, Linear Equations, Polygons, LCM And HCF, Interpret Gradients of Straight Line Graphs, Interpret Gradients of Straight Line Graphs, Interpret Gradients of Straight Line Graphs,</p>

Students should focus their revision by studying yellow and red topics first.

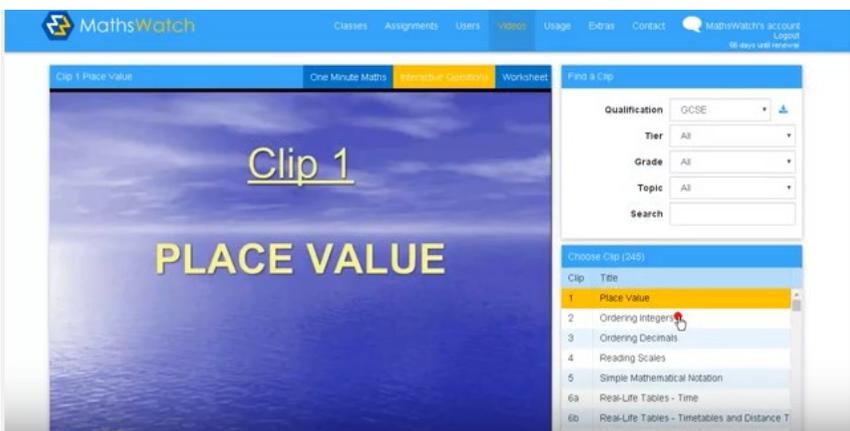
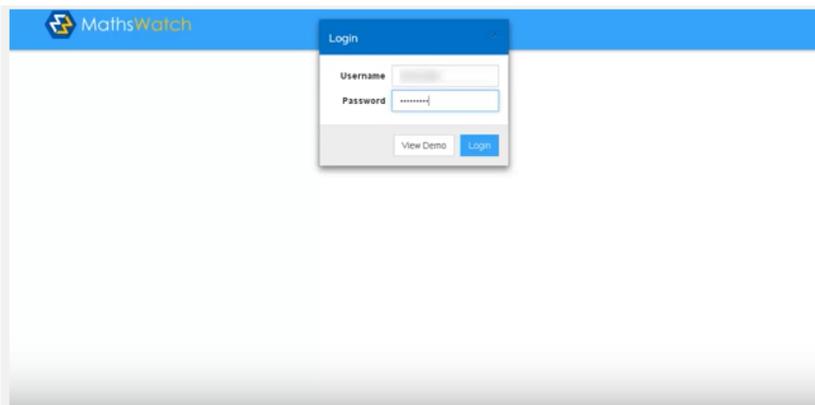


Students can use the following resources for revision:

## Maths Watch

<https://vle.mathswatch.co.uk/vle/>

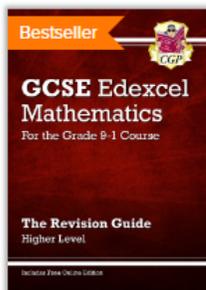
Students have been give individual log in details for Maths Watch. They can watch videos and practice questions on Maths Watch.





# Maths

Students can also buy revision guide to help them revise mathematics:

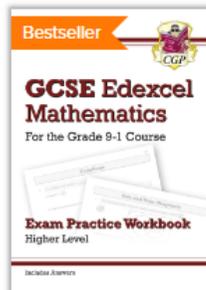


[Quick View](#)

**GCSE Maths Edexcel Revision Guide: Higher - for the Grade 9-1 Course (with Online Edition)**

MXHR46  
In stock

**£5.95**

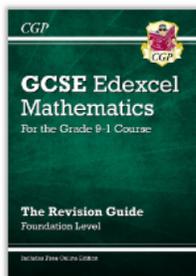


[Quick View](#)

**GCSE Maths Edexcel Exam Practice Workbook: Higher - for the Grade 9-1 Course (includes Answers)**

MXHQ42  
In stock

**£5.95**

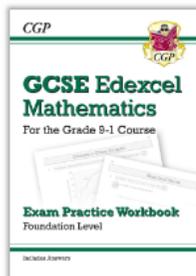


[Quick View](#)

**GCSE Maths Edexcel Revision Guide: Foundation - for the Grade 9-1 Course (with Online Edition)**

MXFR46  
In stock

**£5.95**



[Quick View](#)

**GCSE Maths Edexcel Exam Practice Workbook: Foundation - for the Grade 9-1 Course (with Answers)**

MXFQ42  
In stock

**£5.95**



There are also some useful websites to use for exam practice:

<https://www.mathsgenie.co.uk/gcse.html>

<https://corbettmaths.com/>

<https://justmaths.co.uk/2015/12/21/9-1-exam-questions-by-topic-higher-tier/>

<https://justmaths.co.uk/2015/11/29/9-1-exam-questions-by-topic-foundation-version-2/>



# Science

Here are some examples of the ways you can support your child to revise for their science GCSEs.

- All pupils were supplied with a revision guide before the October half term. As well as the hard copy on the inside cover there is a code for an online version to be accessed. If your child did not receive one, please see Mr Bowers who will be able to help.
- There are pages of notes on each topic covering all 6 exams. Pupils are encouraged to use this information to complete any of the following tasks.
  - ⇒ Making flash cards – Key snippets of information small cards
  - ⇒ Making quiz cards – Questions on small card with answers overleaf.
  - ⇒ Creation of mind maps linking topics together
  - ⇒ Making summary posters of the equations needed for each exam. These can then be displayed in prominent places around the home.
  - ⇒ At the end of each topic there are summary questions; you may support your child by encouraging them to answer these.
- Online learning tool Seneca Learning (<https://app.senecalearning.com/sign-up>). This is a free resource that only requires an email address to sign up. It has a mix of information and questions that pupils work through at a speed of their choosing.
- Ensure the correct courses are added. These are -
  - Combined Science – Biology: AQA Higher/ Foundation**
  - Combined Science – Chemistry: AQA Higher/ Foundation**
  - Combined Science – Physics: AQA Higher/ Foundation**



AQA publish specimen papers as this is a relatively new specification. This will allow pupils to gain an insight into what kinds of questions will be asked and how they will be asked.

These can be accessed here <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/combined-science-trilogy-8464/assessment-resources>



# Exam Boards

Exam board websites are incredibly useful and contain a host of revision resources such as past paper questions.

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Exam Board</b>
English Language	AQA
English Literature	AQA
Maths	Edexcel
Science	AQA
RE	Edexcel
History	Edexcel
Geography	Edexcel
Computer Science	OCR
French	AQA
Sociology	AQA
Media Studies	Eduqas
Product Design	AQA
Art	Pearson
PE	AQA
Sport	Pearson
Drama	AQA
Food and Nutrition	AQA
Health and Social Care	Pearson
Travel and Tourism	Pearson



# Exam Board Websites

**AQA:**

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/qualifications>

**Edexcel:**

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses.html>

**OCR:**

<https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse/>

**Pearson:**

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/home.html>

**Eduqas:**

<https://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/>



[www.stjohnfisher.school](http://www.stjohnfisher.school)

Ordnance Street Chatham ME4 6SG