

The
Folkestone
School for Girls



GCSE Revision Guide 2018/19

In the light of the GCSE Mock Results you have just been provided with – now is a suitable time to start considering how you are going to approach your revision for your summer examinations.

There is a wealth of support and guidance available to you as you make the final preparations for your upcoming GCSE examinations. Obviously the onus is on you, as students, to ensure you are fully committed to your success and are preparing in a way which allows you to reach your potential and enter your exams feeling confident. However, your teachers and the school as a whole will support you every step of the way and do as much as they can to aid you.

Top Tips for Revision

Current research suggests two skills are most essential – testing yourself on your revision as you go along to reinforce and leaving enough time to distribute revision over a long enough period. Some others...

- 1. Prepare** – Make sure you have everything you need to revise, organised beforehand. Notes, textbooks, revision guides. It is also worth making a list of the topics which you need to revise for each subject so you can tick them off as you go along – This is a nice visual reinforcement of progress! I would recommend using the checklists in the front of the revision guides.
- 2. Create a Revision Timetable** – one which is realistic and can be kept to and achieved. This will help you understand exactly how much you need to revise and what key priorities are. It will save the last minute panic if you have paced your revision over a long time period. There are some excellent websites for this (<https://getrevising.co.uk/> and www.revisionworld.com/gcse-revision). **Make sure you include breaks in your revision.**
- 3. Practice Papers** – do as many as possible. These are a good way of ensuring you are as confident as possible with the exam paper but also that you are able to apply all of the knowledge you are revising.
- 4. Understand your learning style** – Focus on using revision methods which work for you. Everyone will have different methods which work for them. Experiment and try different ideas to see which help you remember most. Mindmaps, quizcards, pictures, songs – anything may work for you!
- 5. Regular and focused revision** – Ensure your revision is focused and you are not surrounded by distractions. Short, regular bursts of revision with breaks in between are more beneficial than an hour sat with a book in front of you but your phone and laptop next to you. Try the ransom technique – your parents keep your phone/another item that distracts you until you are able to show them you have revised a topic by answering questions/talking to them about it!
- 6. Add some variety** – Try to make your revision as active and ‘exciting’ as possible. Sitting and reading notes is not normally effective for most people. There are some excellent revision games and podcasts on the internet and useful videos on YouTube.

Subject Guidance Pages

Within this guide, you will find that each of your subjects has put together their own guide of useful websites, books and key tips for revision. Please use those which are relevant to you.

Year 11 Revision Timetable

Commencing Monday 24th January – Friday 10th May 2018

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Session 1 12.45 – 1.15	Maths	French (Starting 26 th February)	Science	Maths	Spanish (Starting 1 st March)
Session 2 3.40 – 4.10	Geography	English	History (Starting 27 th February)	Dance	Drama (Starting 1 st March)
Session 3 4.15- 4.45	Science	English	History (Starting 27 th February)	Music	Art



Maths

Key Dates for Maths GCSE

Mathematics Paper 1 (Non – Calculator)	21 st May AM
Mathematics Paper 2 (Calculator)	6 th June AM
Mathematics Paper 3 (Calculator)	11 th June AM

Revision tips

- Regular practice of questions on a mixture of topics.
- If you come across a topic that you cannot do, use the websites and resources below to learn how to do it. Don't just give up and try a different topic – the only way you will improve is by working on the topics you are weaker in.
- Always try to get to the harder questions - the exam is going to be difficult, so you need to get used to attempting hard questions.
- Learn the formulae that you are expected to know (it was emailed to all students, but ask your teacher if you need a copy)

Recommended revision guides/books

- Any book that covers the New Edexcel 9-1 Higher GCSE Maths syllabus will be fine. We recommend the CGP book with USBN: 9781782944058
- There are also revision flash cards available on the Corbett Maths website and through Pearson.

Other revision materials

- The Maths Student Subject Area has 14 full sets of practice papers with answers.
- Exam papers from the old course can be found on the Edexcel website, and although they are much easier than the new course, they can provide useful topic revision.

Useful Websites

- Hegarty Maths
- Corbett Maths
- Maths Genie
- Pixl App.

Top Tips to achieve higher grades:

Practise problem solving questions that contain more than one topic. You need to try to master every topic, so ensure you are always trying the hardest questions available.



