

Welcome to GCSE 2023

JOG Values

Ambition

Care

Courage

Mathematics (AQA)

Examinations:

- **Paper 1 Non-calculator** - 80 Marks (1 hour 30 minutes)
- **Paper 2 Calculator** - 80 Marks (1 hour 30 minutes)
- **Paper 3 Calculator** - 80 Marks (1 hour 30 minutes)

Tiers

- **Foundation:** Grade 1 - 5
- **Higher:** Grade 4 - 9

Resources to support Independent Learning

- **Maths Watch:** Can be used to revise, mainly used to complete homework.
[MathsWatch](#)
- **Dr Frost Maths:** Full of questions and videos, great for exam practice (you can set up a free account).
<https://www.drfrostmaths.com/>
- **Mathsgenie:** A free website to complete 'suggested grade' questions (includes videos and solutions). You can complete past papers (exam board AQA, select Foundation or Higher).
[Maths Genie - Free Online GCSE and A Level Maths Revision](#)
- **Go Teach Maths:** Choose the 'free revision' option, select GCSE then Mark Maximisers, choose the range of graded questions to answer.
[Go Teach Maths: Handcrafted Resources for Maths Teachers](#)
- **Corbettmaths:** Videos for each topic, GCSE revision, including 'ultimate revision' videos for both Higher and Foundation. These cover a huge amount of the content.
[Corbettmaths – Videos, worksheets, 5-a-day and much more](#)

English Language (AQA)

Examinations:

<u>Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Writing</u>	<u>Paper 2: Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives</u>
What's assessed? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Section A: Reading - one literature fiction text• Section B: Writing - descriptive or narrative writing	What's assessed? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Section A: Reading - one non-fiction text and one literary non-fiction text• Section B: Writing - writing to present a viewpoint
Assessed: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes• 80 marks• 50% of GCSE	Assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none">• written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes• 80 marks• 50% of GCSE
Questions: Reading (40 marks) (25%)– one single text (unseen) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 short question (1 x 4 marks)• 2 longer questions (2 x 8 marks)• 1 extended question (1 x 20 marks) Writing (40 marks) (25%) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 extended writing question (24 marks for content, 16 marks for technical accuracy)	Questions: Reading (40 marks) (25%) – two linked texts (unseen) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 short question (1 x 4 marks)• 2 longer questions (1 x 8, 1 x 12 marks)• 1 extended question (1 x 16 marks) Writing (40 marks) (25%) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 extended writing question (24 marks for content, 16 marks for technical accuracy)

Non-examination Assessment:

What's assessed?

- presenting
- responding to questions and feedback
- use of Standard English

Tiers

All students sit the same papers.

Resources to support Independent Learning

- [Free Homework & Revision for A Level, GCSE, KS3 & KS2 \(senecalearning.com\)](https://www.senecalearning.com/)
- GCSE Pod – details to follow
- SharePoint/Teams for class revision and past exam papers.
- CGP Revision Guides
- BBC Bitesize

English Literature (AQA)

Examinations:

<p><u>Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th- century novel:</u></p> <p>What's assessed?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shakespeare (Macbeth) • 19th Century novel (A Christmas Carol) <p>Section A Shakespeare: students will answer one question on their play of choice. They will be required to write in detail about an extract from the play and then to write about the play as a whole.</p> <p>Section B The 19th-century novel: students will answer one question on their novel of choice. They will be required to write in detail about an extract from the novel and then to write about the novel as a whole.</p>	<p><u>Paper 2: Modern texts and poetry</u></p> <p>What's assessed?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modern prose or drama texts (An Inspector Calls) • The poetry anthology (Power & Conflict) • Unseen poetry
<p>Assessed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes • 64 marks • 40% of GCSE 	<p>Assessed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • written exam: 2 hour 15 minutes • 96 marks • 60% of GCSE <p>Section A Modern texts: students will answer one essay question from a choice of two on An Inspector Calls.</p> <p>Section B Poetry: students will answer one comparative question on one named poem printed on the paper and one other poem from the Power & Conflict anthology.</p> <p>Section C Unseen poetry: Students will answer one question on one unseen poem and one question comparing this poem with a second unseen poem.</p>

Assessment Objectives (spread across both papers)

AO1: Read, understand and respond to texts. Students should be able to:

- maintain a critical style and develop an informed personal response
- use textual references, including quotations, to support and illustrate interpretations.

