



PAIGNTON ACADEMY

Believe and Achieve



Welcome back to the new academic year where students have embarked on their 2-year GCSE journey. With all new opportunities there is the need to ensure all choices are correct to reach our potential. With this in mind please can we ensure that all option changes are made by 30 September at the latest. All the information shared in this newsletter will help you support your child through their first year studying their GCSE curriculum.

Over the next two years it is important that all students take every opportunity to achieve their best possible grades. Two key factors in this are attendance and Home Learning. This year all lessons are key and with many subjects having coursework based learning the need for high attendance is important so please try to support your child with this. Secondly, Home Learning is seen as an additional learning experience which will help the students to maximise their understanding of work completed in the classroom. All students have been provided with a Chromebook to support this.

If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

IMPORTANT DATES

2023	
20 September	Higher Aspiration Evening
3 October	Open Morning (WRC)
5 October	Open Evening (BRC)
6 October	Jay's Aim Defib Training - WRC
13 October	Jay's Aim Defib Training - BRC
20 October	Non-Pupil Day
23-27 October	Half Term
13 December	Christmas Concert
15 December	HPV Vaccinations
15 December	Last day of term
2024	
3 January 2024	First day of term

CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER - AUTUMN TERM 2023

YEAR 10

ENGLISH

Students will complete both an English Literature and Language GCSE at the end of their 2-year course in Year 11. Year 10 is entirely dedicated to the study of English Literature.

The examinations are 'closed book' and require students to know the texts in detail. Therefore, it is useful for students to have their own copy of the set texts (we will provide a copy of the poetry anthology).

Texts Studied:

A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens

An Inspector Calls by J.B. Priestley

Macbeth by William Shakespeare

Homework is set every Monday Week A.

Regular PPEs will take place throughout the course to ensure that students are fully prepared for their final examinations. They will complete exam timed answers on a fortnightly basis to support this preparation.

This term, they are starting with the study of *An Inspector Calls* and some of the *Poetry Anthology*, followed by starting *A Christmas Carol* at the end of term.

Students are encouraged to attend revision sessions to consolidate understanding.



MATHS

Year 10 students begin the first year of their 2-year GCSE Mathematics course. Topics will build upon the strong foundation developed in KS3. The topics for this term include congruence, similarity, enlargement, trigonometry, equations, inequalities, and simultaneous equations. There will be a combination of half-termly and termly assessments which incorporate current and past Edexcel questions to familiarise students with exam style questions. Teachers will use question level analysis to accurately identify areas for development. There will be an emphasis on problem solving maths and building cross-topic and cross-curricular links to best prepare for the 9-1 GCSE specification.

SCIENCE

Having started GCSE Science in Year 9, students will continue their pathway through the course learning about and exploring some extremely interesting, yet challenging, content. Within the first half term students will complete the taught material relating to the Physics discipline; P3 Electricity & P4 Forces, and will complete a number of required practicals relating to these. Within the P3 & P4 modules students will meet a lot of maths equations, we will use funny sayings to help students remember them and we will revisit them in Year 11 as part of revision. It is important that students are in school for these practicals as questions on them will form part of their examinations. Students are expected to catch up on any missed work in their own time. The content will get progressively more challenging throughout KS4 and students must be prepared for this.

It is highly recommended that students purchase one of our revision guides (available through ParentPay at various points throughout the year) to support their studies. Our dedicated team will be putting on a scheduled revision session close to the Year 10 PPE and we advise students to attend these so they can fully prepare themselves for the PPE exams.



ETHICS

Year 10 students will be beginning to utilise the key understandings from their previous three years study as they delve into new content, learn new materials and apply old ideas.

The GCSE content starts with a module called "Relationships and family". During this module students will explore issues such as marriage, divorce, sexism and homosexuality.

During this module students will also further develop writing skills learning how to formulate GCSE answers, including extended writing, which is based on fact, opinion and empathy.

GEOGRAPHY

Students will follow AQA GCSE Geography and we strongly encourage the purchase of an AQA revision guide to help students reflect on, recap and revise their learning (please ask your Geography teacher if you would like some more information on this). In the Autumn term, the Year 10 geographers will be studying "The Living World". We study small scale ecosystems before moving onto looking in detail at tropical rainforests and cold environments with exciting case studies for both - the Amazon Rainforest and Svalbard. Geographers will investigate the opportunities and challenges in each environment. Opportunities include economic development but they will challenge themselves by asking if these activities are being exploited at the cost of the natural environment and evaluating the sustainable strategies to manage both fragile environments.

