



**The Castle School**

ACHIEVE | BELONG | PARTICIPATE

# GCSE Launch Evening

## Sept 2024 - Leavers 2026

## Main Hall

6.00pm – 6.40pm

Whole school picture - Mr Simpson

Overview of core subjects:

English, Mrs Whysall

Maths, Mrs Sully

Science, Mr Collings

## Option subject talks

6.45pm, 7.00pm 7.15pm

Child Development in N11

Computer Science in J15

Design Technology in N2    Engineering in N1

Drama and Dance in DBS

Fine Art and Textiles in T32    Photography in T22

Food in T24

Geography in T14    History in T11

French German Spanish in J5    Mandarin in J3

Music GCSE and BTEC Music in J7

PE GCSE in J1 and BTEC PE J2

Philosophy/Ethics/Religion in T16



# Calendar:

- Enrichment Days 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> Oct
- Year 10 I.A. home 18<sup>th</sup> Dec
- Enrichment Days 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> Jan
- Year 10 Progress Evening Thurs 6<sup>th</sup> Feb
- Year 10 Exams 23<sup>rd</sup> April – 2<sup>nd</sup> May
- Work Experience Week Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> – Frid 27<sup>th</sup> June
- Year 10 Report home 16<sup>th</sup> July



# Year 10 Work Experience Week Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> to Friday 27<sup>th</sup> June

- Part of our 'universal offer'
- An insight into work - links to ambition
- An important learning experience





- |                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                           |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  Administration, Business and Office Work |  Financial Services                 |  Performing Arts                                       |
|  Building and Construction                |  Healthcare                         |  Personal and Other Services including hair and beauty |
|  Catering and Hospitality                 |  Languages, Information and Culture |  Retail Sales and Customer Services                    |
|  Computers and IT                         |  Legal and Political Services       |  Science, Mathematics and Statistics                   |
|  Design, Arts and Crafts                  |  Leisure, Sport and Tourism         |  Security and Armed Forces                             |
|  Education and Training                   |  Manufacturing and Production       |  Social Work and Counselling Services                  |
|  Engineering                              |  Marketing and Advertising          |  Transport and Logistics                               |
|  Environment, Plants and Animals          |  Media, Print and Publishing        |  All Categories                                        |

To restrict your search to a specific post code area, town or telephone code area, enter the details here and press submit before making your classification selection.

Postcode:  Town:  Telephone area code:  Flag:  Approved only



## Year 10 Homework Timetable – suggested 1 ½ - 2 hours per night

	<b>Population A</b>	<b>Population B</b>
Monday	Maths    Option B	Science    Option B
Tuesday	English    Option C	Maths    Option C
Wednesday	Science    Option A	English    Option A
Thursday	English    Maths	English    Science
Friday	Science    RE	Maths    RE



## Students:

- Attendance
- Find out what you have missed and catch up
- Focus in class
- Work with your teacher
- Establish a positive homework routine



## Families:

- Use ClassCharts to check homework
- Talk through the learning
- Monitor standards
- Encourage your child to access the support that's here in school
- Contact the teacher if you have concerns
- Revision guides





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# English in Y10 and Y11



2 GCSEs

English Language

English Literature

In Literature students will read:

Lord of The Flies **or** An Inspector Calls– to be studied after half term

Macbeth (Y10)

Power and Conflict Poetry – anthology (supplied by us)

Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde **or** A Christmas Carol (Y11)

# At the end of the course

- Students will sit four English papers:
- 2 for Language – each 1 hour and 45 minutes
- 2 for Literature – one is 1 hour and 45 minutes; the second is 2 hours and 15 minutes.



# Speaking and Listening

This does not count towards the overall grade achieved, but must be completed to be able to receive an English Language GCSE.

All students will complete this by the end of this academic year.



Term 1:	Term 2	Term 3:	Term 4:	Term 5:	Term 6
Poetry (anthology) The first 8 poems	Modern Text – either Lord of the Flies or An Inspector Calls	Lang.Paper 1 and Paper 2	Creative writing unit then Poetry (anthology) The remaining 7 poems	PAFF writing Then Macbeth	Macbeth



## Skills needed: Language

- To retrieve facts and list them
- To analyse how language is used to create effect
- To look at how authors create effect through structure
- To explore how and why characters are created and the impact that this has on the audience
- To summarise in own words
- To compare and contrast texts and explore viewpoint
- To write creatively and persuasively, using a varied and crafted range of vocabulary, punctuation, sentence and paragraph length and sentence and paragraph conjunctions.



