

WELCOME TO YEAR 10

PARENTS' INFORMATION EVENING



THE START OF THE GCSE JOURNEY - REASONS TO BE OPTIMISTIC:

- WBHS has a long history of outstanding exam success
- There are two years before students sit their GCSE exams
- Outstanding Teaching and pastoral support
- Huge amount of subject specific additionality offered
- Students will be supported to achieve their personal best grades



AIMS OF TONIGHT:

- Review of year 9
- Upcoming key dates
- How to be successful in English, Maths and Science.
- How the school and parents can work together to support success.



THE Y10 TEAM



Mr Okwe Pearson
Head of Year



Mr Charlton
Assistant
Head of Year



Mrs Blakeley
Assistant
Head of Year



Mrs Gascoigne
Assistant
Head of Year

WELCOME TO YEAR 10

It's not just going to school any more – it is taking qualifications...

There is a great deal that will be new this year, but also lots of comfortable aspects of the school to return to!





Y10 PARENTS' INFORMATION EVENING

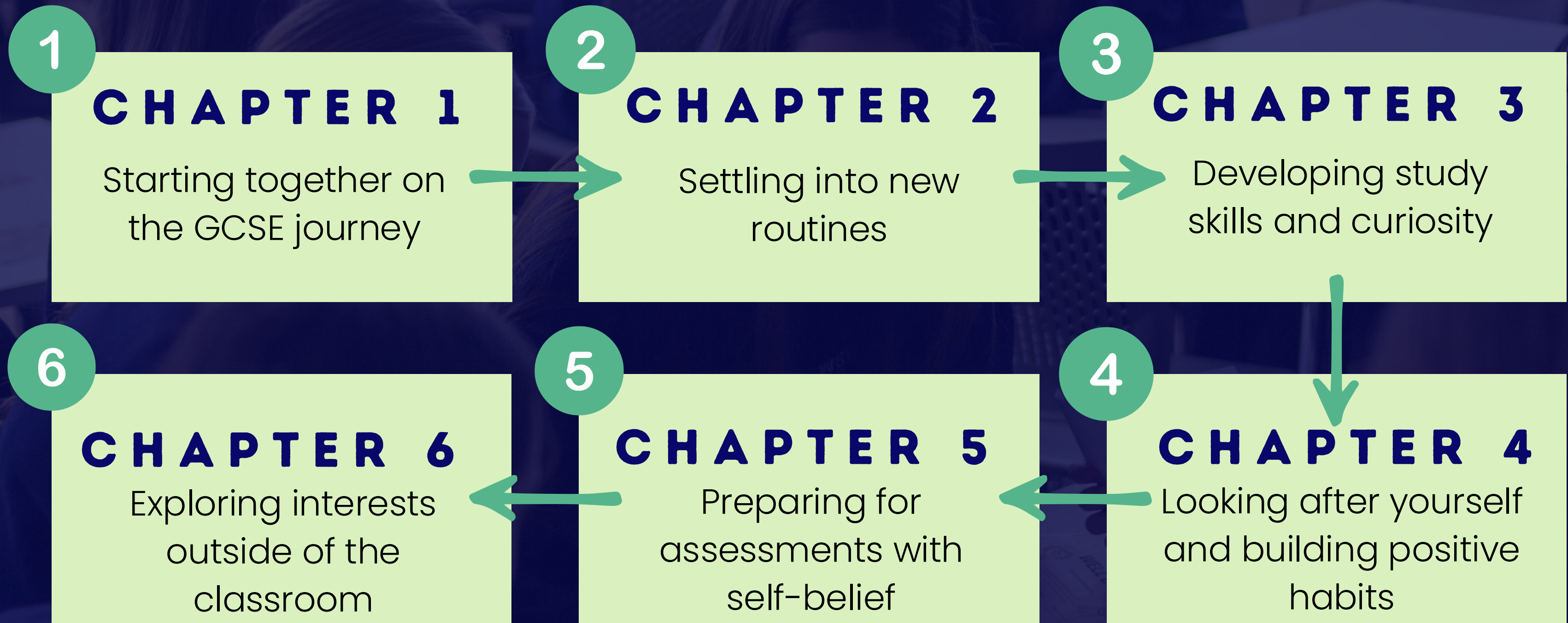


The ending is GCSE success.

The story is how students choose to live these values every day.

This year, students are not just starting their GCSEs. They are setting themselves up for the next chapter of their lives.



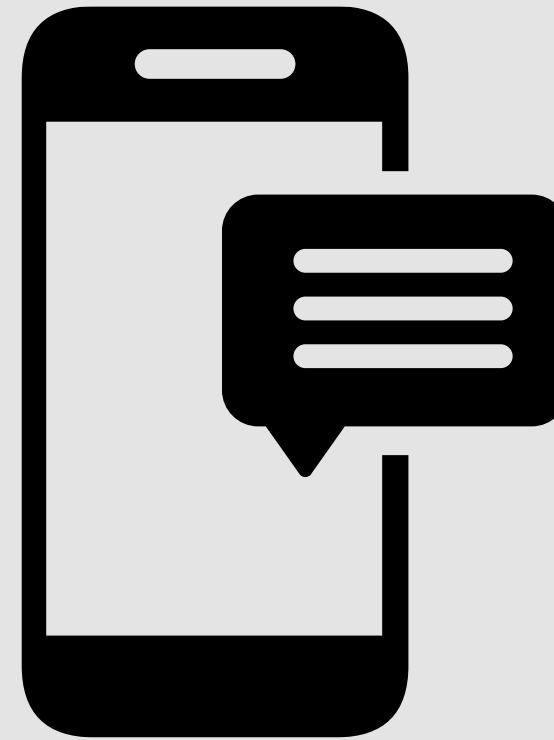


KEY DATES

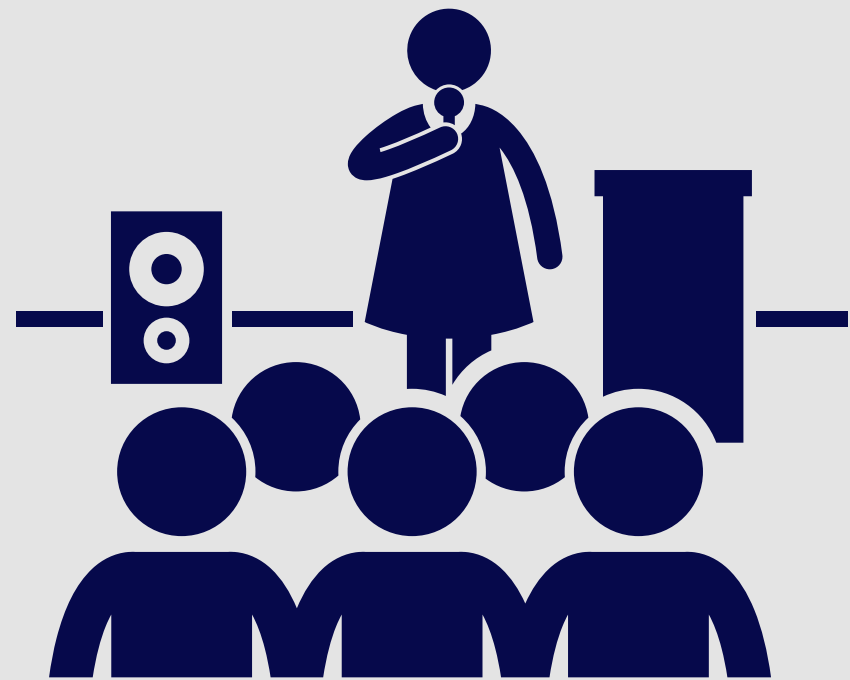
- Wednesday 4th November: Work Experience Launch Assembly
- Wednesday 11th November: Year 10 Progress Check 1
- Tuesday 24th November – X-half parents evening (virtual, 4.15–6.30pm)
- Thursday 3rd December – Y-half parents evening (virtual, 4.15–6.30pm)
- Wednesday 10th February – Progress Check 2
- W/C Monday 15th March – Wellbeing Week
- Thursday 27th May– Friday 11th June – Year 10 Assessment Week
- W/C Monday 21st June – Work Experience Week
- Monday 5th July – Y10 Results Day



COMMUNICATION



WORK EXPERIENCE



Launch Assembly
Wednesday 4th November



Work Experience Week
W/C Monday 21st June

PARTICIPATION



EXTRACURRICULAR

Extracurricular clubs Timetable 2026-27

Clubs and activities are running across the school, and we want to see you get involved! Keep listening to the daily bulleting and checking your emails for updates. New clubs are added throughout the year so keep looking for those opportunities to get involved.