Chromebooks will be used in lessons to aid learning through independent research, Seneca, Google Classroom and quizzes, Google Earth, and the use of appropriate video clips will also bring this topic to life.

Home learning will be based around knowledge retrieval, revision and developing exam practice using Knowledge Organisers, Bitesize, Internet Geography, revision guides and up to date news stories. Students' progress will be assessed with recap questions in lessons, previous questions from past papers, as well as a mid and end of topic assessment and PPEs.

If you would like to purchase a revision guide, please see the Parent Pay website or ask your Geography teacher.

HISTORY

Weimar and Nazi Germany 1918-1939

The GCSE year will start with the legacy of the First World War and the impact that it had on Germany. This topic solidifies a sound use of the sources we use in History and the different interpretations that are founded. Students will investigate the rise of the Weimar Republic, stabilising the country after a war and the mistakes that were made and introducing the Nazi party. The module will move on through the years of Germany under Hitler's control, the propaganda that was used to maintain his dictatorship and the impact on the different groups of people.

How parents could support:

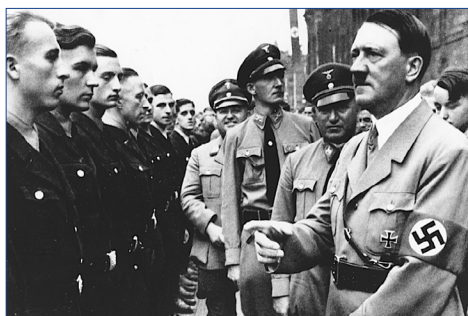
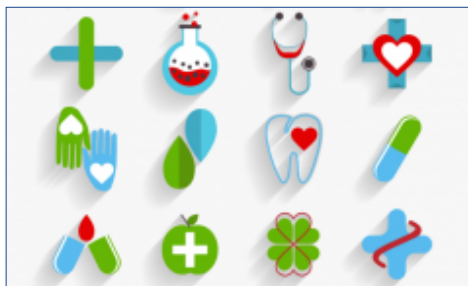
The exam board is Edexcel and there are a wealth of resources online related to Weimar and Nazi Germany and Medicine through time. Furthermore, there are revision guides available to purchase through ParentPay.

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

NCFE CACHE Level 1/2 Technical Award in Health and Social Care - Students will start this course by completing Content Area 1 and Content Area 2 in the Autumn half term. There are 8 Content Areas altogether and we will study them over Year 10 and the Autumn term of Year 11. This will give students the knowledge and understanding to be able to sit the written examination at the end of Year 11. This examination is worth 50% of the overall grade. The 8 Content Areas of study also prepare students for a non-examined assessment in the Spring term of Year 11. Students will combine the elements of their learning to show accumulated knowledge, understanding and skills by producing a piece of coursework during lesson time over 7 weeks. This gives the other 50% of the terminal grade.

Content Area 1: Health and social care provision and services - This includes understanding what Health and Social Care is and examples of both types of care. We also look at the functions of GP surgeries, clinics, pharmacies, dental services and rehabilitation centres. We will look closely at the role of ambulance services in supporting Health and Social Care provision. Students will also look at a range of residential care and the functions of foster care and respite services.

Content Area 2: Job roles in Health and Social Care and the care values that underpin professional practice. This includes looking at the roles of practitioners in Health and Social Care roles and the values underpinning professional practice, such as the 6 Cs and professional development within these areas.



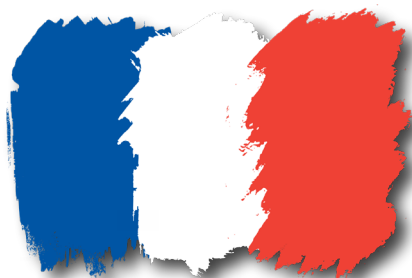
CHILD DEVELOPMENT

NCFE CACHE Level 1/2 Technical Award in Child Development and Care in the Early Years - Students will start this course by completing Content Area 1 and Content Area 2 in the Autumn half term. There are 9 Content Areas altogether and we will study them over Year 10 and the Autumn term of Year 11. This will give students the knowledge and understanding to be able to sit the written examination at the end of Year 11. This examination is worth 50% of the overall grade. The 9 Content Areas of study also prepare students for a non-examined assessment in the Spring term of Year 11. Students will combine the elements of their learning to show accumulated knowledge, understanding and skills by producing a piece of coursework during lesson time over 7 weeks. This gives the other 50% of the terminal grade.