# Skills needed: Literature

- To retain quotes, character links, contextual detail and plot for all three texts and 15 poems
- To be able to explore an extract and link to the wider novel or play
- To compare poems
- To analyse unseen poems and compare them
- To be able to write full essays under time constraints using all of the skills listed above



# How you can help - Language

- Ask them to read newspaper articles and explain the main points and how meaning/ viewpoint is created
- Ask them to find 4 facts in an article, and list them.
- Encourage them to expand vocabulary and to practise spelling and punctuation
- Encourage them to use sites such as:
  - BBC Bitesize
  - Spark Notes
  - Mr Bruff's videos (YouTube) are good for Language





# How you can help - Literature

- Encourage your child to create maps of key quotes and display them in bedrooms
- Ask them to explain plots of texts being studied and how they link to context
- Encourage wider reading – books by the same authors, especially C19th, as language is significantly denser in these books
- BBC Bitesize
- Spark Notes (do not read revision guides until we have completed the readings of the texts)
- Mr Bruff's videos (YouTube) are good for Literature

For each text, we have created these sheets which will be put on Class Charts as we read the text.

Cut them out into individual images with the quote.

Get your child to learn the quotes with the images.

Then, fold the quote back and just show the image and ask them to recount the quote.

Muddle the words in the quotes and ask your child to correct the order.

Say the quote but miss out a word – ask your child which word is missing.

Keep the quotes in 3 piles:

1st – quotes being learnt

2<sup>nd</sup> – quotes more confident with but not secure

3<sup>rd</sup> – quotes which are secure.

You could also ask them to link to the context of the text.



Under loves heavy  
burden do I sink.



O she doth teach  
the torches to burn  
bright



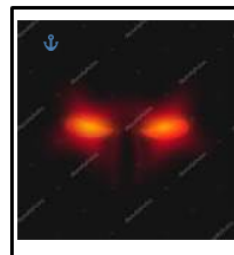
Is she a Capulet? O  
dear account! My  
life is my foe's debt.



Gentle Mercutio,  
put thy rapier up.



Thy beauty hath  
made me  
effeminate



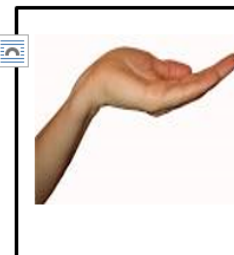
Fire eyed fury be  
my conduct now!



He that hath the  
steerage of my  
course, direct my  
sail



It is the east and  
Juliet is the sun.  
Arise fair sun and kill  
the envious moon.



If I profane with  
my unworhiest  
hand.



Shake the yoke of  
inauspicious stars  
from this world

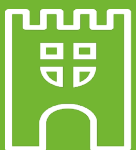
# Absence and homework

- Please make sure that your child emails their class teacher to find out what they have missed – they will be expected to catch up.
- Homework will be set twice every week, please make sure that your child is completing this: it's always on Class Charts.



# If you are worried

Please either phone or email your child's class teacher in the first instance.



# GCSE Maths

**MATHEMATICS**

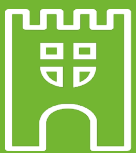
is not about  
numbers, equations,  
computations, or  
algorithms:  
it is about  
**UNDERSTANDING.**

*William Paul Thurston*



# Key points

- GCSE curriculum
- Class work and homework
- Great habits to encourage now



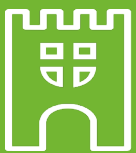
# Exam board - AQA

**THREE** written exams

Paper 1 Non calculator (80 marks)  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hours

Paper 2 Calculator (80 marks)  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hours

Paper 3 Calculator (80 marks)  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hours



There are 2 tiers of entry, Higher or Foundation.

Each tier covers a different range of grades:

Higher	9	8	7	6	5	4	3		
Foundation					5	4	3	2	1

Sets 1-4 will study the Higher in Year 10

Set 5 will study the Foundation tier.

End of year 10: tier of entry reviewed

Yr 11 mock exams: further tier review





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# What to expect in Year 10 and 11



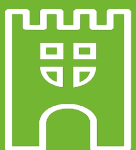
# Classwork

- Classwork includes introduction to new areas of maths as well as regular review of past topics
- Lessons will cover
  - Recall & Review starter
  - Understanding vocabulary
  - Fluency in a mathematical topic
  - Problem-solving: how to break down a problem
  - Reasoning: how to explain your method & justify your answer



# Homework

- Two homeworks every week
- Homework will be on 'Classcharts'. It will include:
  - Review of area covered in the past in preparation for the next unit of work
  - Practice of topics currently being studied in class
  - Actions to be taken on feedback given by your teacher
  - May include worksheet homework or DrFrost Maths (or STRIDE!!!)