AO2: Analyse the language, form and structure used by a writer to create meanings and effects, using relevant subject terminology where appropriate.

AO3: Show understanding of the relationships between texts and the contexts in which they were written.

AO4: Use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures for clarity, purpose and effect, with accurate spelling and punctuation.

Tiers

All students sit the same papers.

Resources to support Independent Learning

- [Free Homework & Revision for A Level, GCSE, KS3 & KS2 \(senecalearning.com\)](https://www.senecalearning.com)
- GCSE Pod – details to follow
- SharePoint/Teams for class revision and past exam papers.
- CGP Revision Guides
- **DigitalTheatre Plus** – to watch performances of all texts studied
- BBC Bitesize

Combined Science (AQA)

Examinations:

Six 1 hour and 15-minute examinations, each worth 70 marks.

Questions

Multiple choice, structured, closed short answer, and open response.

Papers

- Biology 1
- Biology 2
- Chemistry 1
- Chemistry 2
- Physics 1
- Physics 2

Tiers

- Higher (Grades 5-9)
- Foundation (Grades 1-5)

Please note two grades will be generated after combining all of the results together.

Resources to support Independent Learning

Past Papers from AQA



CGP Revision Guides



Single Science (AQA)

Examinations:

Six 1 hour and 45-minute examinations.

Questions

Multiple choice, structured, closed short answer, and open response.

Papers

- Biology (8461): Biology 1 & Biology 2
- Chemistry (8462): Chemistry 1 & Chemistry 2
- Physics (8463): Physics 1 & Physics 2

Tiers

- Higher (Grades 5-9)
- Foundation (Grades 1-5)

Resources to support Independent Learning

- Past Papers from AQA

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/find-past-papers-and-mark-schemes>

- CGP Revision Guides

https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/secondary-books/gcse/science?sort=best_selling&quantity=36&page=1&view=grid¤tFilter=ExamBoard_140&filter_exam%20board=ExamBoard_140

History (Edexcel)

Examinations:

Three exams, covering four units.

- **Paper 1:** Crime and Punishment 1000AD-present, with Whitechapel Case Study c1870-1900. *1 hour 15 mins.*
- **Paper 2:** Early Elizabethan England *and* Superpower Relations and the Cold War. *1 hour 45 mins.*
- **Paper 3:** Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918-1939. *1 hour 20 mins.*

Questions: a combination of knowledge, evaluation, source and interpretation questions. Smallest question is 4 marks, largest is 20 marks.

Tiers

All students sit the same papers.

Resources to support Independent Learning



This link takes you to an online Padlet with a range of resources to use throughout the GCSE History course. This link is also on the students Teams class.



Follow this link to the history GCSE revision guides. There are lots of options, so ensure you are choosing books that match the paper topics.

Religious Studies (AQA)

Examinations:

Two exams, covering two major religions and four themes.

Paper 1: Christianity and Islam (*BELIEFS and PRACTICES*)

1 hour 45 mins.

Paper 2: students sit 4/6 options. (*PHILOSOPHY AND ETHICS*). *Our chosen options are:*

- *Relationship and Families*
- *Religion and Life*
- *Religion, Peace and Conflict*
- *Religion, Crime and Punishment*
- *1 hour 45 mins.*

Each paper is worth 50% of the GCSE.

Tiers

All students sit the same papers.

Resources to support Independent Learning



This link takes you to an online Padlet with a range of resources to use throughout the GCSE RS course. This link is also on the students Teams class.

Revision guide Christianity and Islam



Themes workbook



Geography (AQA)

Examinations:

Three exams all 1 hour 30 mins

Paper 1: Living with the physical environment (The challenge of natural hazards, The living world, Physical landscapes in the UK, Geographical skills)

Paper 2: Challenges in the Human environment (Urban issues and challenges, The changing economic world, The challenge of resource management, Geographical skills)

Paper 3: Geographical applications (evaluation, fieldwork, skills)

Tiers

All students sit the same papers.

Resources to support Independent Learning

Be aware there are lots of case study options in Geography so revision guides may or may not include all of the options we study, and some will have other case studies. Students must listen very carefully to the geography department when using revision guides.

