

GCSE Course Information (For Yr11-12, 2024-2026)

Subject	Units to be covered	% Weighting of units	Approximately when each unit will be completed	Details of any practical/internal school assessments
Art and Design	Component 1: Part A: Exploratory Portfolio	60% Part A: 25% 50 marks	Component 1 Part A Completed Easter Year11	An experimental portfolio will be produced with no finished outcome.
	Part B: Investigating the Creative and Cultural Industries	Part B: 35% 70 marks	Component 1 Part B. Completed December Year 12	A finished outcome will be produced for component 1, part B, integrating the skills and techniques discovered in component 1, Part A.
	Component 2: Externally Set Assignment	40% 80 marks	Paper released to pupils January Year 12 Completed Easter Year 12	The externally set assignment is completed within a 10hr period in the last week of the Spring term.
Business Studies	Unit 1: Starting a Business	40%	Unit completed by end of Year 11 with external examination taken summer of Year 11	Internal Controlled Assessment - takes place in Year 12. Research will begin after the February half term and a 1 hour written exam will follow in March/April.
	Unit 2: Developing a Business	40%	Unit completed by Easter Year 12 with external examination taken end of Year 12	
	Unit 3: Planning a Business	20%		

Child Development	Unit 1: Parenthood, Pregnancy and the Newborn Baby	30%	Completed Year 11, Exam, summer of Year 11.	Internal Controlled Assessment
	Unit 2: The Development of the Child (0–5 Years)	30%	Completed Year 12	
	Unit 3: Investigation Task.	40%	Throughout Year 12	
Digital Technology (Programming)	Unit 1: Digital Technology	30%	Unit completed by June Year 11 with external examination taken summer Year 11	Internal Controlled Assessment
	Unit 4: Digital Development Concepts	40%	Unit completed by May Year 12 Written examination 1 hour 30 mins – Summer Yr12	
	Unit 5: Digital Authoring Practice	30%	Ongoing during GCSE years	
Digital Technology (Multimedia)	Unit 1: Digital Technology	30%	Unit completed by June Year 11 Written examination 1-hour Summer of Yr11 with external examination taken summer of Year 11	
	Unit 2: Digital Authoring Concepts	40%	Unit completed by May Year 12 Written examination 1 hour 30 mins – Summer Yr12	
	Unit 3: Digital Authoring Practice	30%	Ongoing during GCSE years	Internal Controlled Assessment

Drama	<u>Component 1</u> Devised Performance	25%	Practical assessment completed during Year 11.	Performance – 15% Student Log – 10% (moderated by DVD) Controlled Assessment
	<u>Component 2</u> Scripted Performance	35%	Practical assessment completed in Spring term of Year 12.	Performance – 35% (Visiting Moderator) Controlled Assessment
	<u>Component 3</u> Knowledge and understanding of Drama – ‘Blood Brothers’ or ‘Philadelphia, Here I Come’	40%	External examination - 1 hr 30 mins completed at the end of Year 12.	Stimulus for Devised performance is set annually by CCEA.
English Language	<u>Unit 1</u> Writing for Purpose and Audience and Reading to Access Non-Fiction and Media Texts.	30%	Complete external exam:- 1 hour 45 mins Summer of Year 11.	
	<u>Unit 2</u> Speaking + Listening	20%	Complete from Sept Year11- March Year 12	Internal Controlled Assessment(tasks integrated into classroom activities)
	<u>Unit 3</u> Studying Written Language and studying Spoken Language.	20% (each worth 10%)	Spoken Language completed Term 2 of Year 11. Written Language completed in Term 1 of Year 12.	Internal Controlled Assessment
	<u>Unit 4</u> Personal or Creative writing and Reading Literary + Non-Fiction texts	30%	Complete external exam :- 1 hour 45 mins, Summer of Year 12.	