English Language



Key Dates for English Language GCSE:

Paper 1 - Explorations in creative reading and writing - 1h 45m – 4th June 2019 am

Paper 2 - Writers' viewpoints and perspectives - 1h 45m – 7th June 2019 am

Revision tips

- For the reading paper you could look at a range of online articles and answering the different question types from the exam paper, such as summarising (Q2), analysing language (Q3), and comparing different writers' viewpoints (Q4).
- Revise AFOREST and descriptive/figurative devices (Simile, Metaphor, Personification etc)

Revision materials

- Booklets will be given out in class where available.
- All resources can be found under the student subject areas on English: GCSE 2017 Revision and on the Google Drive under English.
- Past papers will be saved in the Student Subject Area, and will be given out in class.
- https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/Student/books_gcse_english_new.books_gcse_englishlanguage

Useful Websites

- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zr9d7ty> (BBC Bitesize - English Language)
- <http://www.englishbiz.co.uk/>
- The Guardian/Independent

Top Tips to achieve higher grades:

- Speed is essential. Writing needs to be concise and accurate, as there are very tight time limits.
- Always read the wordings of the question very carefully, and ensure that you focus on the key features of the text, including the relationship between writer and audience.



English Literature



Key Dates for English Literature GCSE:

Paper 1 - Shakespeare and the 19th century novel - 1h 45m - 15th May 2019 pm

Paper 2 - Modern texts and poetry - 2h 15m - 23rd May 2019 am

Revision Tips

- Quick essay plans are a good idea.
- You need to learn contextual information, so a few context cards for each topic would be beneficial.
- Quote cards for every topic, broken down into themes is a simple and effective technique.

Revision materials

- Poetry Revision Guides have been given to all students
- Booklets will be given out in class where available.
- All resources can be found under the student subject areas on English: GCSE 2017 Revision and on the Google Drive under English.
- Past papers will be saved in the Student Subject Area, and will be given out in class.

Useful Websites

http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/english_literature/

Merchant of Venice

<http://www.sparknotes.com/shakespeare/merchant/>
<http://www.litcharts.com/lit/the-merchant-of-venice#context>
<http://www.shmoop.com/merchant-of-venice/>

An Inspector Calls

<http://www.litcharts.com/lit/an-inspector-calls>
<https://www.yorknotes.com/gcse/an-inspector-calls-york-notes-for-gcse-new-edition/revision-cards>

Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde

<https://www.sparknotes.com/lit/jekyll/>
<http://www.shmoop.com/jekyll-and-hyde/>

Poetry

<http://www.bishopfoxs.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/AQA-Power-Conflict-revision-booklet.pdf>

Top Tips to achieve higher grades:

- Link together a range of quotes and contextual ideas consistently.
- Aim to look in as much detail as possible at specific words/techniques, and always consider the effects.
- Consider dual interpretations, and always think carefully about the writer's intentions and the effects on the audience.



Science



Key Dates for Science GCSE:
Biology Paper 1: 14th May PM
Chemistry Paper 1: 16th May AM
Physics Paper 1: 22nd May PM
Biology Paper 2: 7th June PM
Chemistry Paper 2: 12th June AM
Physics Paper 2: 14th June AM

Revision tips

Just keep practicing exam questions! That's the most useful thing.

Revision materials

- There are checklist for each topic on the Science Google Drive under each specific science area, as well as the past exam paper questions.
- More revision materials will become available on the google drive over the course of the year- this should include revision booklets for each chapter, knowledge PowerPoints, flashcards, recall questions, 6 mark questions and more.

Combined Science Guides:

<https://www.amazon.co.uk/New-Grade-GCSE-Combined-Science/dp/1782945881/>

and

<https://www.amazon.co.uk/New-Grade-GCSE-Combined-Science/dp/1782945865/>

and

<https://www.amazon.co.uk/New-Grade-GCSE-Combined-Science/dp/1782945873/>

Triple Science Guides:

<https://www.amazon.co.uk/Chemistry-Complete-Revision-Practice-Online/dp/1782945849/>

and

<https://www.amazon.co.uk/Physics-Complete-Revision-Practice-Online/dp/1782945857/>

and

<https://www.amazon.co.uk/Biology-Complete-Revision-Practice-Online/dp/1782945830/>