Club/activity	Time	Location	Staff to contact
MONDAY			
Musicals Club	After school	Drama studio	AMS – Mrs Slater
Christian Union	Lunchtime	A101	RLT – Mrs Thurlow
Axiom Maths (Year 10)	Lunchtime	A107	DTM – Mr Main
Drama Tech	Lunchtime	Drama tech booth	NWC – Mr Convery

TUESDAY			
Lego League	Lunchtime	A008	PHE – Mr Elliott
Carnegie Reading group (Yr 9)	Lunchtime	Library	DH – Miss Harvey

WEDNESDAY			
Year 9 Drama club	Lunchtime	Drama Studio	DAE – Miss Emilova
Girls football team years 9-11	After school	3G	KFK – Miss Kennedy
Creative Writing group	After school	Library	GLE – Mr Ellis
DT Drop in	Lunchtime	DT Department	KAA – Miss Askham
GCSE Textiles Studio	After school	A004	JFC/ACG – Mrs Gascoigne, Miss Chapman
'Catch up' GCSE Art club	Lunchtime	D003	LCG – Miss Gibson
Whitley Bay allotment club	After school	Meet outside food depart	IGP – Mr Peake
Secret Soup Club	After school	Food dept	IGP – Mr Peake

THURSDAY			
Pride Club	Lunchtime	A206	ZMM – Miss Medhurst
NETBA Reading group (Yr 10)	Lunchtime	Library	DH – Miss Harvey
GCSE Textiles Studio	After school	A004	JFC/ACG – Mrs Gascoigne, Miss Chapman
Film Club	Afterschool	A217	SWS – Mr Saunders

THURSDAY CONTINUED			
Comic and Manga club	After school	Library	AMS – Mrs Slater
Dungeons and Dragons club	After school	Library	AMS – Mrs Slater
Axiom Maths (Year 9)	After school	A107	DTM – Mr Main
B.O.A.R.D (boardgame club)	Lunchtime	A221	NWC – Mr Convery

FRIDAY			
FFF (Fun Football Friday's)	Lunchtime	3G and Sand Astro	AAS – Mr Sherlaw
Poetry by Heart (Oct-April)	After school	Library	GLE – Mr Ellis
Crafty Chat	Lunchtime	A009	KAA – Miss Askham
Year 11 book group (1st Fri of the month)	Lunchtime	Library	DH – Miss Harvey
Weekend World Wranglers	Lunchtime	A221	NWC – Mr Convery

Music Department

Weekly extra-curricular activities from September 2026

	Lunch	After school
Mon	Recorder Ensemble (D005, 12.45pm)	Brass Ensemble (D005, 3.30pm)
Tues	Music Theory Support Drop-in (D004, 12.20pm)	
Wed	Chamber Choir (D005, 12.50pm)	String Ensemble (Drama Studio, 3.30pm) Jazz Band (D005, 3.30pm)
Thurs	GCSE Music Coursework Support Drop-in (D004, 12.20pm)	Choir (Drama Studio, 3.30pm)
Fri	A Level Music Coursework Support Drop-in (D004, 12.20pm)	

See Mr Baldwin in D004 for further information regarding any of these activities.



PE Extra Curricular Timetable



Whitley Bay High School PE Extra Curricular

WBHS PE	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Breaktime Sportshall	 Basketball. Shooting hoops	 Basketball. Shooting hoops	 Basketball. Shooting hoops	 Basketball. Shooting hoops	 Basketball. Shooting hoops
Lunch Sportshall	 Basketball All year groups. Everyone invited.	 Badminton Club Examination students have priority - Max 24	 Volleyball Everyone welcome	 Badminton All years welcome. Max 24	 Pickleball All years welcome. Max 24
Lunch Astroturf	 Year 9 Football	 Year 10/11/6th form Football	 Year 9 Football	 Year 10/11/6th form Football	 FFF 6TH form tournament

Clubs After School

Studio / Fitness Room			Fitness - Y11 and 6th form - AJB	Dance All years- FLC	
Sportshall			Volleyball All Years- SMA	Netball All Years- SMM	Badminton All Years- LPW
Astro Turf			Football Girls - All Years - KFK	Football friendlies - all years - AJB	

Autumn Term 2026



Y10 PARENTS' INFORMATION EVENING

WEEKLY ROUTINES



Thought for
the Week

MONDAY



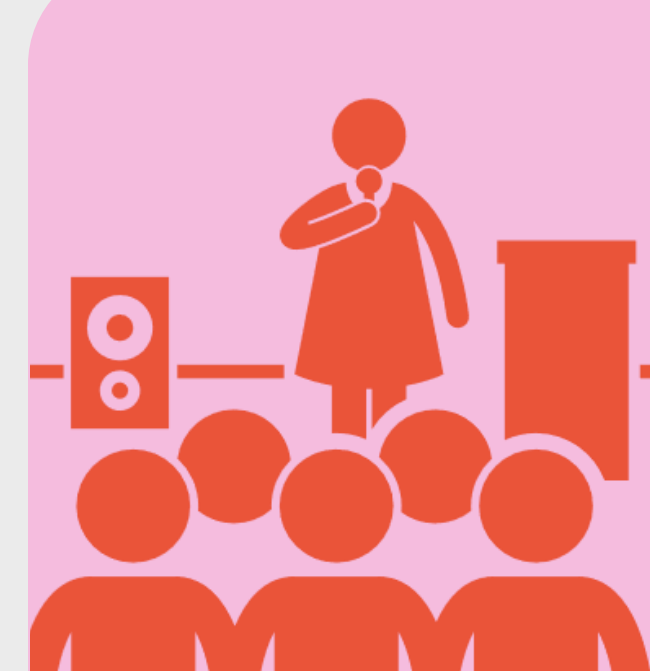
Reading

TUESDAY



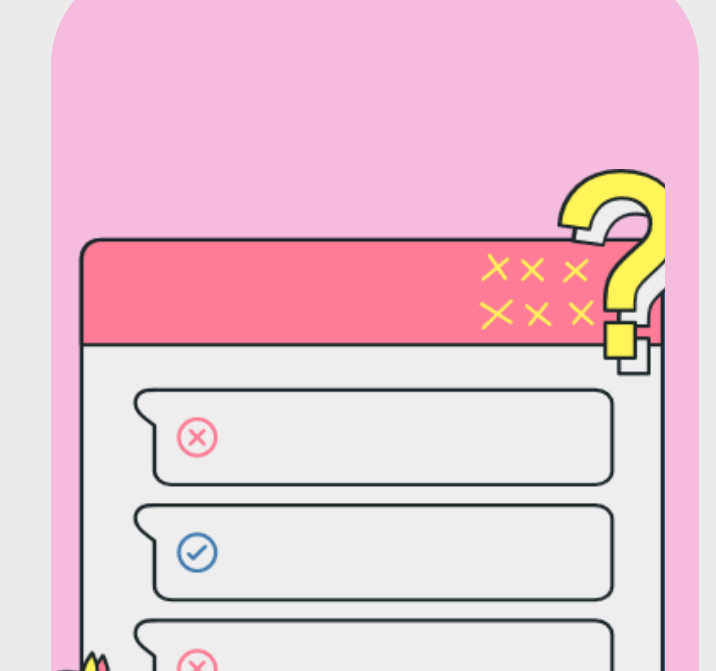
Personal
Development
Tutorial

WEDNESDAY



Assembly

THURSDAY

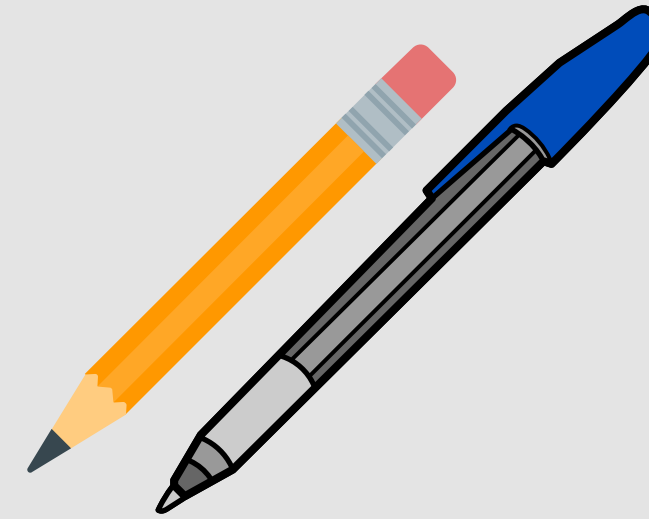
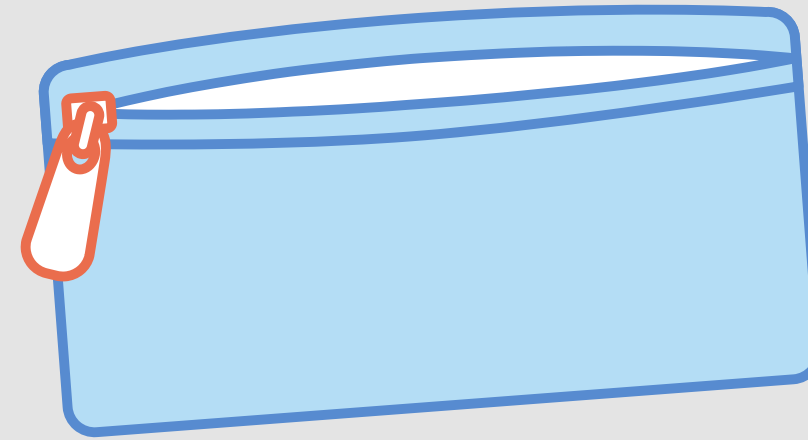
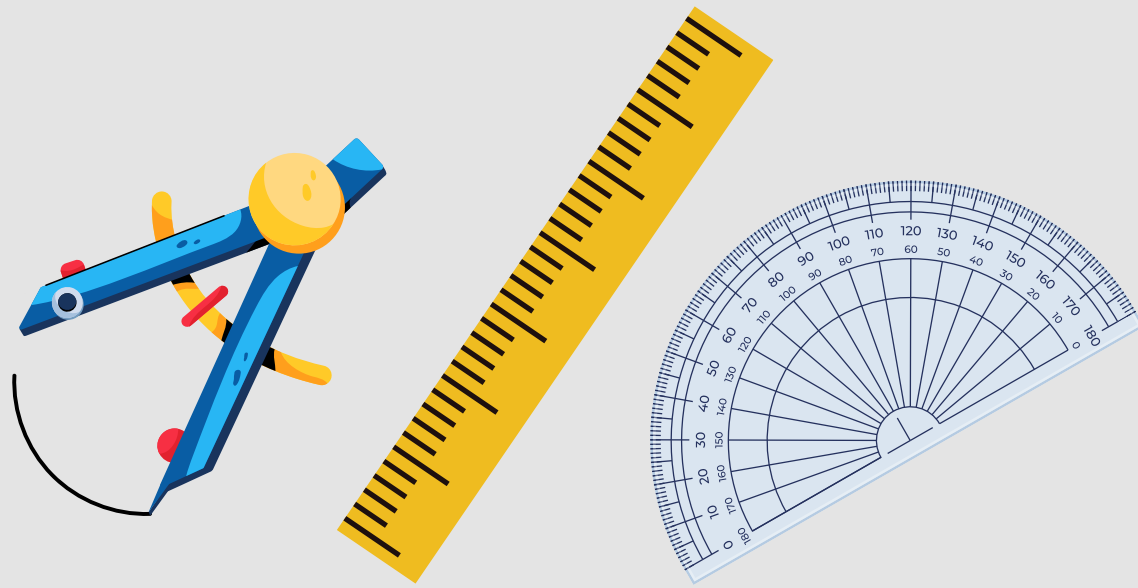


Quiz

FRIDAY

Y

EQUIPMENT



CASIO FX 83 OR 85

- We encourage students to take ownership of their own equipment and organisation. We would suggest that students have the following as a minimum:
 - pen, pencil, geometry set, scientific calculator, pencil case
- We are here to support, so please email info@whitleybayhighschool.org if you need assistance in acquiring any of this equipment.