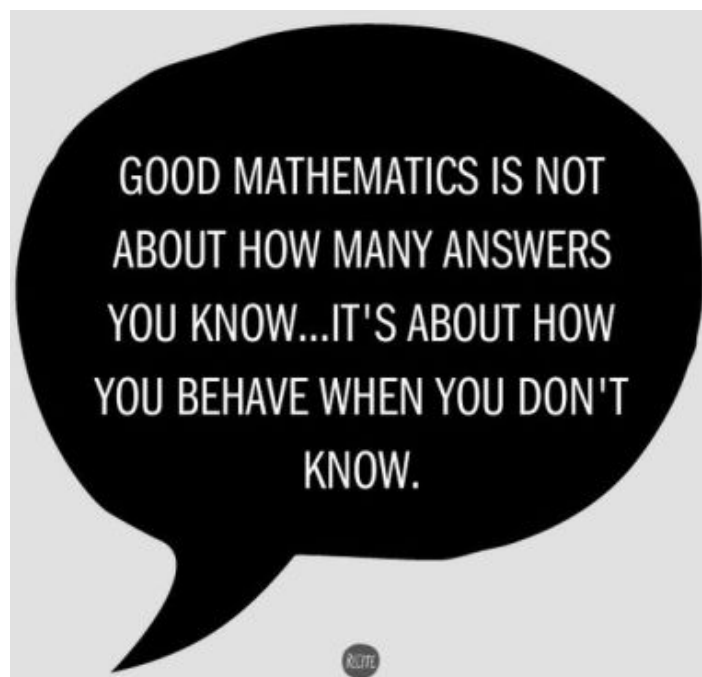
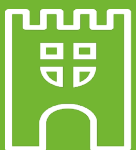
# Assessments

## YEAR 10

- Pre-tests to check for gaps
- End of unit tests to assess core skills with feedback provided
- Exam-style assessments
  - 21 & 22 October (revision lists out this week)
  - 24 & 30 April
- Exam feedback PLC linked to [www.corbettmaths.com](http://www.corbettmaths.com)
- Expectation to action weak areas

## YEAR 11

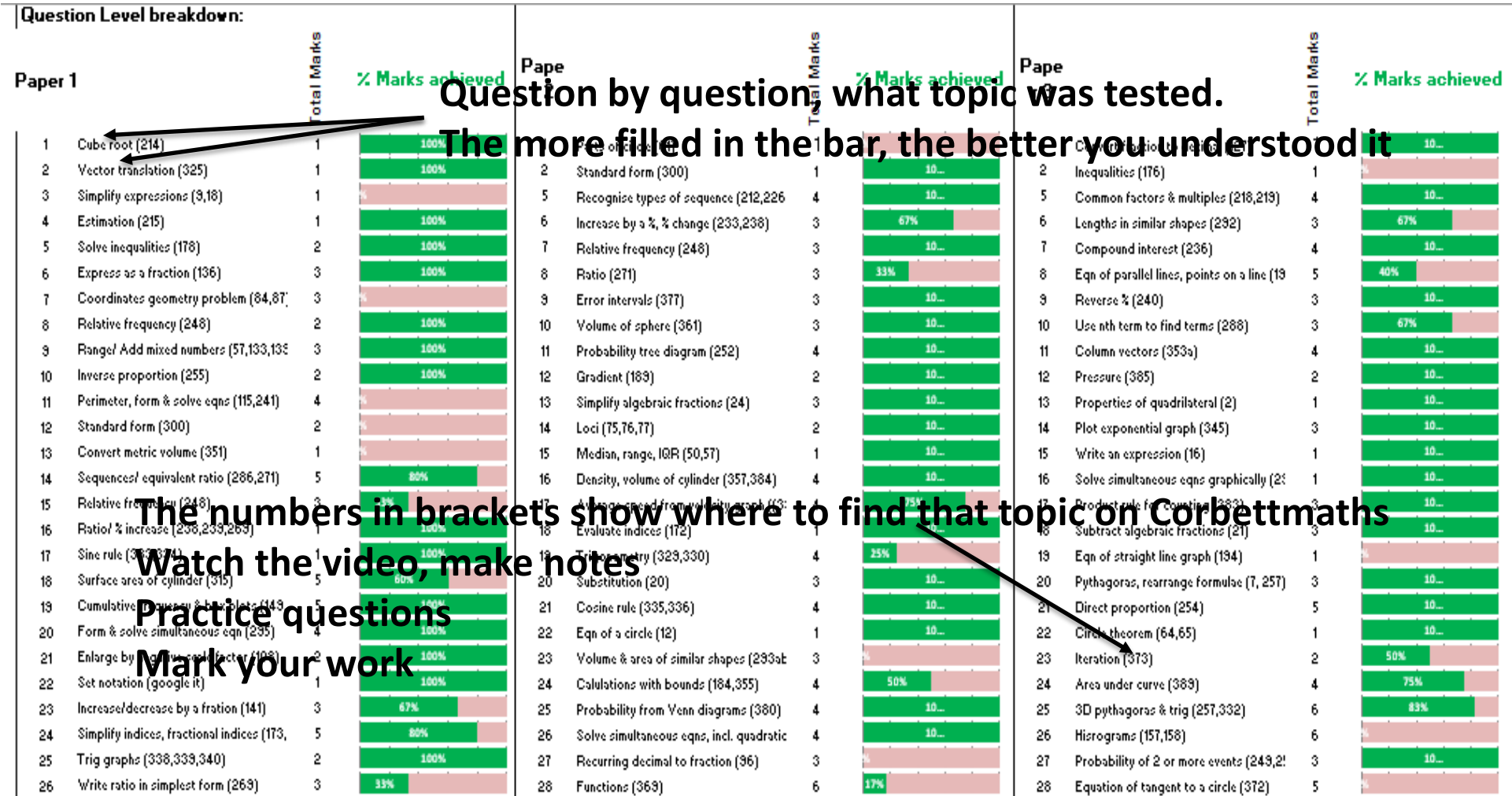
- 2 Mock exams November and March
- Exam feedback PLC linked to [www.corbettmaths.com](http://www.corbettmaths.com)
- Expectation to action weak areas



