



PAIGNTON ACADEMY
Believe and Achieve



CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER - SPRING TERM 2024

YEAR 11

MATHS

Mathematics pupils will be focusing on the final preparations for their GCSEs this term. The exam board is EDEXCEL. Pupils will sit three morning examinations (1 non-calculator, 2 calculator).

The aim of the scheme of work this year has been focused on maximising revision time from the beginning of term. Pupils will be completing a past paper per week, plus their Sparx homework. This is quite a lot of work, but this is the last full term before external exams and so will prove to be crucial.

We will also be focusing on good exam practice in lessons and during Tutor time to ensure that pupils are ready for the real exams. Please support any pupils by encouraging them to complete all set work.

Finally, we will be completing a stand-alone revision lesson (utilising the Just Maths website) to help pupils prepare for their PPEs, and therefore their GCSEs. This will happen before half term.

Having the correct equipment is important, and pupils should come to each lesson with everything they need for their Mathematics lessons. Familiarity in using mathematical equipment will be a key success criterion in all examinations, particularly in the efficient use of a calculator.

ENGLISH

Year 11 are looking to finish their study of Literature texts in preparation for the Literature GCSE. The examinations are 'closed book' and require pupils to know the texts in detail. Therefore, it is useful for pupils 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

Regular PPEs will take place throughout the course to ensure that pupils are fully prepared for their final examinations.

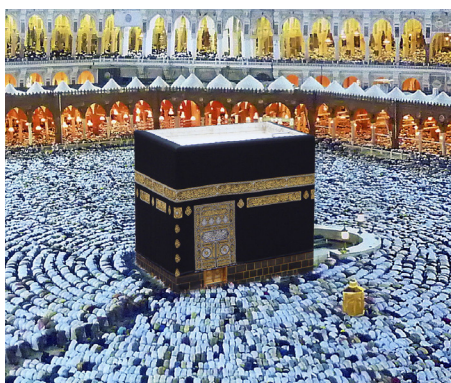
They will complete exam timed answers fortnightly to support this preparation.

This term, they will continue their study of the poems from the Anthology and they will learn both section A and B from Language Paper 2.

Homework will be set every Monday week A.

SCIENCE

This term, pupils are completing their final modules of the OCR 21st century specification to prepare them for the summer exams which are fast approaching. During this term, pupils will be learning physics topics (*P1 Radiation and Waves* and *P2 Sustainable Energy*), the pupils will then be moving on to their revision which encompasses the entire KS4 science curriculum. It is vitally important that pupils organise themselves and fully appreciate the importance of their GCSE examinations. To support them, we have put in place revision sessions on a Tuesday of Week B and we are encouraging all pupils to attend these, we also recommend that they purchase a revision guide. Our entire course content is due to finish in early February, we will then dedicate the remaining lessons to pupils revising and taking ownership of their own learning. These sessions need to be complemented by home learning to allow each pupil the best opportunity to achieve the grade they deserve at GCSE.



ETHICS

Year 11 will continue with GCSE studies which will conclude at the end of Year 11. The modules they will be working on will be *Peace and Conflict* and *Christian Beliefs*. Each module is designed to develop opinion and discussion, allowing pupils to reconcile their own ideas and the ideas of others. Each module examines the world from both religious and secular perspectives. There will be two assessments per module, each based upon GCSE style questions. In addition, pupils will regularly attempt GCSE questions during lessons to help develop their writing skills and exam knowledge. There are many complementary resources on Google Classroom which can be used for revision, home learning tasks and more in-depth study of the topic areas. Pupils will be given all the material needed for revision to ensure they can enjoy Ethics GCSE success.

IMPORTANT DATES

2024	
12th - 16th February	Half Term
28th February - 8th March	Y11 Exams
20th, 21st, 22nd March	Academy Show
27th March	Data Drop Home
28th March	Last day of term
15th April	First day of term
9th May	GCSE Exams Start



FRENCH

The Year 11s this term will look at the topic of jobs and future plans to conclude their studies on school and

education. When that part of the course is complete, then they shall move onto the exam skills part of the course ahead of their final PPEs in February. It is essential that the pupils use the revision sessions during their tutor time to complement the exercises which they do in class and for homework.