Curriculum Maps and Subject Information



APPLIED
STUDIES



ART



BUSINESS &
ECONOMICS



CHILD
DEVELOPMENT



COMPUTING
& IT



DRAMA



ENGLISH



GEOGRAPHY



HEALTH &
SOCIAL CARE



HISTORY



MATHEMATICS



MFL



MUSIC



PERSONAL
DEVELOPMENT



PHILOSOPHY
& ETHICS &
RELIGIOUS
EDUCATION



ASSESSMENT

- Assessment remains a key part of the learning process.
- Motivational, meaningful, manageable
- Varied – formal and informal.
- Feedback provides specific progress on how to improve.
- Assessment and feedback is a key component of all lesson planning.
- Show what they know.
- Catch them being good.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?



Home and Remote Learning

We recognise that there may be occasions when a student is unable to attend school but remains well enough to engage with learning. This may include short-term illness, medical appointments, recovery periods following treatment, or other exceptional circumstances that result in an extended absence from school.

Our aim is to help students maintain their learning and stay connected to school wherever it is reasonable and appropriate to do so. The type and amount of work provided will depend on the nature and length of the absence, alongside the student's health and wellbeing needs.

Remote learning is not intended to replace regular school attendance and, in many cases, students who are unwell should focus on recovery before returning to their studies. Parents and carers are encouraged to let us know when their child is well enough to access learning so that appropriate support can be provided.

Our remote learning provision typically includes Microsoft Teams, educational platforms, online resources, recorded explanations, independent learning tasks, or other appropriate materials including selected AI study bots. The exact approach will vary between subjects and depends on the length of absence. Students are expected to complete work to the best of their ability and seek support from their teachers through the usual school communication channels where required.

For students experiencing emotionally based school non-attendance (EBSNA), school avoidance, or other attendance-related concerns, support is coordinated through our Attendance and Outreach Team. As these circumstances vary significantly from student to student, provision is planned on an individual basis in partnership with families and relevant professionals.

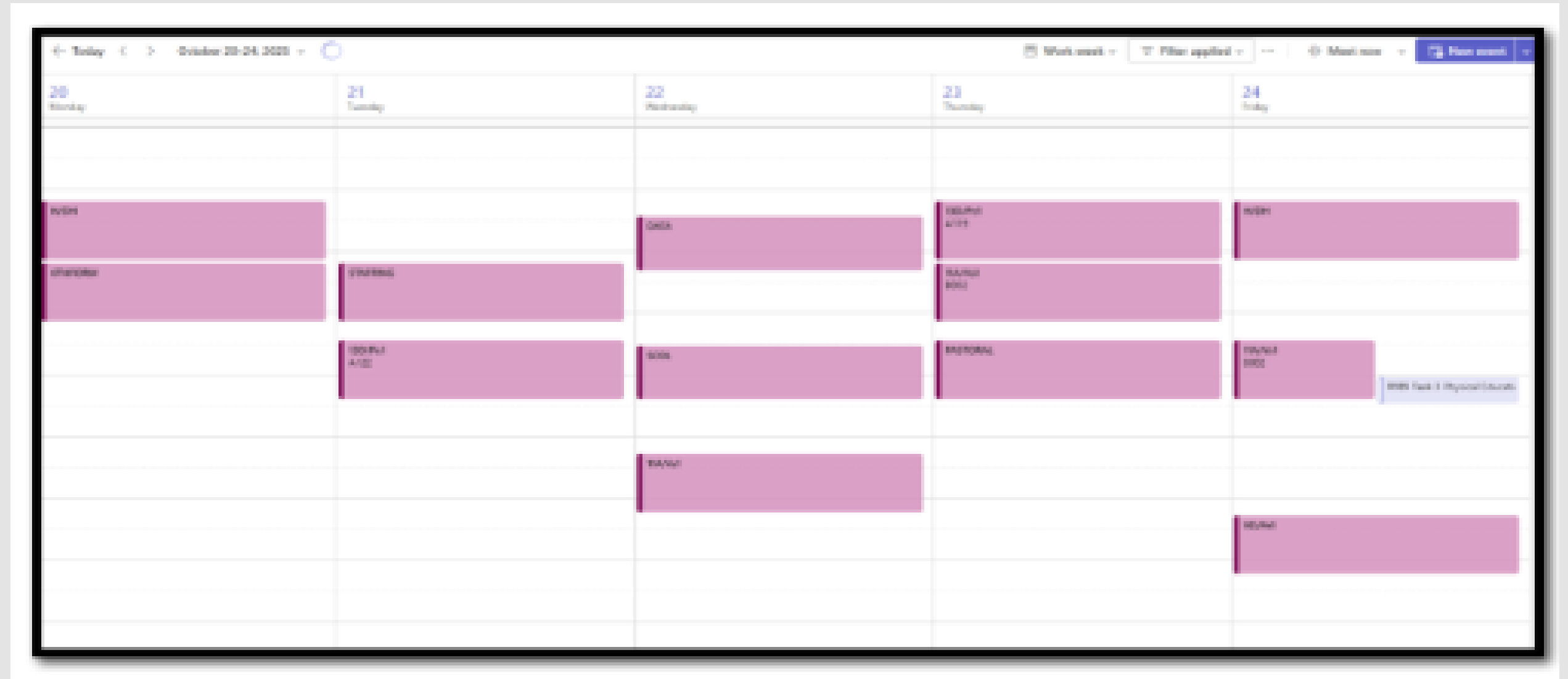
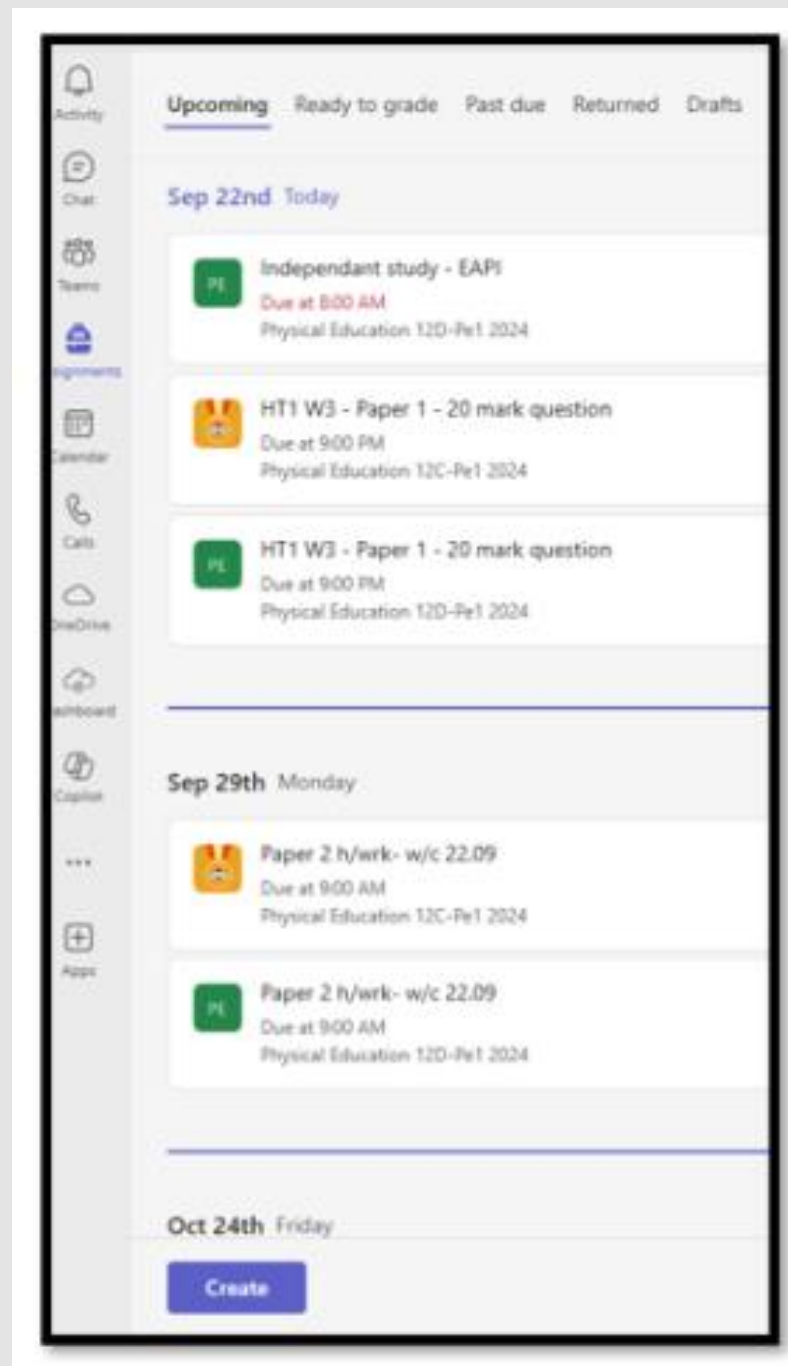
Learning

Curriculum

Curriculum Maps and Subject Information

- Applied Studies
- Art
- Business and Economics
- Child Development
- Computing and IT
- Drama
- English
- Geography
- Health and Social Care
- History

STUDENTS ASSIGNMENTS & HOMEWORK



ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Use	Good examples	Bad examples
Research	-Quick and easy to access lots of resources -Easy to find similar articles once prompted	-Research isn't checked -Research isn't applied to the correct context
Revision	-Using a study bot or language model to ask questions on specific topics -Develops independent learning and offers immediate feedback	-Not setting the parameters of the topic (or using the correct specification) -Being dependent upon it and ignoring teachers' advice
NEA Assignments	-Using example paragraphs to model excellent paragraph structure	-Using AI to plagiarise and submit work as your own

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

- It is important that your child attends school every day.*
- We would like students to maintain a minimum attendance of 96%.
- Our curriculum is carefully structured, with each lesson building on previous learning. Missing lessons can make it harder for students to keep up.
- Regular attendance supports progress and positive learning habits.