Taking action on feedback given is the best way to improve your maths.



## Using an exam feedback PLC





# Great habits to encourage now

- Practise revision techniques with homework – watch video, make notes, do questions
- Bring a scientific calculator & maths equipment to every lesson
- Work through weak topics on [www.corbettmaths.com](http://www.corbettmaths.com) (identified from feedback sheets or online quizzes) or Dr Frost Maths
- Revision using online resources and/or workbooks
- Prepare for all assessments, encourage a revision timetable



[www.corbettmaths.com](http://www.corbettmaths.com)

The screenshot shows the Corbettmaths website with a dark header. The main navigation bar includes links for Welcome, Videos and Worksheets, 5-a-day, More Resources, About, and Revision Cards. A search bar is located on the right. The 'Videos and Worksheets' section features large orange text and a pink link for answers. A list of topics with video, practice questions, and textbook exercise links is provided. The right sidebar contains an RSS feed, a section for Corbettmaths Revision Cards (GCSE Higher or Foundation Tier) with an image of the cards, and a calculator section with an image of a Casio calculator.

**Corbettmaths**  
Videos, worksheets, 5-a-day and much more

Home Welcome Videos and Worksheets 5-a-day More Resources About Revision Cards

Type text to search here...

**Videos and Worksheets**

**Videos and Worksheets**

[Click here for answers](#)

[Common marking codes for teachers](#) [Marking codes](#)

2D shapes: names [Video 1](#) [Practice Questions](#) [Textbook Exercise](#)

2D shapes: quadrilaterals [Video 2](#) [Practice Questions](#) [Textbook Exercise](#)

3D shapes: names [Video 3](#) [Practice Questions](#) [Textbook Exercise](#)

3D shapes: nets [Video 4](#) [Practice Questions](#) [Textbook Exercise](#)

3D shapes: vertices, edges, faces [Video 5](#) [Practice Questions](#) [Textbook Exercise](#)

Addition: column method [Video 6](#) [Practice Questions](#) [Textbook Exercise](#)

Algebra: changing the subject [Video 7](#) [Practice Questions](#) [Textbook Exercise](#)

Algebra: changing the subject advanced [Video 8](#) [Practice Questions](#) [Textbook Exercise](#)

**RSS feed**

**Corbettmaths Revision Cards**  
Available for GCSE Higher or Foundation Tier

**Calculator**





<https://www.drfrstmaths.com/>



The Castle School


Points this Year: 3431 Global Rank: 23139 ?

Key Skills: 0/367



Key Skills are finegrained question types where you can practise randomly generated questions with accompanying short worked example videos.


Go

 Latest Homework

✓ Set by Mr George

Know the place value of digits in whole numbers. Order integers. Multiply any integer by a single-di...

Review All

 Trophies: 21/37


You earn trophies for achievements related to answering questions.