Content Area 1: Child Development - This area covers aspects of development including fine and gross motor skills as part of physical development, cognitive development, supporting language and communication development and the importance of using books to encourage development. We will also explore social and emotional development, the importance of learning about self-regulation and the use of board games in supporting social development.

Content Area 2: Factors that influence the child's development - This area covers developmental milestones from birth to 5 years. We also look at biological and environmental factors and the classic nature/nurture debate. Part of the course is to study theories relating to development, for example Noam Chomsky and Eleanor Gibson biological theories, Albert Bandura and Lev Vygotsky environmental theories. Part of the course also entails looking at common biological conditions such as autism spectrum disorder and Down's syndrome. We will also look at the effects of family lifestyle, socio-economic factors and relationships and their potential impact on child development.





FRENCH

This term students will begin their study of the new GCSE syllabus and we will start with the themes of 'my house and my town'. This is a key topic in the GCSE exam in Year 11. Home learning will take the form of learning vocabulary and key grammar. This home learning is key in being successful in their GCSE in all 4 skills - listening, reading, speaking & writing so it is essential that is completed each week. During the term we will build on their knowledge of these topics and continue to build on the skills they have learnt at Key Stage 3. We will be practising the present, past and future tenses as well as introducing the conditional tense. GCSE French has both a Higher and Foundation exam, so students will be expected to work to the level of which they are capable. This is not dependent on their target but their ability in French. We will challenge every GCSE student to aim for the highest possible grade.

You will have weekly vocab tests to ensure you can retrieve the key knowledge from the previous week's learning. Remember to use methods such as 'look, cover, check' and flashcards to help you recall the key vocab from week-to-week.

Bon courage!



SPANISH

This term students will learn to talk in detail about their life at school, before moving on to look at health, including food and dealing with medical problems in Spanish. Towards the end of the term we will move onto the topic of holidays. Within these topic areas, students will extend their knowledge of Spanish grammar, allowing them to express themselves in more detail.

Home learning will take the form of learning vocabulary. This home learning is key in being successful in their GCSE in all 4 skills - listening, reading, speaking & writing so it is essential that is completed each week.

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Year 10 will begin the GCSE looking at the concepts of memory, storage and the CPU. Students will gain a deeper understanding of primary memory stores - RAM, ROM and cache and the need for, and use of, secondary storage devices such as optical disks, magnetic hard drives and solid state devices such as SD cards and USB memory sticks.

Students will gain a deeper understanding of the structure of the CPU, looking at the different components and registers within the CPU and the stages that take place for the CPU to process instructions and data. They will also look at how the CPU interacts with memory, as well as looking at factors that can affect the performance of our devices, such as cache size, the number of cores and the clock speed.

Alongside this students will continue with practical programming topics, recapping core skills such as sequence and selection and also different string manipulation techniques. These practical skills will be developed alongside gaining an understanding of key programming theory concepts such as the use of variables and constants, programming constructs and data types.

CONSTRUCTION AND THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

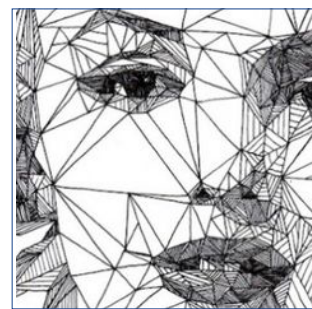
Year 10 students will start Unit 1 of their course, learning about and developing their prior knowledge of buildings and structures, infrastructure and civil engineering products and the built environment life cycle during their one-hour single lessons in the Autumn term. During their two-hour lessons (Unit 3) the students will be developing their skills and knowledge in bricklaying, carpentry and roofing. They will learn to safely build small sections of brick walls, how to make stud walls and how to slate a roof. Students will learn how to safely set out projects using tools and equipment, sequence their work activities, risk assess and evaluate their performance.



ART

Fragments - Students are undertaking the BTEC Tech Award Level 1/2 in Art & Design Practice. The initial project's theme is *Fragments*, this will be split into two sections. *Component 1 Workshop Skills* will prepare students for Component 1 Practice Brief. Students will produce work in response to a variety of artists, designers and craftspeople, historical and contemporary and Western and non-Western that they are inspired by. Observational drawings focus on their chosen starting point. Students will be using a range of different 2D materials, techniques and processes to develop the project. Using initial observational drawings, research and visual imagery, students will develop design ideas and experiment with 2D materials. The project will focus on the keywords; Fragment, Distortion and Manipulation.

