Year 11 Curriculum Newsletter Autumn Term 2

Maths



What are we doing this half term? We will continue with the GCSE syllabus. **(Higher)** Graphs and inequalities, iterations, circle theorems. **(Foundation)** Fractions, indices & standard form followed by similarity & congruence and vectors.

Assessments: Students will complete 3 papers in the upcoming November mocks. Paper 1 - Non-calculator, Paper 2 - Calculator, Paper 3 - Calculator.

How can parents help? Ensure your child has the correct equipment for every lesson such as a pencil, ruler, compass, protractor and most important - their own scientific calculator. Students are mostly set weekly individualised tasks based on needs - please encourage your child to complete them on Hegartymaths.

English



What are we doing this half term? Students will begin the Autumn 2 term by revising both Language Paper 1 and An Inspector Calls to prepare them for their mocks. Once mocks have finished, students will then move onto revising Macbeth. We will begin by refreshing our memories of the play by watching the production and being guided by a scene wall, which students will write key quotes onto. We will then go on to revising key soliloquys and extracts from the play, linking to theme and context and helping to secure our understanding of revision skills and key quotations.

Assessments: one in-class MB response, and ongoing in-class feedback on responses.

How can parents help? Please ensure your child completes all their home learning, which will be revision-based, and brings their copy of Macbeth to school with them. Helping your children create a revision timetable or clock for Y11 would also be hugely beneficial.

Science



What are we doing this half term? You will be continuing your studies of Biology, Chemistry and Physics this term. Lessons will focus on new learning of the paper 2 topics for each science discipline - homeostasis and response, organic chemistry and forces and waves. Different groups are at different points. Homework will be set weekly on sparx completing revision of the paper 1 topics studied last year - that will be assessed in the first mock exams. There will be extra homework set to help prepare students for the first mock examinations.

How can parents help? Ensure your child has correct equipment such as a pen, a pencil, ruler and their own scientific calculator. Students need to start bringing their revision guides to lessons towards the end of this term. These books are an invaluable resource for your child's revision.

History



What are we doing this half term? After the November mock we will be starting our fourth and final GCSE topic: Elizabeth I. We are kicking this off with a visit to Westminster which we hope will bring the topic to life and spark students' interest.

Assessment - every 3 units as previously.

How can parents help? Ensure your child is doing home learning. Encourage them to attend revision clinic. Stress the importance of hard work now paying off in the summer exams. Encourage them to read over their class notes and revise as they go as this will make it easier towards the end of the year.

Spanish



What are we doing this half term? GCSE Spanish begins the second half of the Autumn term by revisiting topics studied in the course so far and practicing exam style questions in preparation for the mock exams. We then move onto the topic of celebrity culture and technology.

Assessments: Mock exams in Spanish will be listening, reading and writing skills.

How can parents help? Please encourage students to start revision early and do a little and often. They should regularly be practising topic-related vocabulary as well as practising skills such as listening, reading and writing as well as translation. Ensure your child does not use online translators such as Google translate and instead use class notes as reference. Students should use to practice their comprehension. They also have Pearson GCSE workbooks (purple) which have a huge amount of exam-style questions, including listening. Encourage them to create revision posters / flashcards on each topic and to review weekly.

French



What are we doing this half term? GCSE French begins the second half of the Autumn term by revisiting topics studied in the course so far and practicing exam style questions in preparation for the mock exams. We then move onto the topic of celebrity culture and technology.

Assessments: Mock exams in French will be listening, reading and writing skills.

How can parents help? Please encourage students to start revision early and do a little and often. They should regularly be practising topic-related vocabulary as well as practising skills such as listening, reading and writing as well as translation. Ensure your child does not use online translators such as Google translate and instead use class notes as reference. Students should use to practice their comprehension. They also have Pearson GCSE workbooks (purple) which have a huge amount of exam-style questions, including listening. Encourage them to create revision posters / flashcards on each topic and to review weekly.