Useful Websites

- Collins connect – digital textbooks and lots of tests to try.
- Educake – you can ask it to set you questions on any topic you like!
- BBC Bitesize – revision notes on all of GCSE Science
- <https://www.youtube.com/user/myGCSEscience> - select the video!
- www.aga.org.uk – download past papers, mark schemes and the examiners reports.
- [My Science -](#)
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGqabAVv0SRD_SjtothQPTQ
- [Free science Lessons -](#)
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqbOeHaAUXw9II7sBVG3_bw
- Primrose Kitten -
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBgymal8AR4QIK2e0EfwAA?disable_polymer=true

Top Tips to achieve higher grades:

Your teacher will have told you (or is about to tell you) about the difference Assessment Objectives in the exams. To get a grade 8/9 you need to be able to do A03 – which focusses on analysing and evaluating data. Make sure you practice this style of question and use the past exam papers to help.



History



Key Dates for History GCSE:

Paper 1: 3rd June 2019 AM

Paper 2: 6th June 2019 PM

Revision tips

- Regular revision – don't try and cram at the last minute
- Come along to the revision sessions
- Use the resources mentioned above and make your own.
- Look back at past paper questions (along with the feedback sheets) and see what types of questions you perform least well on – make these the prime target for your revision
- Revise with a friend or member of your family – get them to test you on what you know.

Revision materials

- You'll find revision resources on the Student Subject Area and your teachers will use things like card sorts, quiz cards and maps in your lessons. The best way to learn is if you create these resources yourself
- You should also have been emailed a set of sample questions for GCSE History (and given a paper copy). Work through the questions and plan how you would answer them
- You will be emailed a school-generated revision guide, but if you would like to purchase a revision guide the best one available currently seems to be the CGP guide: GCSE History Revision Guide – for the Grade 9-1 Course (HHR41), ISBN-13: 978-1-78294-608-3

Useful Websites

- Resources and PowerPoints from your History lessons are available on the Student Subject Area for each of the main topic areas you have studied.
- Among the many revision sites, the BBC History and GCSE Bitesize websites are probably the most useful

Top Tips to achieve higher grades:

- Look back at sample and past paper questions
- Download examiners' mark schemes from the AQA website and identify what is needed for the top level marks



Geography



Key Dates for Geography GCSE:

Paper 1: 21st May 2019 PM

Paper 2: 5th June 2019 PM

Paper 3: 13th June 2019 AM

Revision tips

- Practise past paper questions from the website or those provided in lessons and use the mark schemes to self-assess
- Do a case study a page – each topic make into A4 and make links between each idea
- Know the GCSE command words and rewrite these into your own words.

Revision materials

- Booklets provided for each of the units with revision check lists for each one
- Sample questions emailed out to each student and saved on the student subject areas for each of the topics
- Textbooks are all scanned in for student use.
- GCSE Geography AQA (Ross, Rowles, Holmes and Digby)
- CGP AQA Geography for the Grade 9-1 Exam complete revision and practise

Useful Websites

- www.s-cool
- www.coolgeography
- www.GCSEbitesizegeography

Top Tips to achieve higher grades:

- Practising past paper questions
- Attend any intervention or Revision sessions
- Produce case study revision maps of each case study
- Know how and when to apply each case study



MFL



Key Dates for MFL GCSE

Spanish

Listening – 22 May

Reading – 22 May

Writing – 5 June

Speaking between 26 April & 10 May. Date to be confirmed by your teacher

French

Listening – 14 May

Reading – 14 May

Writing – 17 May

Speaking between 26 April & 10 May. Date to be confirmed by your teacher

Revision tips

- Go through past listening papers with the transcript & highlight vocabulary
- Flash cards of key vocabulary to test yourself on (www.cram.com is great for creating virtual flashcards with audio)
- Listen to the target language as often as possible, for example on the radio
- Go through past papers you have previously completed and use a dictionary to look up & learn any vocabulary that has stopped you from being able to successfully complete a question.