English Literature	<u>Unit 1</u> The Study of Prose	30%	Complete external exam:- 1 hour 45 mins Summer of Year 11.	Internal Controlled Assessment
	<u>Unit 2</u> The Study of Drama and Poetry	50%	Complete external exam:- 2 hours Summer of Year 12.	
	<u>Unit 3</u> The Study of Shakespeare	20%	Complete in autumn term of Year 12.	
Geography	<u>Unit 1</u> Understanding our natural world, (River and Coastal Environments, Weather and Climate, The Restless Earth)	Unit 1 – 40% (90 minute written examination)	Unit 1 exam will be completed summer of Year 11	<u>Unit 3</u> Pupils will complete a residential fieldwork study, mid to late June of Yr11. They will collect first hand data and use this data to submit a word-processed fieldwork statement and table of data. Pupils will have access to this statement and table of data during their Unit 3 examination
	<u>Unit 2</u> Living in our world (Population and Migration, Changing Urban Areas, World Development, Managing our Environment.)	Unit 2 – 40% (90 minute written examination)	Unit 2 exam will be completed summer of Year 12	
	<u>Unit 3</u> Fieldwork	Unit 3 – 20% (60 minute written examination)	Unit 3 exam will be completed summer of Year 12	
Government and Politics	Unit 1: Democracy in Action	50%	Unit 1 completed by May of Year 11 with Unit 1 external summer Yr11	No Controlled Assessments
	Unit 2: International Politics in Action	50%	Unit 2 by end of Year 12	

History	Unit 1: Section A: Modern World Studies in Depth	Option 1: Life in Nazi Germany 1933-45, 30%	Completed by Feb half term in Year 11	No Controlled Assessments
	Unit 1: Section B: Local Study	Option 1: Changing Relations: Northern Ireland and its neighbours 1965-98, 30%	Completed by May of Year 11, with Unit 1 external exam to follow summer of Yr11	
	Unit 2: Outline Study:	International Relations 1945- 2003 40%	Complete end of Year 12.	
Food and Nutrition	Component 1: Food and Nutrition	50%	Written paper, 2 hours at end of Year 12	Controlled Assessment
	Component 2: Practical Food and Nutrition	50%	Ongoing during Winter Term of Year 12	
Learning for Life and Work	Citizenship, Personal Development and Employability	<u>Modular</u> Citizenship – 20%, Personal Development – 20% and Employability 20%	Citizenship and Personal Development modules will be completed by June of Year 11 and controlled assessment will begin in September Yr12. Employability module is at the end of Yr12	[There will be no completion of January Modules in the Revised Specification] Internal Controlled Assessment
Leisure, Travel and Tourism	Unit 1- Understanding the Leisure, Travel and Tourism Industry	<u>40%</u>	Unit 1 completed in Year 11, with external examination summer Yr11	Internal Controlled Assessment
	Unit 2- Promoting and Sustaining the Leisure, Travel and Tourism Industry	<u>40%</u>	Unit 2 completed in Year 12, with external examination summer Yr12	
	Unit 3- Working in the Leisure and Tourism Industry	<u>20%</u>	Unit 3 completed in Year 12.	

Mathematics	Unit 1 Module 2, 3 or 4	45%	External Exam, summer of Year 11	No Controlled Assessment
	Unit 2 Module 6, 7 or 8	55%	External Exam, summer of Year 12	
Further Mathematics	GCSE Mathematics: M4 M8	45% 55%	External examinations sat at the end of Year 11	No Controlled Assessments
	GCSE Further Mathematics: <u>Unit 1</u> – Pure <u>Unit 2</u> – Mechanics <u>Unit 3</u> – Statistics	50% 25% 25%	External examinations sat at the end of Year 12	
Modern Languages	4 units: 1) Listening 2) Speaking 3) Reading 4) Writing	Each unit is worth 25%	The specification requires pupils to sit all components at the end of Year 12. CCEA will set exam dates for all 4 units.	Speaking – CCEA will set the dates for us to conduct the orals. We are assuming this will be in May of Year 12.
Moving Image Arts	Component 1: Critical Understanding of Creative and Technical Moving Image Production	40%	Component 1 completed June of Year 12	This is an online exam testing knowledge of film language & practice and professional roles within the film industry
	Component 2: Acquisition of Skills in Moving Image Production	20%	Component 2 completed June of Year 11	Four Controlled Assessment tasks will be completed covering Storyboarding, Sound, Camera & Editing and Animation.
	Component 3: Planning and Making a Moving Image Product	40%	Component 3 completed May of Year 12	A short film will be made with supporting documents (Script, storyboard, etc.)
Music	Component 1 Practical Performance	35%	April / May in Year 12.	Practical exam - assessed externally