View

Practise by Topic

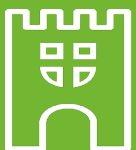
Practise past paper questions by topic and difficulty.

Go

 Videos: 0/270

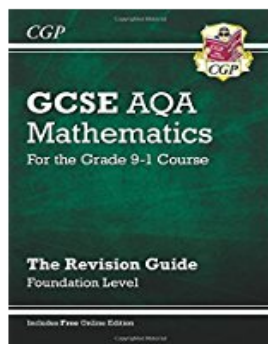
Watch teaching videos before you attempt new topics.

View

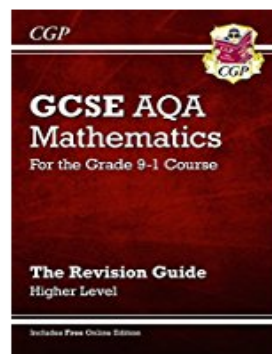
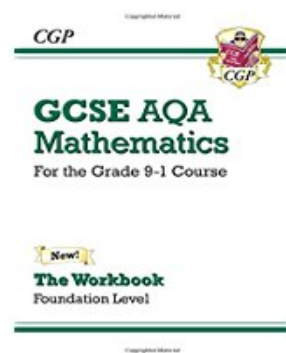


## AVAILABLE FROM STUDENT RECEPTION

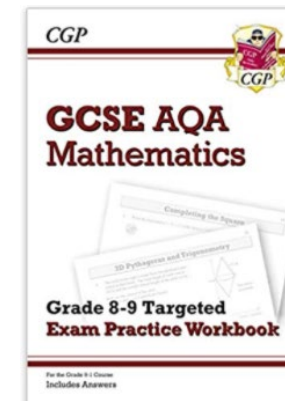
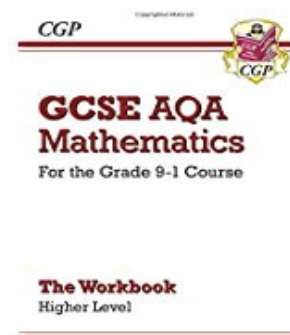
Revision Guides & workbook: £7 for both



Foundation

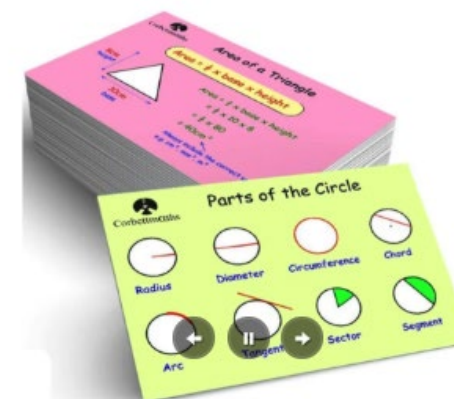


Higher



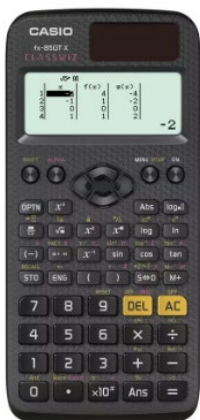
Available for Higher or Foundation Tier

Corbettmaths Revision cards  
£6.30





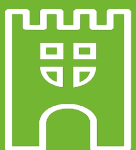
## AVAILABLE FROM STUDENT RECEPTION



Casio Scientific Calculator: £9.50

Pencil case with  
maths equipment: £2





## Why study maths?

**MATHS Matters....**

statistics

transport

engineering

media

food technology

graphics

IT

computer games

environment

medicine

teaching

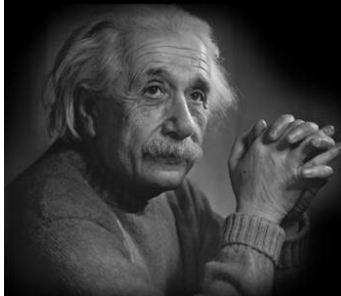
finance

IT ALL ADDS UP TO A GREAT CAREER find out more at <http://www.mathscareers.org.uk>



# GCSE Sciences

**The whole of science is  
nothing more than a  
refinement of everyday  
thinking.**



**Albert Einstein**

*German Theoretical-Physicist*

(1879-1955)

*QuoteHD.com*



# Key information:

**The exam board for sciences at the Castle School continues to be Edexcel.**

All examinations are terminal- taken at the end of Year 11.

No Controlled Assessment Tasks- 100% examination assessed.

Foundation tier will cover grades 1–5. Higher tier will cover grades 4–9.