The revision necessary for February and the summer can be divided into the following sections:

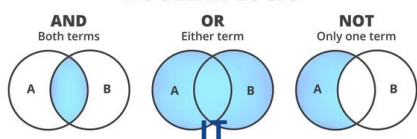
Writing - Use the essays which you have practised and had corrected in class. Use flashcards to help you look, cover and check their spellings, and particularly the differences between the past and the future tenses.

Speaking - The pupils will have practised speaking questions for 3 different themes (Myself, family and birthdays; holidays; and school/future plans). They need to know these fluently and off-by-heart for February and then the Summer as well.

Reading and Listening - The Vocab booklets they were given last year (the yellow A4 booklet) is an incredible resource for the pupils. It has taken every important and difficult phrase from the exams of the past years and compiled them into each topic/theme that could come up. Quite simply, the more of that booklet which the pupils start revising now, the more marks they are going to be able to pick up in their real exams.

Good Luck - not many school weeks left now before the exams.....

BOOLEAN LOGIC



Year 11 pupils will be continuing and completing the non-examination assessment part of the qualification, which is 60% of the pupils overall grade. This will be a 17-hour assessment which is completed during lessons, being completed in the first half term. This will then be assessed and externally moderated. Following this assessment pupils will return to theory content, focusing on the terminal examination part of the qualification. Within this, pupils will recap and develop further understanding of key topics covered so far throughout the course. Pupils will have their first PPE in IT in the next exam window, which will be the first exposure to a theory examination.



SPANISH

This term pupils will learn to talk in detail about global issues such as poverty and homelessness, before moving on to look at holidays, with a particular focus on Spain. We will then revisit the topics of school and future plans. However, this time we will be going into more detail and learning to use more advanced vocabulary and structures to express ourselves. GCSE Spanish has both a Higher and Foundation exam, so pupils will be expected to work to the level of which they are capable. This is not dependent on their target but their ability in Spanish. Home Learning will take the form of learning vocabulary. 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.

Year 11 pupils will have their second PPE (exam) at the beginning of March, which will include a speaking element. It will be essential that pupils prepare and learn their answers to the speaking questions as these questions will be very similar to the ones they will do in their real GCSE speaking exam in May. The more vocabulary the pupils learn throughout the year, the better the grade they will get in their final exam.

COMPUTER SCIENCE

ROBUST COMPUTER PROGRAMS, BOOLEAN LOGIC AND LANGUAGE

In the final term of learning new topics, pupils will look at defensive design and the strategies that can be used to make a computer program robust and strong enough to avoid it being misused or accessed by unwanted users. This includes looking at authentication and validation techniques and how they are used in the real world, and testing strategies that are used to ensure a computer program works correctly. Pupils will expand on their understanding of Boolean logic from Key Stage 3 to look at more advanced logic gate diagrams and to be able to define expressions based on these diagrams and vice versa, creating diagrams based on expressions. Following this, pupils will look at the range of computer programming languages and how these are used, including high level and low level programming languages and the features of different IDEs, which allow pupils to code.

Following the completion of this, the specification will be completed and pupils will begin recapping and deepening understanding of all topics covered on the specification.

GEOGRAPHY

Our Year 11s will study the *challenge of natural disasters* focusing on causes, effects and management of earthquakes, with particular focus on how and why the latter two can be different depending on whether the regions impacted are high-income or low-income countries. They will then move onto one of their final areas of study: *climate change*. Pupils will investigate whether it is just humans that are the cause of rising temperatures, or if there is more to it than that? They will study local, national and global consequences and the management strategies that are developing to reduce these inevitable effects. We will begin preparation for the final PPE in February / March, further developing pupil understanding of exam command words, retrieving case study knowledge and identifying areas that posed as challenges in the last PPE.