Home learning will be set via ClassCharts and will be both a continuation of class work and specific tasks to support workshop skills and the practice brief. KS4 Art Club gives students the opportunity to complete any unfinished artwork and utilise the specialist equipment and support to assist with home learning. It would be beneficial for students to have art equipment at home to help complete BTEC artwork and encourage independent exploration.



ENGINEERING

Year 10 students will start the Autumn term by building on their previous knowledge, identifying materials, understanding materials, their properties and their selection for specific purposes. Students will then look at how engineers communicate and what standardised methods they use to effectively communicate the details of three-dimensional objects. During their two hour lessons students will be inducted into the workshop, learning how to use the tools and equipment safely. They will learn how engineers use engineering equipment to shape and join materials to create solutions and products.

DRAMA

AQA GCSE Drama - In the Autumn term students will study the set play for the Component 1 written exam, 'Blood Brothers'. They will also study the roles and responsibilities of theatre makers, theatre spaces and technical theatre elements. It is a requirement of the course that students experience live professional theatre and can write an analysis and evaluation of a performance they have seen. This is worth 32 marks of the written exam.

On Wednesday 13th September 2023, as part of the course, students will be going to watch the matinee performance of 'Metamorphosis' at The Theatre Royal in Plymouth. They will also have the opportunity to take part in another trip to see the evening performance of 'Ocean at the End of the Lane' at the Hall for Cornwall on Wednesday 20th September.

Written work is an integral part of the Drama course and students are expected to keep their notes updated. Homework is set weekly and this term is in preparation for the component 1 written exam which is worth 40% of the final GCSE. Support materials can be found at Paignton Online, Google Classroom, GCSE Bite-size for Unit 1, AQA GCSE Drama.

Auditions will also take place in September for The Academy Musical.

DRAMA KIT FOR YEAR 10 IS A PLAIN BLACK T-SHIRT WITH BLACK TROUSERS OR LEGGINGS. ALL STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO BRING THIS TO LESSONS EACH WEEK.



MUSIC

Through focused listening and music-making activities, learners will explore a variety of musical styles and understand the key features of different styles of music and their use of musical elements. They will apply stylistic features to: performance, composition and music production activities.

Students will study iconic composers, artists, bands and producers who have influenced and impacted musical styles and look at the impact of technology on musical styles, instruments, production and recording. Musical styles they study include: world music and fusion; music for media; western classical styles; jazz and blues; and popular music styles.

Students will study musical realisation techniques; instrumentation, roles of different instruments, how individual parts fit together and ensemble skills.

Students will develop their composition skills by looking at starting points and stimuli (both musical and non-musical), repetition and contrast, developing and extending musical ideas.

Students will also learn techniques used in producing music: software instruments, microphone selection and placement and use of MIDI and audio editing techniques.

Students have the opportunity to take up music lessons offered by our specialist peripatetic teachers in guitar, piano, drums, singing, saxophone, clarinet & flute.



PE (CORE)

Cambridge National - Components of Sports Performance

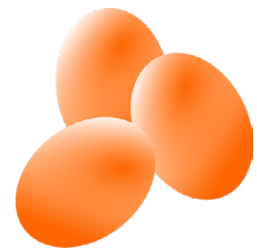
Throughout the Autumn Term, Year 10 Cambridge National students will be embarking on their study of Component R185 which challenges students to reflect upon their practical performance in both team and individual sporting contexts. The R185 component allows students to learn about the key components of performance in different sports, and will see students focus their attention on how these components differentiate between both contexts. Students will complete the cycle by developing their knowledge about how to effectively analyse sports performance, by looking at different sports analysis models and how they are used within specific sports.



PSHE

In Year 10 all students will have one hour of Personal, Social, Health Education per week. To start the term, we will be learning about transition to GCSE years and the expectations and pressures this brings. The majority of the first half term will be learning about mental health, how to safeguard your own well-being and the stigma around mental health issues.