# What are the routes?

**There will be two routes in GCSE sciences that students can take:**

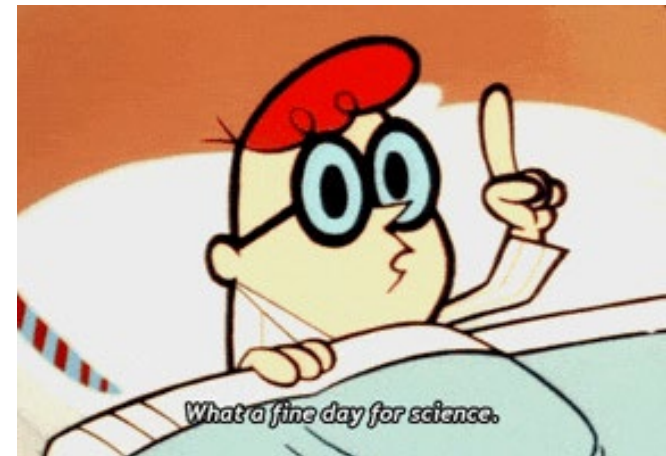
**1 GCSE (9-1) Combined Sciences (double award)**

- The majority of pupils will follow this route.

**2: GCSE (9-1) Separate Sciences**

- GCSE (9-1) Biology
- GCSE (9-1) Chemistry
- GCSE (9-1) Physics

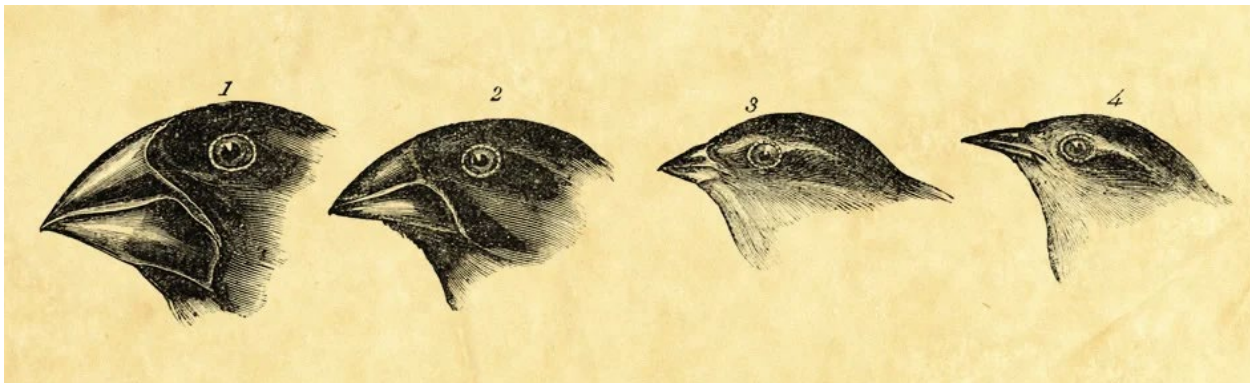
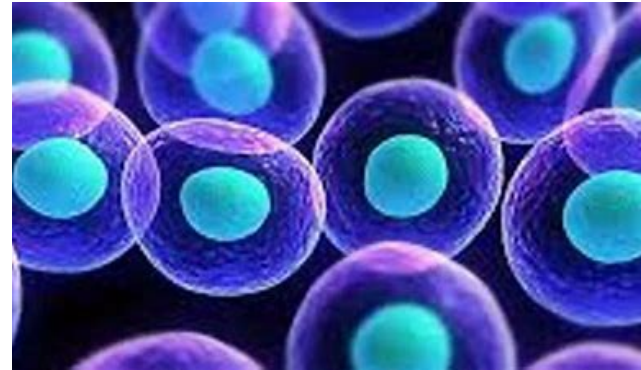
*Note: There will be no single GCSE Science option.*





# Biology topics you will study in year 10:

- Key concepts in Biology
- Cells and control
- Genetics
- Natural selection and genetic modification
- Health and disease

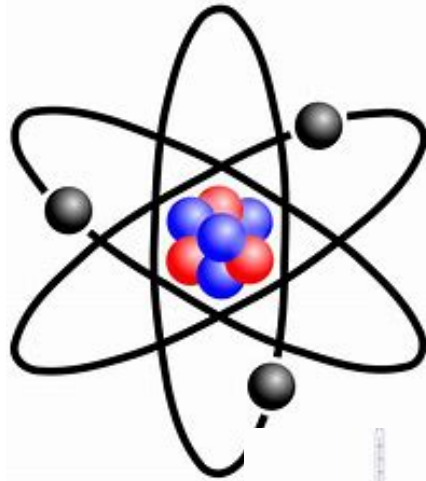






# Chemistry topics you will study in year 10:

- States of matter
- Atomic structure
- The periodic table
- Bonding
- Acids and alkalis
- Calculations involving masses