Geography



What are we doing this half term? GCSE Geography students will be studying economic development in the UK, as a comparison to Nigeria. They will study how the UK has moved from the secondary sector to the tertiary sector, and how this has affected urban and rural areas. Students will investigate the impact of a good transport network and how different strategies can close the UK's north south divide.

Assessments: An end of topic written assessment, short and long answer questions, based on past GCSE exam questions. They will cover all of the assessment objectives. These skills will be continual practiced over the course of the GCSE. AO1: Demonstrate knowledge of locations AO2: Demonstrate geographical understanding of: concepts and the interrelationships between places. AO3: Interpret, analyse and evaluate geographical information and issues. AO4: Use a variety of skills to investigate questions and communicate findings.

How can parents help? Ensure your child has the correct equipment such as a pencil, ruler, glue, scissors and a green pen for peer and self-assessment. Students will be given a revision help sheet at the start of each new topic, and should be encouraged to complete revision notes at the end of each week's lessons, so they are producing them in manageable detailed chunks. Please assist students in keeping their revision folders organised and with detailed notes and diagrams. Use GCSE Pod and Time for Geography to consolidate knowledge. Students should be revising work from Y10 and Y11 a minimum of once a week.

Art



What are we doing this half term? Our GCSE Art & Design students begin Year 11 by developing their 'Identity' project into an 'Altered Portrait' project and exploring this concept in their own chosen direction. Coursework is worth 60% of a student's final GCSE grade. Students are assessed against the following objectives: AO1 Developing Ideas, AO2 Experiment & Refine, AO3 Recording Ideas, AO4 Present. These assessment objectives are equally weighted and students are graded holistically based on all the work they complete.

How can parents help? Please ensure that your child meets our final coursework deadline on Friday 19th December.
Leading up to this our students are expected to be spending 3 -4 hours a week working on their art coursework at home
outside our timetabled lessons. A space for students to work on their art coursework during evenings and weekends is an excellent way to support their progression. Students purchase a pack of materials at the beginning of the course but if
parents are able to also purchase acrylic paints for students to also use at home, this would be a really supportive measure to ensure that coursework can be completed both at home and at school. If parents are also able to support students in visiting different museums and galleries and engaging in conversations about artworks, this is a great way to prepare them for and support them throughout the GCSE course.

PE



What are we doing this half term? Students will receive a balance of activities with the goal of further developing their love for physical activity and their ability to perform with confidence.
Assessment: Students are not formally assessed in core PE.
How can parents help? Please ensure students complete home learning tasks on time and that they are organised with their full kit on PE days. Brainscape online resources.

DT GCSE



What are we doing this half term? We will be looking at the Non Exam Assessment and continuing onto the initial design ideas and getting them to a high standard. We will also continue onto developing, modelling and assessing construction techniques for the final prototype. In theory sessions, the students will revisit the theory content that has the highest difficulty, in order to aid the recall in the exam. They will also practice a range of exam style questions.
Assessments: The NEA is assessed throughout and the final outcome will form part of the final grade. We will also be using past papers to help assess student knowledge.
How can parents help? Continue to be a good vocal client, checking in on their design work and giving constructive feedback. Take them to shops that sell similar products to their chosen design work and let them look at them to get an idea of how they are constructed.

PE -GCSE



What are we doing this half term? In the final year for GCSE PE, students will spend the second half of the Autumn term revisiting, revising, and consolidating the theory content for both Paper 1 and Paper 2. For those who have chosen it as their individual activity, rock climbing is on offer, and the first mock practical moderation will be conducted to assess and standardise pupil performance as they demonstrate skills both in isolation and when applied in a competitive situation.

Assessments: To track progress, pupils will complete an assessment after each theory topic, and parents can best help by actively assisting with revision and continuing to support their child's use of the approved online resources: GCSE Pod, The Ever-Learner, and Brainscape.