ATTENDANCE MATTERS

- We know there is a strong link between attendance and achievement.
- Recent research shows that high attendance leads to better outcomes.
- Students with 95%+ attendance are almost twice as likely to achieve a Grade 5 or above in English and Maths.

SCHOOLS WEEK

14 September 2026



Department
for Education

**95%+ attendance almost doubles odds of GCSE
pass**

DfE research finds missing just 10 days of year 11 halves the odds of getting a grade 5 in English and maths

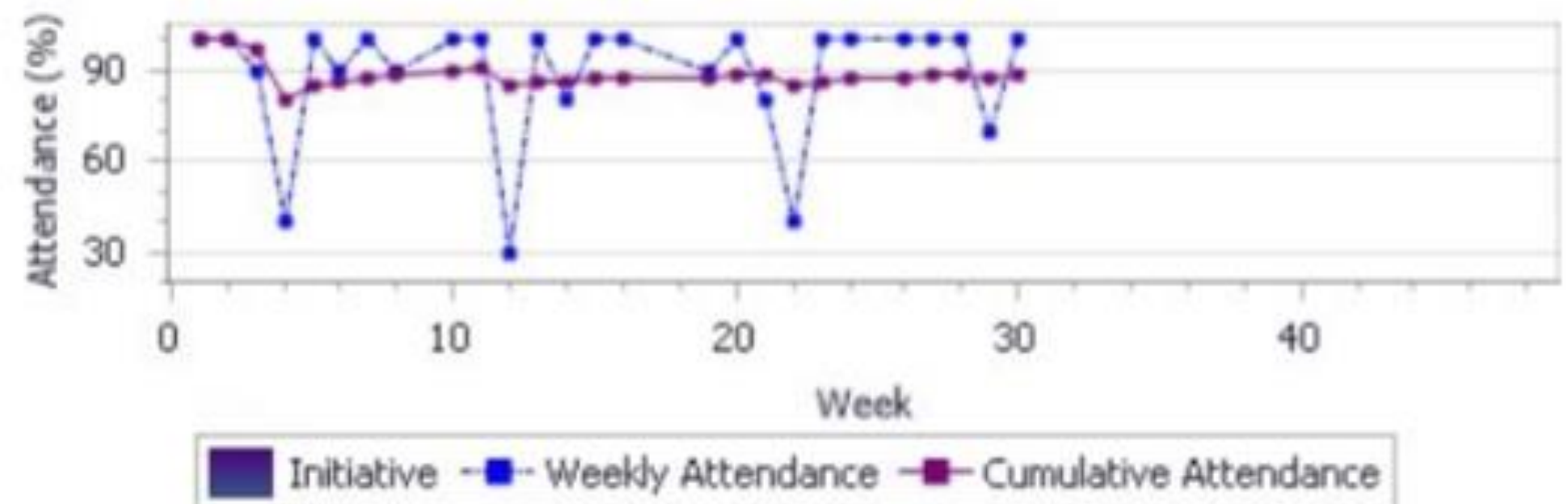


The impact of poor attendance and how many days this equates to over an academic year

100%	0 days
97%	6 days
95%	10 days
92%	15 days
90% (<i>DfE persistent absent threshold</i>)	19 days
85%	29 days
80%	38 days
75%	48 days
70%	57 days
65%	67 days
60%	76 days

Try to think in days rather than %'s

Broken weeks



GENERAL TIPS FOR HIGH ATTENDANCE

- Your child should attend whenever possible — even part days make a difference
- Check NHS guidance before keeping your child off
- Do not keep your child off for minor illnesses (e.g. headache, cough, cold)
- Avoid medical appointments during the school day – if they do need to attend one ensure they come into school before or after their appointment
- Avoid booking holidays during term time
- Ensure your child arrives on time as this can lead to poor attendance
- Send your child in if unsure — we have a team of medical staff who can support them
- If your child is unwell in the morning, consider a later start
- Every session attended helps build strong attendance and develop healthy habits

WE ARE HERE TO HELP

- If you need help or support please get in touch.
- Contact your child's tutor or Head of Year in the first instance.
- We also have an experienced pastoral and attendance team here to offer support should you need it.

THE ATTENDANCE TEAM



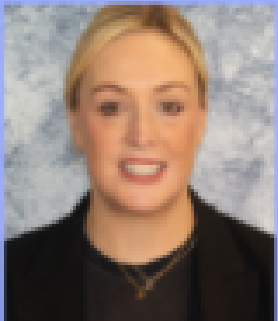
SARAH LACKENBY
ASSISTANT HEADTEACHER



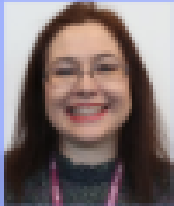
NINA LIVINGS-PRIOR
ATTENDANCE OFFICER



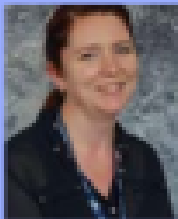
JAMES MACKENZIE
ASSISTANT HEADTEACHER
SEND LEAD



JILL BRANCH
ASSISTANT HEADTEACHER
PP LEAD



RACHEL SLEE
CAROLINE BURN
ATTENDANCE ADMIN
SUPPORT



EMMA ROGERSON
LEANNE HEARN
OUTREACH TEAM



Attendance

Every day counts

<https://www.whitleybayhighschool.org/Attendance/>



Supporting School Worries

It is normal for your child to feel worried sometimes. Many young people experience worries about friendships, learning or change. Most worries become easier to manage when school and home work together. Contact us early if any concerns arise. **Try:**

- Talking openly about any concerns.
- Contacting your child's tutor or Head of Year if something doesn't seem right.
- Encouraging your child to speak to a trusted adult in school.
- Letting us know about changes at home that may affect your child.
- Asking for support before attendance begins to decline.

We're here to help

- Head of Year**
carl.cockburn@whitleybayhighschool.org
- Attendance Team**
nina.livings@whitleybayhighschool.org
- SEND Team**
james.mackenzie@whitleybayhighschool.org
sarah.jones@whitleybayhighschool.org
- Your child's tutor**

Further Support

- NHS - Is My Child Too Ill for School?**
Information and guidance for parents.
- Kooth - Free Online Mental Wellbeing Support**
Safe, anonymous and free support for young people
- Department for Education - Attendance Advice for Parents Video**
Watch helpful advice and guidance

PARENT/CARER TOP TIPS FOR EXCELLENT ATTENDANCE

 TALK TO YOUR CHILD ABOUT SCHOOL REGULARLY AND HOW IMPORTANT IT IS THAT THEY ATTEND	 BOOK ALL HOLIDAYS OUTSIDE OF TERM TIME	 BOOK MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS OUTSIDE OF THE SCHOOL DAY WHERE POSSIBLE	 ENCOURAGE YOUR CHILD TO ARRIVE TO SCHOOL AND LESSONS ON TIME AS THIS CAN AFFECT ATTENDANCE
 PROMOTE POSITIVE ROUTINES WITH SLEEP, DIET AND EXERCISE. PREP FOR SCHOOL THE NIGHT BEFORE.	 IF YOUR CHILD WAKES UP FEELING UNWELL, ALLOW THEM TO REST AND TRY TO ENCOURAGE THEM INTO SCHOOL LATER THAT DAY. OUR DEDICATED MEDICAL TEAM WILL BE ON HAND IF NEEDED.	 AVOID YOUR CHILD BEING ABSENT FOR MINOR ISSUES SUCH AS A HEADACHE, OR A COLD.	 TALK TO US IF YOU FEEL LIKE THERE IS A REASON YOUR CHILD IS MISSING SCHOOL REGULARLY. WE ARE HERE TO HELP.