HISTORY

Pupils will be finishing their study of the *American West* topic and will now revisit, in depth, the *Medicine Through Time* topic. They will identify key changes and continuity through time of causes, treatments and prevention methods towards illness and disease. Studying key people and events, rediscovering the impacts they had on understanding, improving or sometimes hindering the growth of understanding of medicine through time. Pupils will also be completing a variety of exam style questions in lessons, to consolidate and reinforce their learning, to ensure they are prepared for the upcoming PPEs and formal exams in May/June. The second round of PPEs will focus on *Paper 2: Anglo Saxons and American West* with *Paper 1: Medicine* to be sat at a later date. Revision guides are available to purchase via ParentPay!



CHILD DEVELOPMENT

Cambridge National Health and Social Care Level 1 and 2 Certificate - J835

Pupils have now completed the both the Non-Examined Assessments (NEA). *R059 Create a Safe Environment and Understand the Nutritional Needs of Children from Birth to Five Years* was completed in Year 10, and results have been issued by the exam board OCR. During the Autumn term we completed *Unit R059 Understand the Development of a Child from One to Five Years*.

These two NEAs (coursework) are worth 60% of the end grade. The examination on 21st May 2024 will be worth the final 40% of the final grade.

During the Spring term we will focus on the exam *Unit R057: Health and Well-being for Child Development*. We have previously studied *Topic Area 1: Pre-conception Health and Reproduction* and will spend time on retrieval methods to further embed this knowledge. We will also learn about the other 3 topic areas on Antenatal care and preparation for birth; Postnatal checks; and Childhood illnesses and a child safe environment. Pupils will have a variety of resources and home learning to help understand these topics and become really prepared to confidently tackle the exam unit.



PSHE

Year 11 will start the term focusing on the core theme of *relationships*. The key question; 'how can I communicate effectively in a relationship?' will be the focus. The lessons will include the features of healthy romantic relationships, the dangers of pornography, consent and protection from sexually transmitted infections.

The second half of the term looks at how pupils can take responsibility for their own health. We will be learning about cancer, cosmetic surgery and organ/blood donation.

CONSTRUCTION

This term in **Unit 3** the pupils will continue with their practical assessments in bricklaying, carpentry and electrical. They will complete a practical piece of work and a written report to include planning and sequencing their project, identifying resource requirements, calculating the materials required, writing and setting success criteria and finally evaluating the task.

In **Unit 1** pupils will gain knowledge and understanding of tools, technologies and materials used in the construction and built environment sector; we will be learning about the main elements of low rise buildings and renewable technologies and materials, including heat pumps, wind turbines and solar panels.



HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

Cambridge National Health and Social Care Level 1 and 2 Certificate - J835

Pupils have now completed the both the Non-Examined Assessments (NEA). *Unit R035 Health Promotion Campaigns* was completed in Year 10, and results have been issued by the exam board, OCR. During the Autumn Term we completed *Unit R033 Supporting individuals Through Life Events*.

These two NEAs (coursework) are worth 60% of the end grade. The examination on June 5th 2024 will be worth the final 40% of the final grade.

During the Spring term we will focus on the exam *Unit R032: Principles of Care in Health and Social Care Settings*. We have previously studied *Topic Area 1: The Rights of Service Users in Health and Social Care Settings*, and will spend time on retrieval methods to further embed this knowledge.

We will also learn about the other 3 topic areas on Person-centred values and how they are applied; Effective Communication in Health and Social Care Settings; and Protecting Service Users and Service Providers. Pupils will have a variety of resources and home learning to help understand these topics and become well prepared to confidently tackle the exam unit.

BTEC SPORT

Our Year 11 pupils will use this term to consolidate their development of the *R185 Performance and Leadership in Sports Activities* component, with focus in particular revolving around assessment of their practical leadership deliveries and their practical performance within their two selected sports. Additionally, pupils will also learn about the various topics from the *R184 Contemporary Issues* exam with particular focus on understanding the issues which can impact participation in sport, knowing the importance of promoting positive sporting values, as well as the negative impacts of performance enhancing drugs in sport.