Food and Nutrition

What are we doing this half term? The GCSE non-examination assessment (NEA2) will begin this term and will consist of tasks, involving practical work and a written portfolio. Students will plan, prepare, cook and present 3 high skilled dishes. The topic will be advised by the Exam board. This will provide students with an opportunity to showcase their creativity and culinary skills. They will apply their existing knowledge, skills and understanding of nutrition to produce a concise portfolio that will together with the NEA1 represent 50% of their final grade.

What parents can to help: Experiment with dishes and food at home adapting and improving on recipes, practising their culinary skills. Encourage and schedule time for your child to read over their Year 10 class notes regularly and memorise the key points and factual details.

BTEC Sport

What are we doing this half term? Year 11 BTEC Sport students will continue developing their understanding of Component 3, which focuses on applying knowledge of fitness training methods to improve sporting performance.

They will explore a range of training principles, methods, and exercises, understanding how these can be adapted to suit different goals and individuals. Throughout the term, students will use this knowledge to analyse and plan appropriate training programmes as part of their preparation for the external assessment.

They will also begin revising for their final exam in January, focusing on key areas such as fitness testing, training adaptations, and the importance of warm-ups and cool-downs. To support their progress, students will sit a mock exam on November 5th, giving them valuable experience of exam conditions and feedback to guide their revision. This term will help consolidate their knowledge and prepare them for success in the final assessment.

Music



What are we doing this half term? Year 11 Music will start by looking at unfamiliar listening questions and exploring Music for Ensemble and Film Music.

Assessments: Formative teacher feedback of compositions and listening tasks in lessons.

How can parents help? Please encourage your child to complete regular instrumental/singing practise and to listen to lots of music! Support learning musical vocabulary.

Computer Science



What are we doing this half term? Students will be preparing for their mock exams and actioning the feedback from those. They will complete the networks and communication unit of work then start learning about cyber security, the ethical side of computer science and the laws involved. Students will also be revising topics and theory learnt throughout year 10.

Assessments: Students will be given exam style questions each lesson to guide revision and help reflect on progress. These exam questions will be used to check the students are revising for the upcoming mock exams.

How can parents help? Students have been emailed programming revision tasks to be completed over the summer. Students need to spend 40 minutes a week practising their programming skills. Students also need to spend time re-visiting the topics that were learnt about in year 10.

Drama



What are we doing this half term? Year 11 will continue to prepare for their Written exam and will work on 'Nought and Crosses' play text (adapted by Sabrina Mahfouz) ensuring plot and character are fully understood across the play. Students will look at this text from the view of an actor, director and designer and will be set a range of essay questions to prepare them for the written exam in May. They will also begin their text in performance unit and will start work building a performance from a script (given to them by their teacher and assessed by a visiting examiner in February). Students will be working on this in the second part of this half term, and will develop a deep understanding of their role, block their performance and develop their acting skills using a range of rehearsal techniques.

How can parents help: Please help your child to ensure their home learning deadlines are met.

Business & Enterprise



What are we doing this half term?
Students will sit their Unit 1 exam in November - this is their actual exam and accounts for 40% of their final grade. In September and October students will be revising the Uni1 content.

Assessments: Unit 1 exam in November. This will be a mixture of multiple choice, 2 mark and 4 mark questions and 6 mark and 9 mark extended response questions. For the extended response questions your child needs to be able to 1) recall the subject specific terminology 2) explain what this means / what the advantages and disadvantages are 3) link back to the context of the question/ explain what the impact would be.

How can parents help? Ensure your child is revising for at least 20 mins a day. They will be assessed on all 5 learning outcomes in Unit 1. There is a revision guide available: https://www.amazon.co.uk/My-Revision-Notes-Technical-Enterprise/dp/1510474307 . Please engage in your child's revision and ask them to explain key terms/ concepts/ advantages and disadvantages to you. If they can explain it it means they understand it.

The BBC bitesize KS4 business pages are helpful with understanding key terms and key concepts.

There are also two great youtube channels that will help with explanations and how to answer extended response questions: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCE9uWsZ2C3NYzzKRIo_mntw and https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCd4lON3OznEHVSdhfe4eu4w