WBHS MATHS

CHRIS JOHNSON



GCSE MATHS @ WBHS

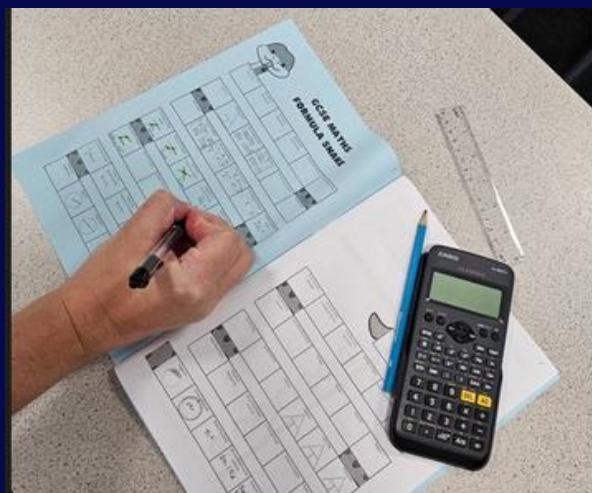
- 1 Final Exams: 2 x calculator 1 x non –calculator
- 2 Tiers: 2 Tiers (H/F), 3 pathways (H/C/F)
- 3 Assessments: W.B Oct 5th, W.B Dec 14th, W.B 14th June
- 4 26 Booklets, A–Z
- 5 Homework: Alternate between Mathswatch and paper based



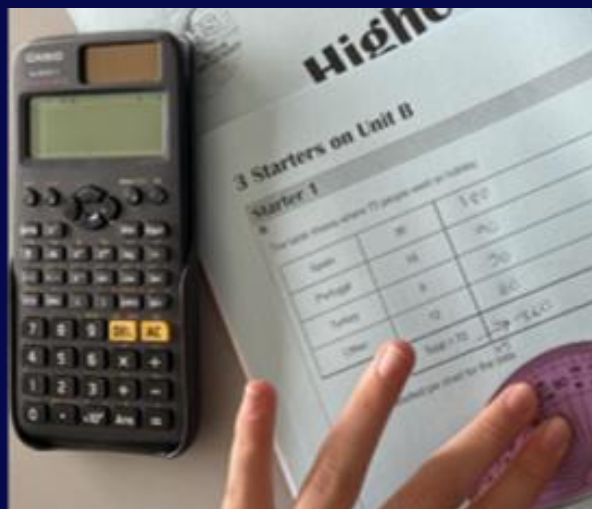
SUPPORT IN SCHOOL

MEMORY TASKS

Formula Snake



Starters



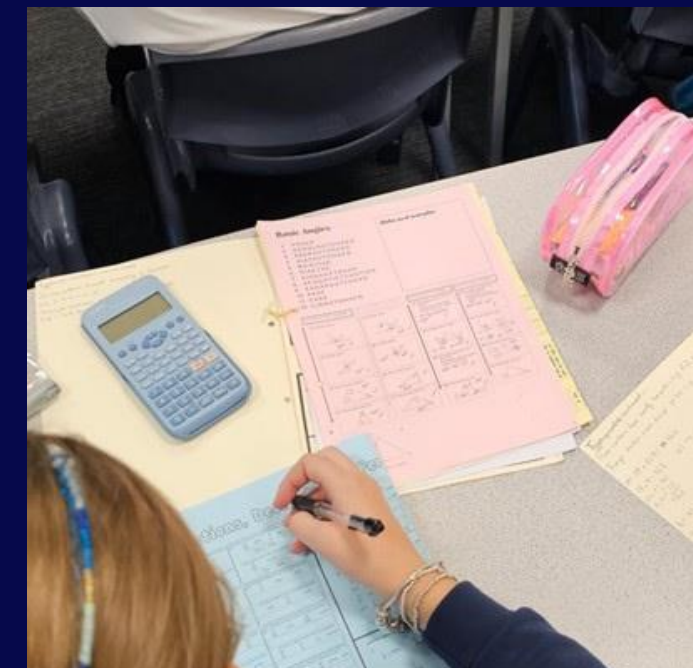
REVISION

Bespoke preparation for internal assessments.



DROP-IN

Tuesday Lunchtime in A109
Homework/Revision/Extra help





SUPPORT AT HOME

EQUIPMENT

Pens/Pencils
Casio FX83/85
Ruler/Compass/Protractor



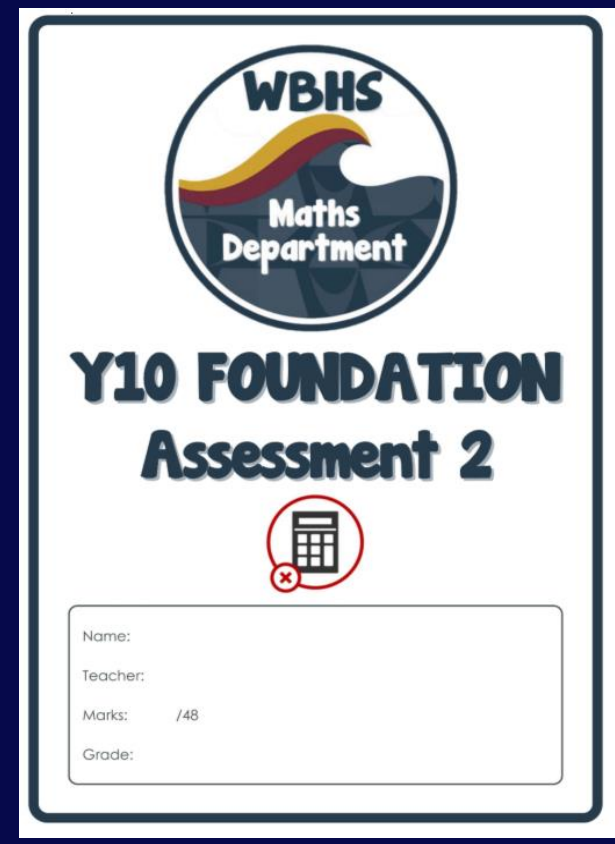
LEARNING CYCLE

Have they tried every question?
Have they watched the videos?
Have they stored their past
booklets



ASSESSMENTS

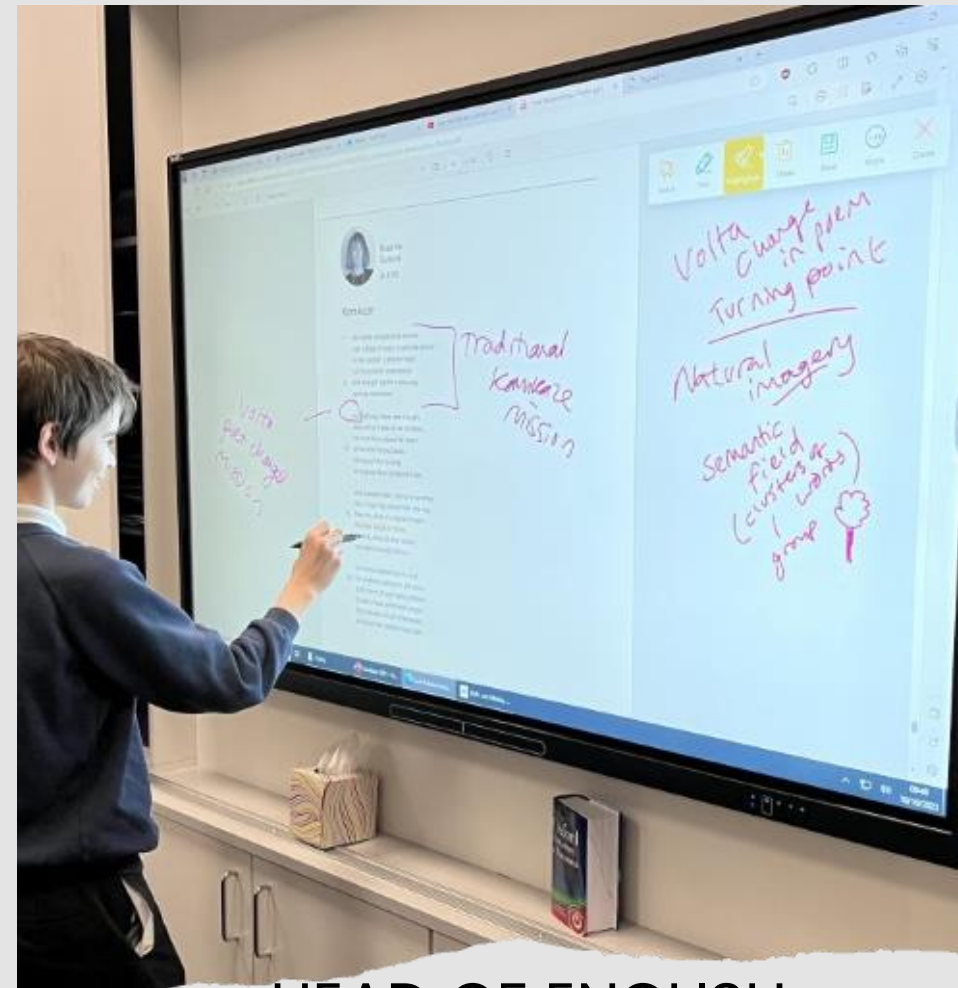
Set aside time for them to revise
Test them on key formula
Revision Guides