MUSIC

Pupils are preparing for:

Component 3: Responding to a Commercial Music Brief.

They will put skills into practice by responding to a brief as a composer, performer or producer. During Component 3, pupils will:

- choose an area of the industry that excites them (composer, performer, or producer).
- Explore the Pearson set brief and come up with possible responses and ideas.

Pupils will use relevant resources, skills and techniques to develop and refine musical material. They will present their final response (solo or in a group), as well as reviewing and reflecting on their approach to the brief and their final outcome.



ART

Pupils are undertaking the *BTEC Tech Award Level 1/2 in Art & Design Practice*. Pupils will have completed *Component 1*. In January pupils will be given the *Component 2* brief set by the exam board and will be working on this until May 2024. Pupils will produce independent work in response to a variety of artists, designers and craftspeople, historical and contemporary and Western and non-Western. Observational drawings will focus on the set theme and pupils will be using a range of different materials, techniques and processes to develop their project. Using initial observational drawings, research and visual imagery, pupils will develop design ideas and experiment with materials resulting in a final outcome in response to the set brief.

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

BUSINESS & ENTERPRISE

Pupils will be completing their NEA (Non-Examined Assessment), worth 60% of their final mark, throughout the Spring term. The assignment will be based around research for a business that will lead into pupils writing a business plan for the business that will help them achieve set business aims. Pupils will need to consider different sources of finance, external influences on the business' competitiveness, make financial projections and suggest marketing strategies.

DRAMA

Pupils will be working on **Component 3 – Text in Performance** in which each pupil performs two extracts from a published play. This will culminate in a performance to a visiting examiner for 20% of the GCSE in February. Pupils will also continue with *Unit 1: Set Text, 'Blood Brothers'*, and *Live Theatre Evaluation* in preparation for the written paper in May which forms 40% of the final grade.

Support materials can be found at Paignton Online, Google Classroom and GCSE Bitesize for Unit 1, AQA GCSE Drama.

PPE week in March. The exam will be in 3 parts:

- Section A - theatre roles and terminology – multiple choice
- Section B - 4 essay questions on the set play 'Blood Brothers'
- Section C – 32-mark essay on the Live Theatre Production 'Billy Elliot'

Pupils need to continue to revise for all 3 sections of the exam paper and the set text 'Blood Brothers' and consolidate their revision through mock papers in preparation for the Spring term PPEs. On Tuesday 19th March 2024, pupils will be going to watch the touring production of the GCSE set play 'Blood Brothers' at The Princess Theatre in Torquay.

The Academy musical, 'Matilda Jr', will be taking place from the 20th -22nd March 2024 in The Arena at Borough Road. Tickets will go on sale on Monday 8th January 2024 on the Academy Online shop.

DRAMA KIT FOR YEAR 11 IS A PLAIN BLACK SHORT SLEEVED T-SHIRT WITH BLACK TROUSERS OR LEGGINGS. ALL PUPILS ARE EXPECTED TO BRING THIS TO LESSONS EACH WEEK.



ENGINEERING

WJEC Engineering Level1/2

Over the past two half terms, Year 11 pupils have been working on *Unit 1: Manufacturing Engineering Products*. This is worth 40% of their final grade and is assessed on four main task areas. The exam board states that pupils should have 20 hours to complete this and we have spent 13 double lessons on this to ensure all content was covered in order for everyone to achieve their best. Pupils have completed the following tasks on Google Classroom and they will now be formally assessed:

- Task 1A: Annotate the working drawing (10 marks)
- Task 1B: Parts list(4 marks)
- Task 2A: Materials and tools needed (10 marks)
- Task 2B: Production plan (10 marks)
- Task 2C: Risk Assessments and safety write up (6 marks)
- Task 3: Manufacturing the bike clamp (16 marks)
- Task 4A: Photo diary of skills (12 marks)
- Task 4B: Evaluation of the product and the overall project (12 marks)

This term marks the beginning of *Unit 2: Designing Engineering Products* which pupils will have 10 hours to complete. In order to make sure all pupils are prepared, we will spend some time learning some skills so we are ready to complete the unit. We will complete 4 hours before half term and the remaining 8 hours after half term. Pupils will be assessed on their ability to write a design brief, create a specification and sketch a range of design ideas using sketching skills. They will also get marks for showing their CAD skills and their ability to create a final design using working drawing techniques covered last year.