Revision Materials

- On the Google Drive for MFL of each language there are lots of Linguascope vocabulary sheets, textbook vocabulary and past papers with listening files and the answers to self-check which will be very useful for revision. There are also extension papers for those wishing to push to the top grades 7/8/9
- Listening & reading papers are available on the AQA website – most of these will be used for exam preparation in lessons.
- You all have access, via the internet, to the textbook we use for each language. These can be accessed using your login details on www.pearsonactivelearn.com

Useful Websites

- <https://app.senecalearning.com/login> - all the AQA topics listed by module with practice exercise and marks as you go along.
- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/z9dqxn> - BBC Bitesize French
- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/z8j2tfr> - BBC Bitesize German
- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/z4dqxn> - BBC Bitesize Spanish
- www.quizlet.com - Find MissBC-L for French and Spanish from Mrs Cross-Lees or click this link <https://quizlet.com/join/YXQsyKC5c>
- <http://www.nrj.fr/radio> - a pop radio station in French where you can download podcasts too.
- <http://www.franceinfo.fr/player> -
- www.duolingo.com or download the app. This is good because it tests you first to make sure you are learning at the right level for you.
- <https://www.laits.utexas.edu/tex/gr/index.html> - Tex's French Grammar. Excellent revision of grammar with tests at the end of each section so you can check how you got on.
- Coffee Break Languages – A good podcast you can get for free on iTunes or look at the website for more information. (It's only free via iTunes)
<https://radiolingua.com/coffeebreak> (French/ German or Spanish)
- www.language-gym.com – verb practice!
- https://www.youtube.com/user/magauchsein/playlists?sort=dd&view=50&shelf_id=14



Dance



Key Dates for Dance GCSE:

Set Phrase:

4th Feb p2 and 3 11B,

8th Feb p2 and 3 11A

Group Compositions:

11th March – Both Groups times tbc

Revision tips

- Rehearse as much as you can
- Keep watching the Anthology works
- Make sure you are able to describe and explain examples from your Group Composition and the Shadows performance piece.
- Read through your choreographic journals
- **Attend all lessons leading up to the exam**
- Attend crammers
- Ask for help

Revision materials

- The GCSE Dance Revision Guide and Work Book
- Set Phrase Videos
- Exam questions booklet & Extended question booklet
- Revision mind maps are available on the Google Classroom.

Useful Websites

Revision mind maps from Artspool are available on the Google Classroom.

The GCSE Dance Revision Guide

PPTs on Classroom

Top Tips to achieve higher grades:

- Confidence in performance – you must use expressive skills in all work
- Well-rehearsed choreographic work – they should be 'show' standard
- Does your choreography show your theme?
- Have you used the music to show your theme?
- Make sure that your dancers know what they are doing. Rehearse with them regularly.
- Use the DIL method when answering 12 mark questions. (Describe, Interpret, Link, Evaluate) 6-8
- 6 Mark questions - state the intention – 4 DIL(E)
- When describing movement include each element of RADS.

Description from DFE:

1. Grade 8

1.1 To achieve grade 8 candidates will be able to:

- demonstrate, including through own performance, sustained and perceptive knowledge and understanding of skills required to perform safely, accurately and with sensitivity to style and intention
- demonstrate sophisticated selection and use of choreographic elements and aural settings to communicate choreographic intention
- critically analyse, interpret and evaluate own and professional works, to produce convincing reflective judgements using specialist terminology accurately and effectively



Drama

Key Dates for Drama GCSE:

Exam dates to be confirmed.



Revision tips

- Make sure that you re-read your notes from all of your GCSE course as you will have covered all of the information needed for the exam
- Learn Drama Techniques – their meaning and their spelling
- Learn the roles within a theatre
- Learn the types of stage
- Re-read the play you have studied. Pick a specific character, and imagine/explain your interpretation of them for a specific scene (including movement, voice and costuming)
- Create character revision sheets for key characters in your set play
- Review your notes on the live theatre productions you have seen
- Watch YouTube videos of interviews with production team members of your live theatre production
- Use revision materials (including tips)

Revision materials

- Glossary of Drama Terms – copies available from the Drama Department
- PDFs on shared area
- AQA GCSE DRAMA (NEW SPEC FROM SEPT 2016) – by Annie Fox

Useful Websites

- http://www.illuminatepublishing.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&products_id=144

(Click on the part marked “You can download additional resources for this subject [here](#).” This will take you to some useful pages)

- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/topics/z6mxsbk> part of BBC Bitesize

Top Tips to achieve higher grades:

- Use drama terms – correctly!
- Get to the theatre and see a range of productions – although you will only write about your one chosen production, the more theatre you see, the more knowledge you build up
- Give specific examples throughout, considering the intended effect on an audience.
- Always fully explain the reason for your own decisions about interpretation.



Music



Key Dates for Music GCSE:

Tuesday 4th June.
Performance Assessments Week Beginning 25th
March.