During the second half of the Autumn term we will be learning about the dangers of drugs and alcohol. These lessons outline the law, explain the dangers and help our students build confidence to make informed decisions. Throughout all PSHE lessons we will be looking to develop character and will focus on positive role models. We will also include 'life hacks' like how to tie a tie or how to boil an egg, for example. In PSHE students will have the opportunity to develop their oracy skills through discussions.



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Home Learning – Year 10 & 11 GCSEs



SUBJECT	HOME LEARNING TIME	HOME LEARNING ACTIVITIES	WHERE TO COMPLETE e.g. home learning books, google classroom, subject home learning books, Seneca	HOW IT WILL BE MARKED
English	2 hours per fortnight + exam revision	Extended writing tasks/completion of exam questions	Google classroom	Written comments on Google classroom
Maths	1 hour per week + exam revision	Activities based on knowledge they have learned over the last week and term. Including past-papers	Online resources set through Sparx. (may also include exam question through google classrooms)	Self-marking online and feedback into classroom planning by the teacher.
Science	1 hour per week + exam revision	SENECA set by class teacher Revision of year 9/10 topics from revision guide	On SENECA Completed in flash cards	Marked by SENECA and viewed for misconceptions by class teacher for Closing the gap
Geography	45 mins per week - plus exam/assessment revision	Seneca, revision activities, exam question practice, completion of case studies.	Seneca / Google classroom / revision materials produced.	Seneca and Google classroom is self marked. Exam question practice teacher/student marked.
History	45 mins - 1 hr per week inc revision	Seneca tasks, revision Google questionnaires, exam style questions.	Revision work in H/W booklet, or document shared with teacher. Seneca/Google Classroom work on links provided	Seneca/Google Classroom is self marking. Other work looked at by staff. Exam style questions marked.

Art	Weekly - 1 Hour	Home learning will consist of practical tasks focusing on retrieval and flipped knowledge linked to the component of work. Revision strategies will be included in home learning to support assessments.	Art - on chromebooks or on paper to then be added to Art Portfolios.	Checked and marked in line with the component of work. Praise points awarded.
Food	Weekly - 30 minutes	Exam practice through questioning, Key words, Seneca and revision.	Google classroom and Seneca	Marked by class teacher, Self and peer marking
French & Spanish	45 mins - 1 hour per week	Vocabulary learning - a test will be set every week in lessons. Preparation for speaking exams. Past paper exam practice.	Complete in home learning book - will be set on Class Charts. Speaking exam preparation may be started in lessons and completed on Google Classroom.	Peer or teacher assessed.
Drama	45mins - 1hour per week	essay questions, keywords, research, line learning, live performance analysis, character work, technical and design planning , devising logs, exam revision	Complete on Google classroom and Word Wall Work will be set on Class Charts	Teacher/self/peer assessment. Exam style questions marked.
Music	45mins - 1hour per week	Music vocabulary, research, notation, composition, rehearsal of performance pieces, log book work	Complete on Google classroom and Word Wall, Soundtrap & Noteflight Work will be set on Class Charts	Teacher/self/peer assessment
Ethics	45mins - 1hour per week	Retrieval and key term activities and revision for assessments.	Set on Classcharts. All instructions and activities on individual class Google Classroom. Seneca, Low stake testing, key term quizzes and Cornell notes.	Evidence as submitted quiz results, Seneca results, evidence of revision in HL books depending on set activity.

Social Sciences	45 mins per week.	Retrieval for exam unit and key term activities. Revision for assessments.	Set on Classcharts. All instructions and activities on individual classrooms. Google Classroom. Low stake testing, key term quizzes and Cornell notes.	Evidence as submitted quiz results, Google docs, evidence of revision in HL books depending on set activity
Computer Science	45 mins per week.	Seneca learning. Smart revise.	Set on classcharts. Seneca website. Craig and Dave smart revise website.	Seneca will record all results. Smart revise will record all results.
Business and Enterprise	45 mins per week	Year 10 Seneca, revision activities, exam question practice in booklets, completion of case studies. Year 11 NEA preparation. Retrieval for exam unit and key term activities. Revision for cycle assessments.	Set on Classcharts Business Google Classroom	Seneca and Google classroom is self marked. Exam and case study booklets will be marked by teacher. Year 11 Completed NEA Mock. Work submitted on Google Classroom
Sports Studies	45 minutes- 1 Hour per week	Retrieval for exam component, focusing on developing knowledge of key exam topics further	Set on Classcharts and Google Classrooms	Teacher assessment at the start of each lesson within Do Now task or marked on Google Classrooms