# Physics topics you will cover in year 10:

- Motion
- Forces
- Energy
- Waves
- Light and the electromagnetic spectrum

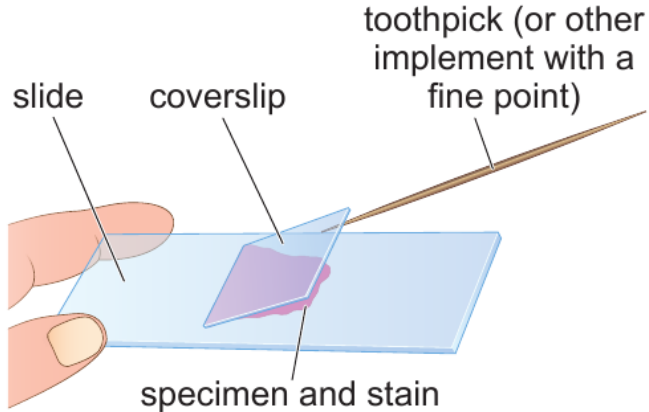


by Frits Ahlefeldt

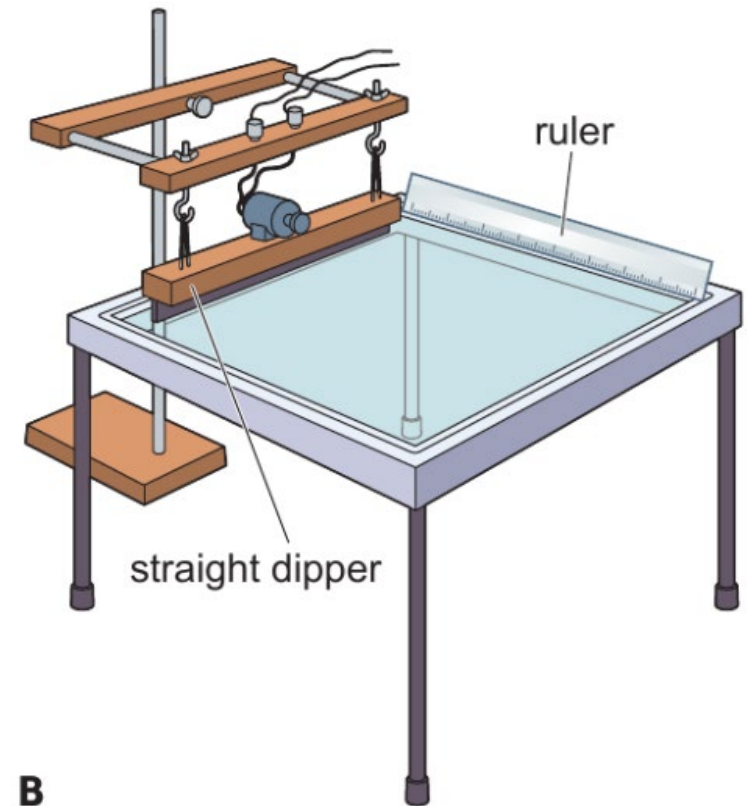
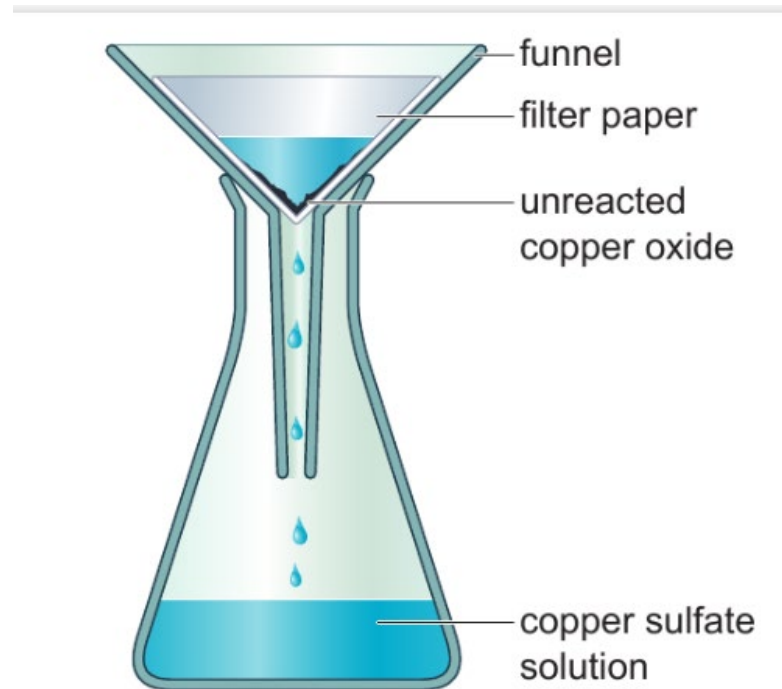