GCSE ENGLISH



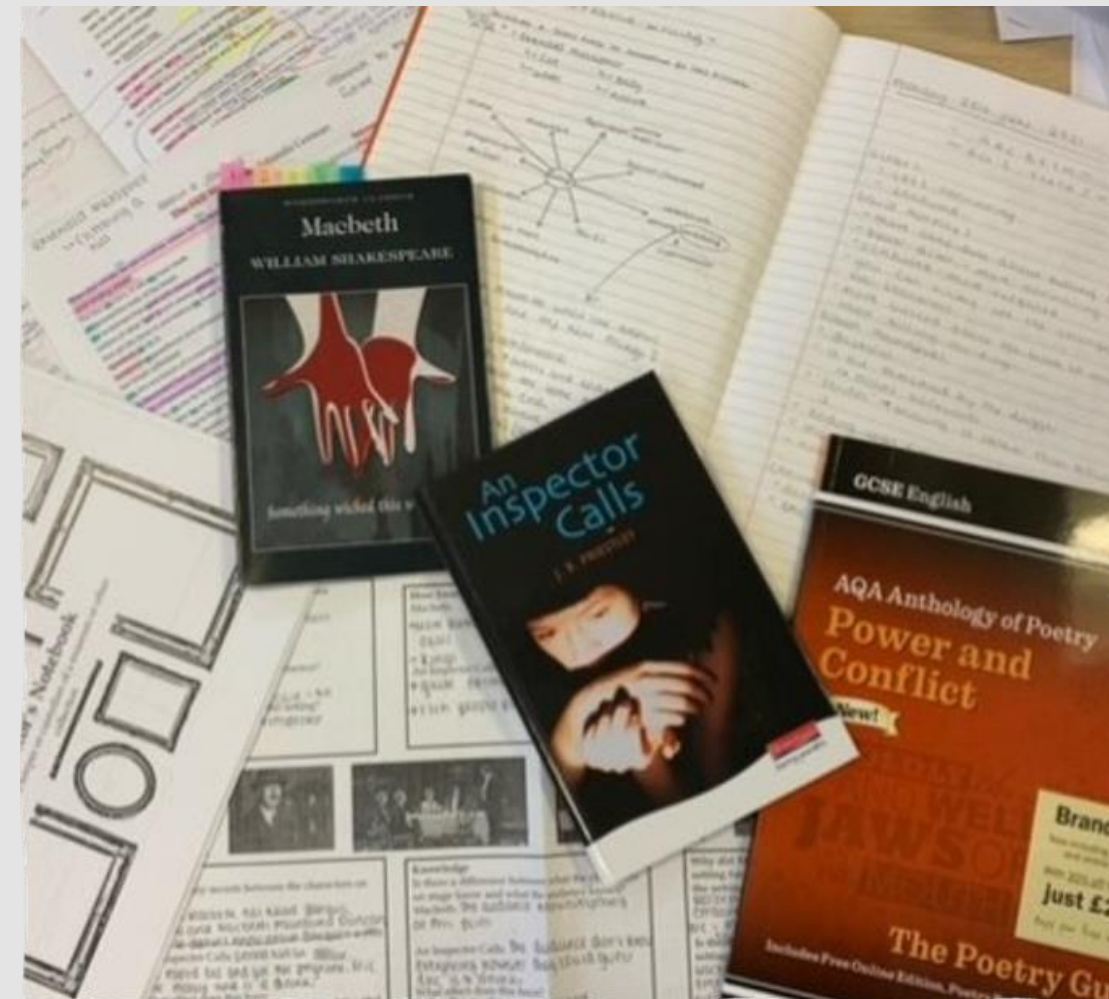
GCSE LANGUAGE AND GCSE LITERATURE
NO TIER OF ENTRY



HEAD OF ENGLISH:

KIM SMITH

ENGLISH LESSONS



- Students need their own copy of 'An Inspector Calls'
 - First assessment –w/b – 9th November 2026
 - Homework set weekly

HOMework



Homework Task One



- Research the Detective Genre. Find out the names of five literary detectives and write down one of their key characteristics and which novel they appear in:



SUCCESSFUL ENGLISH STUDENTS NEED TO DEVELOP THE FOLLOWING FOUR SKILLS:

To be a Critic



You need to be able to respond to texts that you read and evaluate the ideas and opinions in them as well as the methods the writer uses.

To be a Craftsperson



You need to understand the craft of writing and creating texts. This means that you are aware of the language and structural features that writers use.

To be a Curator



You need to gather up and keep returning to key facts and ideas that allow you to learn and understand even more in the future.

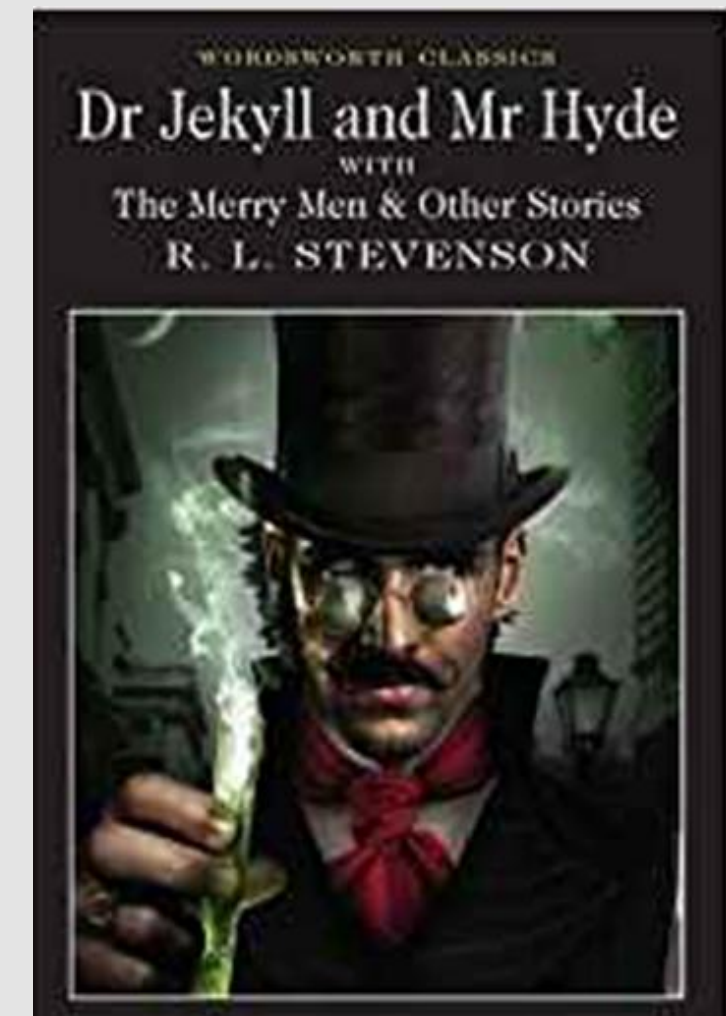
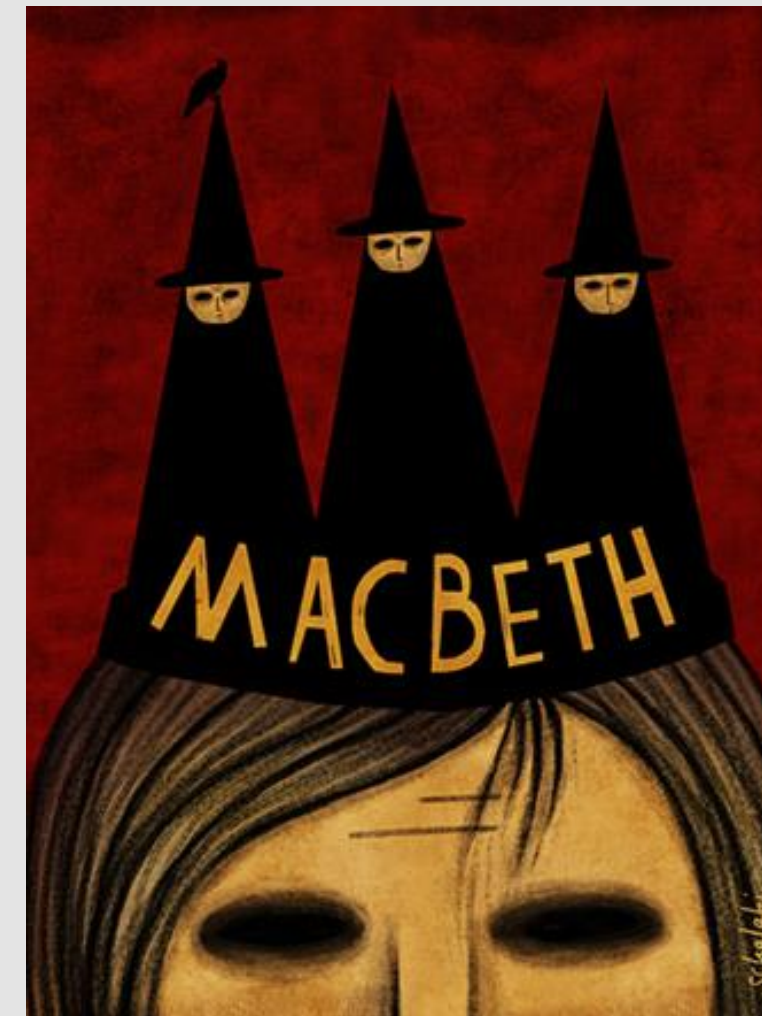
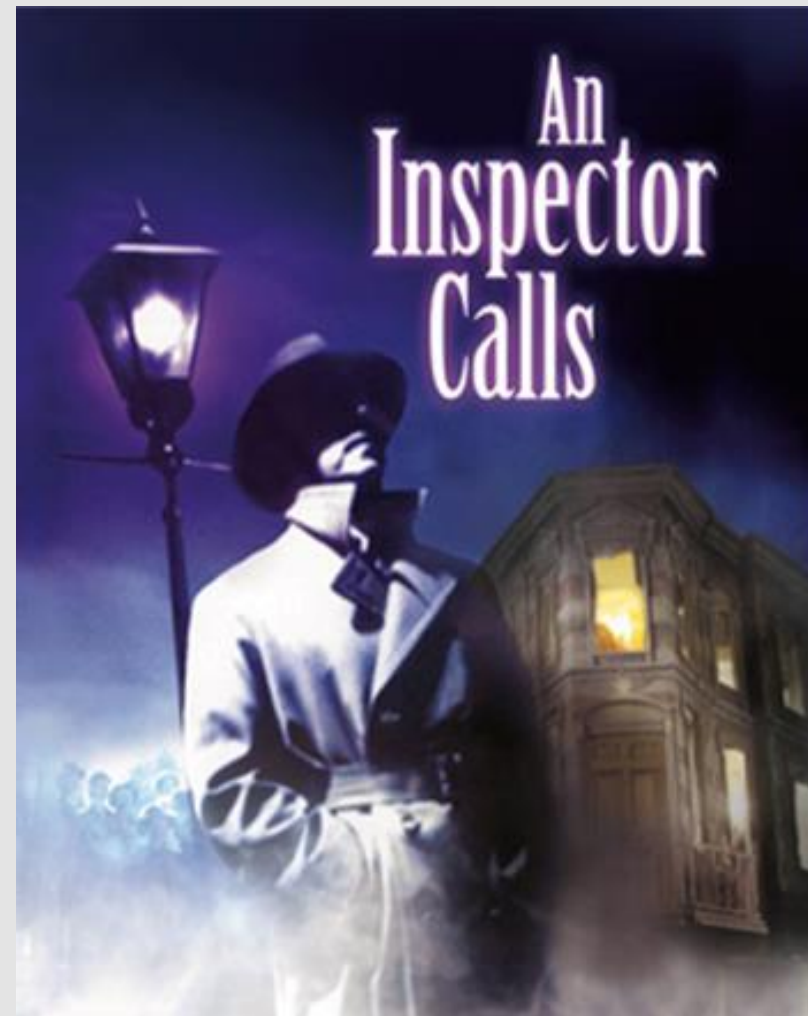
To be Creative