We will of course be continuing to complete fortnightly revision sessions in order to prepare for the upcoming PPE mock exams at the end of February and, as always, all lesson content will be posted on Google Classroom should you want to go over any lesson content together.

HOME LEARNING

(See last 2 pages at end of newsletter)

Pupils will have a Knowledge Organiser and a Home Learning exercise book to support their Home Learning. Home Learning will include a range of activities. Home Learning for each subject for the Autumn Term is outlined in the table below. All Home Learning will be set on ClassCharts on a Monday, so that parents can plan their child's Home Learning for the week. Home Learning will be marked in different ways as outlined below. Expectations for Home Learning in each subject will be made clear to all pupils. There is a Home Learning Breakfast Club from 8am each morning to support pupils.

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Home Learning – Year 10 & 11 GCSEs Spring Term

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	60 mins per week	Students will build on & extend topics currently studied by completing GCSE questions. This will be interspersed with GCSE essay questions enabling students to recall previous material studied.	Students may complete and submit on the Google classroom or if they prefer may complete by hand and submit to the class teacher	General feedback will be given.
Maths	60 mins per week	Retrieval: Pupils will recall work completed that week, plus other work in the year in consolidations tasks Flipped learning: Pupils will build on, extend work currently completed. This will feed into 'insights' given back to the teacher to feed into starter tasks Past Paper will be given close to PPEs and summer exams.	Sparx website On paper for past papers	On the website In class for past papers
Science	1 hour per week	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	30-60 Minutes per week	Seneca assignments for retrieval/consolidation. Research tasks, GCSE questions (4 Marks)	Seneca, Google Classroom, Google Docs	Seneca is self marking, visual checks of Assignments completed, teacher marked GCSE questions with feedback.
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	30 mins per week	Year 10 - H&C Personal Review of dishes/retrieval/practical skills development Flipped learning - Research tasks for building knowledge for forthcoming lessons. Pupils to watch videos Year 11 - Food Tech Revision questions and research	Classcharts	Collected, Checked and marked by the class teacher. Praise Points awarded
French & Spanish	20 minutes per week	Vocab learning based on a particular section of their Knowledge Organiser Additional tasks such as Speaking question revision, listening/reading paper practise may also be requested as and when the teacher deems appropriate	Knowledge of learned vocab assessed in class	Corrected in class and PP added during the week

Drama	45 mins - 1 hour 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	30 mins per week	Practice on instrument/composition/production skill sets.	On instruments/DAWs whilst completing rehearsal/production/composition logs.	Self-reflection of rehearsal effectiveness/composition development/production development.
Ethics	30 min P/w	Seneca, Making retrieval quizzes, Cornell notes .	Seneca and Google classroom	Teacher/ online
Social Sciences	45 minutes per week	Revision activities. Retrieval activities. Making online revision resources. Yr11 - practice exam questions on paper	Google Classroom. Yr11 - printed exam questions.	Self marked or checked via Google Classroom. Yr11 will have teacher marked practice exam questions.
Computer Science	30 minutes per week	Year 10 - pre-reading and questions for future topics. Retrieval of previously learnt topics. Year 11 - up until half term - pre-reading and questions for future topics. Retrieval of previously learnt topics. After half term - revision of previously learnt topics.	Seneca and Smart Revise.	Self marked and checked by the teacher. Praise points awarded for completed work.
Business and Enterprise	30 minutes a fortnight plus end of topic revision	Revision activities and exam practice	Seneca	Seneca is self marking
Sports Studies	45 minutes	Revision activities and Retrieval quizzes set to challenge weekly exam content retention	Google Classroom via use of Google Forms	Self marked or checked via Google Classroom.
Construction				
Engineering				