CGP revision guide



CGP revision and practice



BBC Bitesize website and revision guides are useful, ensure it is set to AQA geography.

French (AQA)

Examinations:

Three exam papers and an oral exam covering three themes and assessing four main skills – listening, reading, writing and speaking. Each paper is worth 25% of the overall GCSE grade.

<u>Listening Exam</u>	<u>Speaking Exam</u>	<u>Reading Exam</u>	<u>Writing Exam</u>
5 minute reading time is given before the listening stimulus begins	12-minute preparation time	45 minutes Foundation/ 1 hour Higher	1 hour Foundation/ 1 hour 15 Higher
Section A – questions in English and answer in English	60 marks for both tiers	60 marks for both tiers	50 marks Foundation/ 60 marks Higher
Section B – questions in French and answered in French	Format is: Roleplay (2 minutes and worth 15 marks)	Three sections: Section A – questions in English and answer in English	
	Photocard (2 minutes for Foundation/ 3 minutes for Higher and worth 15 marks)	Section B – questions in French and answer in French	
	General Conversation (3-5 minutes at Foundation/ 5-7 minutes at Higher and worth 30 marks)	Section C – Translation from French to English (35 word minimum at Foundation/ 50 word minimum at Higher)	

Writing Exam

Format for Foundation tier:

- Question 1 - message (students produce four sentences in response to a photo) - 8 marks
- Question 2 – short passage (students write a continuous text in response to four brief bullet points, approximately 40 words total) - 16 marks
- Question 3 – translation from English to French (minimum 35 words) - 10 marks
- Question 4 – structured writing task (students respond to 4 compulsory detailed bullet points, producing approximately 90 words in total) there is a choice of 2 questions – 16 marks

Format for Higher Tier

- Question 1 – structured writing task (student responds to 4 compulsory detailed bullet points, producing approximately 90 words in total) - there is a choice of 2 questions – 16 marks
- Question 2 – open-ended writing task (student responds to 2 compulsory detailed bullet points, producing approximately 150 words in total) - there is a choice of 2 questions – 32 marks

- Question 3 – translation from English into French (minimum 50 words) - 12 marks

Tiers

- Foundation: Grade 1-5
- Higher: Grade 3-9

Resources to support Independent Learning

AQA Past Papers: <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/languages/gcse/french-8658/assessment-resources?f.Resource+type%7C6=Question+papers>

Quizlet: A website where you can revise key vocabulary or create your own.

Seneca: Topics are often posted by the class teacher for revision

CGP Revision guides – photocopies are available from the class teacher, or you can buy them online (https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/secondary-books/gcse?gad=1&gclid=EAlaIQobChMI4eSEnamsgQMV8UNBAh1wpQVnEAAYASAAEgK-g_D_BwE&sort=best_selling&quantity=0&page=1&view=grid¤tFilter=Subject_27&filter_key%20stage=KeyStage_59&filter_exam%20board=ExamBoard_140%2CExamBoard_506%2CExamBoard_700&filter_subject=Subject_27%2CSubject_44%2CSubject_29)

Music (OCR)

Examinations:

Key Features of the specification:

- an integrated performance and composition component with learner choice of instrument
– non-examined assessment completed during the course
- a practical portfolio that includes the board set composition task and an ensemble performance
– non-examined assessment completed during the course
- the performance and composition components are internally assessed and externally moderated by OCR
- an examined listening and appraisal component sat at the end of the linear course
- the performance and composition components will enable learners to pursue their individual preference with a broad range of Areas of Study
- the three components of OCR's GCSE (9–1) in Music allow an integrated approach to the teaching and learning of appraisal, performing, and composing.

Content Overview	Assessment Overview	
Performance on the learner's chosen instrument. Composition to a brief set by the learner.	Integrated portfolio (01 or 02) 60 Marks Non-exam assessment	30% of total GCSE
Ensemble performance. Composition to an OCR set brief.	Practical component (03 or 04) 60 Marks Non-exam assessment	30% of total GCSE
Listening and appraising. A written paper, with audio recording. Aural recognition and context unheard/unfamiliar music from within the Areas of Study 2, 3, 4 & 5.	Listening and appraising (05) 80 Marks 1 hour and 30 minutes written paper	40% of total GCSE

Tiers

All students sit the same papers.

Resources to support Independent Learning

OCR Music