# You will take part in a range of important **core practical tasks** in Biology, Chemistry and Physics



**B** Lowering a coverslip slowly and carefully means a slide is less likely to contain air bubbles.





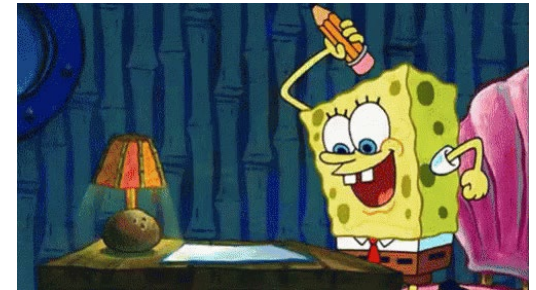
# Homework- expectations

**1 piece set every week**

Posted on *Class Charts* with appropriate resources attached.

*Good homework should:*

- Consolidate classwork from that week
- Promote independent work
- Provide opportunities for tackling questions alone.





# Assessment

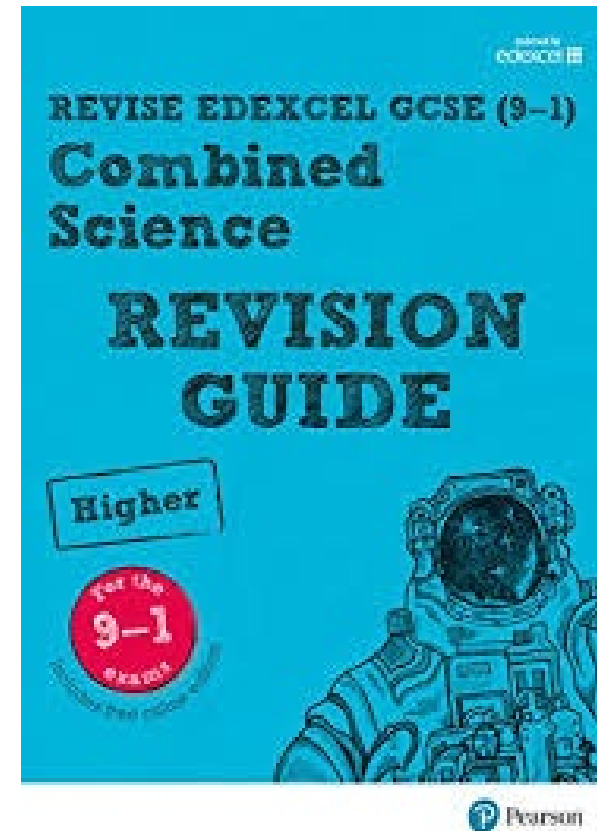
- Classwork marked every six lessons.
- Students act on teacher feedback in green pen to make improvements- really effective process.
- Short class assessment tasks at end of each sub-topic.
- Formal tests- used by us to track progress- at end of each module.
- Year 10 exam – published Edexcel GCSE exam.





# Effective revision

Revision guides and workbooks will be available to purchase from school for combined and separate routes. These are an excellent resource.





# Want to get a head start?

- Go on BBC bitesize to look at the activities and quizzes:  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zqkww6f>
- Watch amazing documentaries such as Planet earth, Frozen planet or Blue Planet or YouTube clips like the “Cognito” channel.
- Read books or magazines on topics you are interested in. Your science teacher will be happy to recommend some.
- Go on to: <https://www.stem.org.uk/home-learning> and click on ‘Secondary Biology, Chemistry or Physics’ for fun activities you can get involved in.



# Where can science take you?







Option subject talks 6.45pm, 7.00pm 7.15pm

Child Development in N11

Computer Science in J15

Design Technology in N2

Engineering in N1

Drama and Dance in DBS

Fine Art and Textiles in T32

Photography in T22

Food in T24

Geography in T14

History in T11

French German Spanish in J5

Mandarin in J3

Music GCSE and BTEC Music in J7

PE GCSE in J1 and BTEC PE J2

Philosophy/Ethics/Religion in T16