Revision tips

- Listen to lots of unfamiliar music, whilst actively **thinking** about it under the headings of each area of study. Listen to Radio 3 and Radio 6.
- To be practising for the March solo and ensemble performance examinations **now**. Make sure that you are using notation and really sticking to it as much as possible (or for singers, as much as stylistically reasonable.)
- Read the questions properly, underlining the elements of music that the question is asking for.
- Make sure that you answer every question.

Revision materials

- There are plenty of resources in P:\Student Subject Areas\Music\GCSE resources\REVISION!!!
- This folder will be reviewed monthly and new resources added.
- WJEC/Eduqas GCSE revision guide RHG 438

Useful Websites

<https://folkestonegirls.musicfirst.co.uk/app/>
(Pupils know their secure log-in details)

Top Tips to achieve higher grades:

- You really need to focus on the preparation for your performance; it is 30% of your overall grade and you can really influence this outcome with good planning and preparation.



Art and Design



Key Dates for Art and Design GCSE:

Fine Art:
Exam dates to be confirmed.

5/6 – 7 highly developed ability to:		
AO1	<p>Develop ideas through investigations, demonstrating critical understanding of sources: A highly developed ability to effectively develop ideas through creative and purposeful investigations and demonstrate critical understanding of sources.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do you have at least 2-3 artist/photographer (or equivalent e.g. designer, culture, location) research pages and responses with some detailed analysis and understanding of their work? There should be evidence of more than one source being used e.g. primary research like a visit, museum/gallery/artist website etc.
AO2	<p>Refining Ideas & Experimentation: A highly developed ability to thoughtfully refine ideas, effectively select and purposefully experiment with appropriate media, materials, techniques and processes.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do you have a range of both initial and developing thumbnail ideas/contact sheets refining your ideas as well as a range of media/compositional experimentation? Has refinement been shown when carrying out practical work and experimenting with materials/processes/techniques? It should be clear how experiments have been further developed.
AO3	<p>Record Ideas & Observations: A highly developed ability to skilfully record ideas, observations and insights through drawing and annotation, and any other appropriate means relevant to intentions, as work progresses.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do you have skilful evidence of observational recording/drawing/mark-making/working from first-hand experience and in a range of different media/Photographing in a range of different ways such as a range of different viewpoints?
AO4	<p>Presenting a Final outcome(s): A highly developed ability to competently present a personal and meaningful response and realise intentions with confidence and conviction. A highly developed ability to demonstrate understanding of visual language.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A clearly refined and competent final outcome that shows appropriate media selection and control, clear progression from the journal work and a link with an artist/photographer/technical research/investigations? Is it a personal response based on your own findings, experiments and observations?

8/9 Grade = An exceptional ability to:

AO1	<p>Develop ideas through investigations, demonstrating critical understanding of sources: An exceptional ability to effectively develop ideas through creative and purposeful investigations and engage with and demonstrate critical understanding of sources.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do you have at least 3-4 artist/photographer (or equivalent e.g. designer, culture, location) research pages and detailed responses with in depth analysis and understanding of their work? There should be evidence of a range of sources being used e.g. primary research like a visit, museum/gallery/artist website etc.
AO2	<p>Refining Ideas & Experimentation: An exceptional ability to thoughtfully refine ideas with discrimination and effectively select and purposefully experiment with appropriate media, materials, techniques and processes.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do you have a wide range of both initial and developing thumbnail ideas/contact sheets refining your ideas as well as a range of highly refined media/compositional experimentation? Has refinement been shown when carrying out practical work and experimenting with materials/processes/techniques? It should be clear how experiments have been extensively further developed to a high level.
AO3	<p>Record Ideas & Observations: An exceptional ability to skillfully and rigorously record ideas, observations and insights through drawing and annotation, and any other appropriate means relevant to intentions, as work progresses.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do you have highly skilled and wide ranging evidence of observational recording/drawing/mark-making/working from first-hand experience and in a wide range of different media/Photographing in a range of different ways such as alternative viewpoints?
AO4	<p>Presenting a Final outcome(s): An exceptional ability to competently present a personal and meaningful response and realise intentions with confidence and conviction. An exceptional ability to demonstrate understanding of visual language.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A clearly refined and highly developed final outcome that shows appropriate media selection and highly controlled, clear progression from the journal work and a link with an artist/photographer/technical research/investigations? Is it a highly personal response based on your own findings, experiments and observations?