You need to be able to create your own writing – stories, articles, essays, poems, plays, speeches. The three skills above will help you be creative

OUR APPROACH

Literary Texts at the Heart of the Course

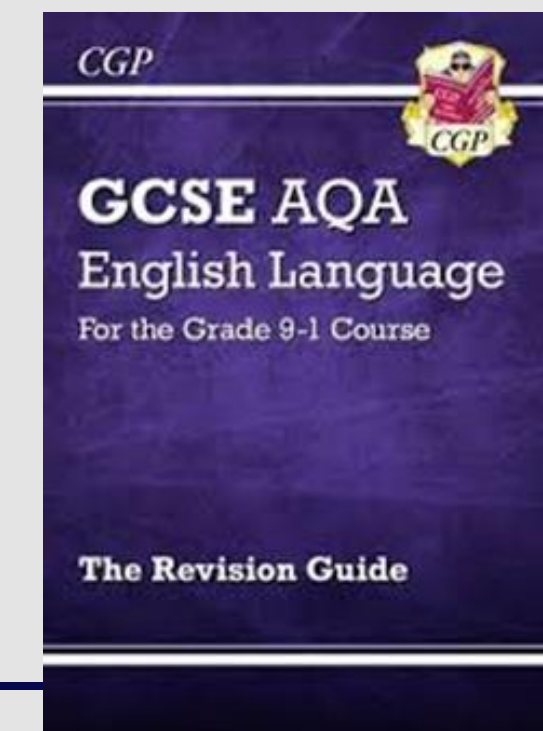
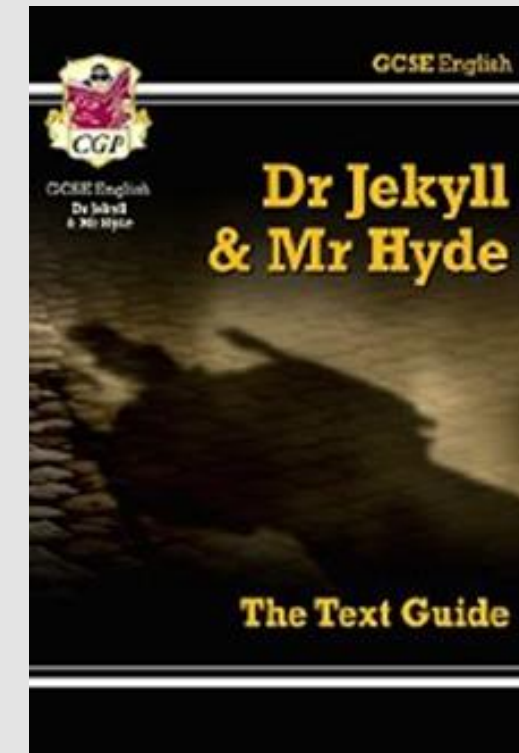


Writer ←————→ Reader



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Your child will get two GCSEs: English Language and English Literature.
- Having their own copies of the texts and revision guides will really help.
- Attempt all homework.



SCIENCE

Alan Keegan



At Whitley Bay
High School we follow
AQA courses
for GCSE Science

SCIENCE ROUTES 2026-28

AQA COMBINED SCIENCE 2 GCSES (8464)

Exams
2 Biology
2 Chemistry
2 Physics

Students receive
2 science grades.

AQA SEPARATE SCIENCES 3 GCSES (8461-3)

Exams
2 Biology
2 Chemistry
2 Physics

Students receive
3 grades, one in each
science.

**ALL EXAMS ARE IN THE SUMMER OF
2028**

Linear exams require a spiral approach...

(to make connections and revisit older concepts)

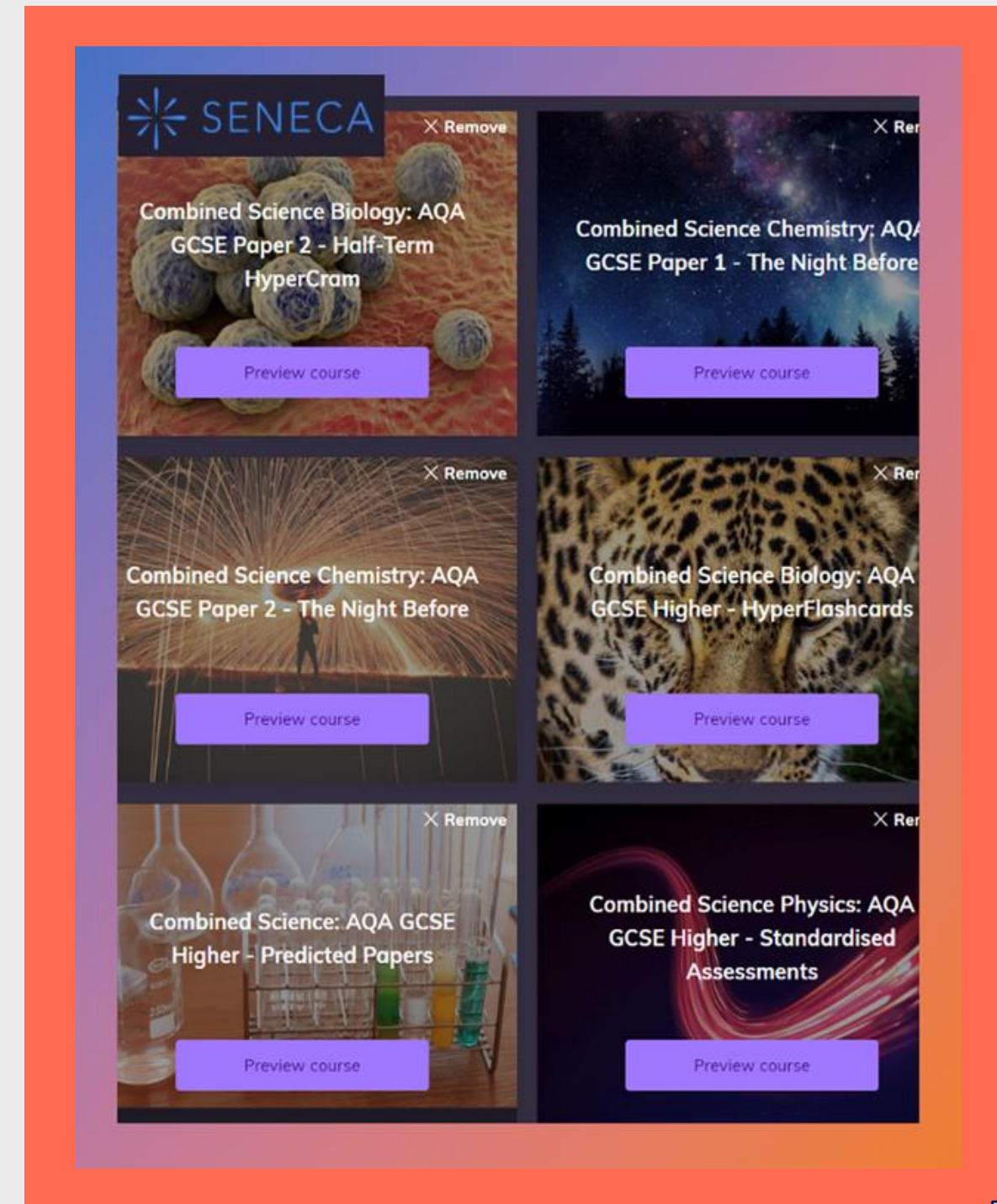


We may work in specialisms but students study “Science”

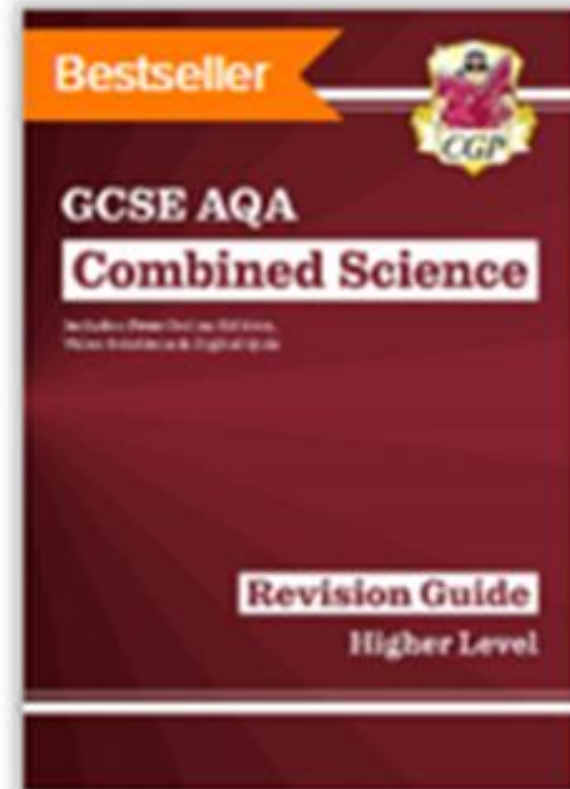
Each teacher is responsible for a third of each student’s scientific development.

AT HOME

Students are regularly set assignments from the Seneca Learning Platform.