	Component 2 Composition	30%	Throughout Years 11 and 12	Internal Controlled Assessment – composition folio. Internally marked, externally standardised.
	Component 3 Listening and Appraising	35%	June Year 12	One written exam, 1 ½ hrs.
Physical Education (CCEA Specification)	Component 1: Factors Underpinning Health and Performance Component 2: Developing Performance Component 3: Individual Performances in Physical Activities and Sports.	Component 1 25% Component 2 25% Component 3 50%	Component 1 - Sept – April Year 11 Component 2 April Year 11 - May Year 12 Component 3 Ongoing throughout Year 11 and 12	Pupils are required to provide 3 practical activities. The assessments will be continuous throughout the course.
Religious Studies	Full Course Unit 3 – The Revelation of God and the Christian Church Unit 6 – An Introduction to Christian Ethics Short Course Unit 6 – An Introduction to Christian Ethics	50% 50% 100%	End of Year 11/start of Year 12 End of Year 12 End of Year 12 No units sat before the end of Year 12.	No Controlled Assessment
Single Award Science	Unit 2 Chemistry Unit 3 Physics Unit 1 Biology	25% 25% 25%	Feb Year 11, with external exam to follow Feb/March Nov Year 12, with external exam to follow in November May Year 12, with external exam to follow in May/June	

	Unit 4- Practical Booklet A	7.5%	Jan – April Year 12	
	Booklet B External written exam based on prescribed practicals and practical techniques	17.5%	June Year 12	Internal Controlled Assessment - 2 practicals carried out in class time
Biology	Yr11:UNIT 1: Cells, Living Processes and Biodiversity	35%	April of Year 11 Unit 1 exam will be completed summer of Year 11	
	Yr12:UNIT 2: Body systems, Genetics, Micro-organisms, and Health	40%		
	Unit 3 Practical skills	25% - in two parts as Booklet A and Booklet B. (See column on right)	Any time between Jan to May of Year 12.	Internal Controlled Assessment, Practical skills, Booklet A 7.5% Pupils will sit two pre-released practical tasks 2hrs. Booklet B 17.5% Examination Paper 1Hr, based on practicals and practical techniques.
Chemistry	Unit 1 Structures, trends, reactions, quantitative chemistry and analysis	35%	Completed end of Year 11, to include Unit Examination	
	Unit 2 Reactions, rates, equilibrium, organic, calculations	40%	Completed end of Year 12	
	Unit 3 Practical skills	25% - in two parts as Booklet A and Booklet B. (See column on right)	Any time between Jan to May of Year 12.	Internal Controlled Assessment, Practical skills, Booklet A 7.5% Pupils will sit two pre-released practical tasks 2hrs. Booklet B 17.5% Examination Paper 1Hr, based on

				practicals and practical techniques.
Physics	Unit 1 Motion, Force, Density and Kinetic Theory, Energy and Atomic and Nuclear Physics	37.5%	End of Year 11, with external exam summer Yr11	Prescribed practicals (see details in unit 3)
	Unit 2 Waves, Light, Electricity, Magnetism, Electromagnetism and Space Physics	37.5%	End of Year 12	Prescribed practicals (see details in unit 3)
	Unit 3 Practical Booklet A	7.5%	Jan to April of Year 12	Internal Controlled Assessment - 2 practicals carried out in class time
	Booklet B Booklet B written examination	17.5%	May/June of Year 12	
Technology & Design	UNIT 1 Technology & Design Core content	25%	May of Year 11, with external exam summer Yr11	
	UNIT 2 Option A Electronic & Microelectronic Control Systems	25%	May of Year 12	
	UNIT 3 Controlled Assessment	50%	September- March Year12	Internal Controlled Assessment - Students complete a design project comprising a design portfolio and associated manufacturing task.