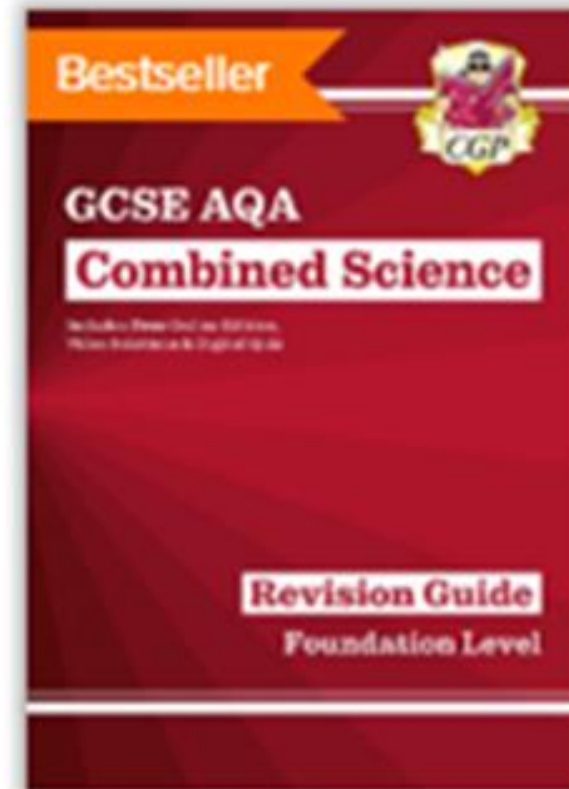


REVISION GUIDES



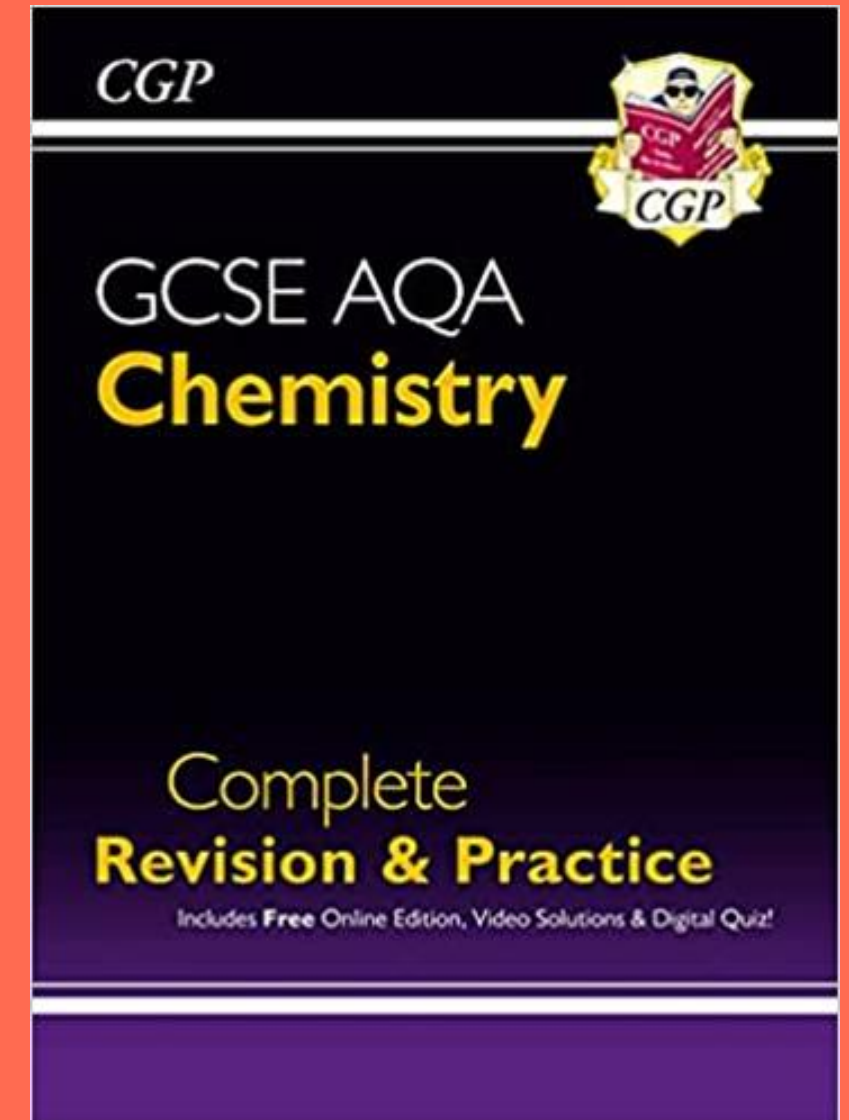
[Quick View](#)

GCSE Combined Science AQA Revision Guide - Higher includes Online Edition, Videos & Quizzes



[Quick View](#)

GCSE Combined Science AQA Revision Guide - Foundation includes Online Edition, Videos & Quizzes



SUPPORTING ALL OUR STUDENTS TO BECOME HEALTHY, WELL INFORMED AND SOCIALLY AWARE INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE PREPARED FOR THE JOURNEY AHEAD



- Developing students who are confident, respectful and socially aware
- Encouraging and promoting our students to engage with society
- To nurture and support students' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development
- To develop individuals who uphold values and beliefs that allow them to integrate into modern society and be active citizens



OUR PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Upcoming Topics

- Recognising Stress & Anxiety
- Sharing Images & The Law
- Online Gambling & Finance
- Remembrance
- Human Rights & Responsibility
- Fundamental British Values



WHAT KIND OF STUDENT IS YOUR CHILD?

WHAT DO YOU SEE AT HOME?



HELP THEM BE ORGANISED



- Phone
- Stationery (geometry set, calculator)
- School bag (the right books, etc)
- Homework – get familiar with Teams and their calendar
- Time and deadlines
- Progress checks, information, letters

HOW GOOD IS YOUR CHILD AT MAINTAINING BALANCE?



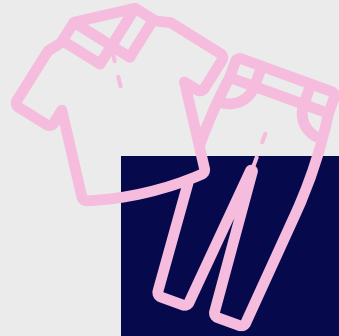


HOW GOOD IS YOUR CHILD WITH... MANAGING THEIR STRESS?

OUR ADVICE



HOW CAN YOU HELP?



UNIFORM

We have one of the most liberal yet inclusive uniform policies of any school.

We would really appreciate your support in ensuring that your child is in full uniform every day.

Please check the website where we will outline what is and is not allowed.

This helps us to be a safe school community.

PUNCTUALITY

Every minute of every lesson counts!

Please ensure that your child arrives for tutor time for 8.40am and to all lessons punctually.

The school gate will close each morning at 8.40am and students arriving after this time will be marked as late.



HOW CAN YOU HELP?

CHECK IN

Stay involved and regularly talk to your child about how they are feeling



MONITOR

Be mindful of parts of the school year where they may be more stressed or overwhelmed

ENCOURAGE

Try to encourage your child to practice self-care and get involved

CONTACT

Please let us know any ways we can help. You can also access wellbeing advice on our website.



WAYS YOU CAN SUPPORT YOUR CHILD'S WELLBEING AT HOME:

Healthy body and healthy mind

We know Year 11 can be a challenging and stressful time for your child, and although we will do all we can to support them in school, there are some things that we can all do to make sure they are getting things right. A healthy mind and body is as important for success as a revision booklet, and some healthy choices out of school can make a real difference.

SLEEP  A good rest each night is important to recover from the busy day and is paramount for overall health and brain function.	SCREEN TIME  Reducing screen time regularly and before bed allows the mind to relax and prepare for sleep.	BREAKFAST & DIET  In times of stress it is easy to fall into a trap of grabbing comfort food, but it is important to ensure a healthy balanced diet is followed.	WATER  Staying hydrated and taking in enough water helps levels of concentration and combats tiredness.
EXERCISE  Regular exercise has been proven to reduce stress levels by taking your mind off your worries and pumping feel good endorphins to improve your mood.	KEEPING ORGANISED  Students need to be prepared with the correct equipment each day. When exams approach encourage your child to make a revision timetable.	DOWNTIME  Whether watching a film, reading, listening to music or doing even else... it is really important that your child has some down time.	TALKING  It may sound simple but talking to your teenager is really important to try and understand how they are feeling.

Useful links and apps

For Parents	For Students
https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/	www.youngminds.org.uk
https://www.annafreud.org/parents-and-carers/	https://www.childline.org.uk/
www.weheartcvt.com/for-parents	https://www.kooth.com/
https://www.whitleybayhighschool.org/wellbeing	https://www.annafreud.org/on-my-mind/
Every Mind Matters - NHS (www.nhs.uk)	www.stopbreathethink.com
	https://www.whitleybayhighschool.org/wellbeing
	Every Mind Matters - NHS (www.nhs.uk)

Apps



- Stay involved and talk to your child about how they are feeling, how school is going, lessons, exams
- Keep an eye on potential times of the year where your child might feel more stressed or overwhelmed
- Try to encourage your child to use self-care strategies and get involved
- Let us know any ways we can help
- Use any of the suggested resources in the parent booklet or on our website for any further advice or support

Child Protection at WBHS

Designated Safeguarding Lead:

Sarah Fitzpatrick

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads:

Andy Sherlaw (E-Safety)

James Mackenzie (SEND/Pastoral)

Sarah Lackenby (Pastoral)

Jill Branch (Pastoral)

Steve Williams (6th Form)

Charlotte Clarke (AEP Lead)

Helen Daglish (Operation Encompass/Family Support)

Emma Crow (counselling support)

Zoe Medhurst (Personal Development Coordinator)

Ian Peake (Assistant SENCO/AEP)

Carl Cockburn (Head of Year 9)

Jonathan Okwe-Pearson (Head of Year 10)

Naomi Anderson (Head of Year 11)

Ian Clark (Head of Year 12)

Richard Chambers (Head of Year 13)



Child Protection Governor:
Lara Lillico



Chair of Governors:
Naomi Oosman-Watts



Our Team 2026-27



PLEASE BE REASSURED:

- We have achieved excellent results year on year because we have:
- Excellent students
- Outstanding teachers
- Fantastic support
- We want your child to enjoy school, be happy and go on to be successful.
- The partnership between students, teachers and parents is central to this success.
- Thank you for attending tonight.



We really value your feedback

