

'REVISING FOR SUCCESS'

**Exam information and helpful
tips to aid revision.**



**STUDIO
SCHOOL**
ISLE OF WIGHT

Welcome to 'Revising For Success'

Winning the Mind Games - the DNA of Performance

We can support both learning and performing with science. Successful performance whether it be as an elite athlete, professional singer or student sitting exams relies on us developing the skills to perform on the day and the skills that we use in advance and which prepare us to perform on the day.

Of course, we have to learn and remember information and so once again, science can guide us as to how what is a good approach to learning and what is the most helpful learning environment away from school.

The following guide is a good summary of the DNA of Performance.

Performing Skills

1. Activate – become alert
2. Orientate – direct attention
3. Sustain – effortless attention

Preparation for Performing Skills

1. Positive Thinking
2. Goal Setting
3. Visualisation
4. Attentional Control
5. Self health and wellness

Learning (Approach)

1. Context specific learning
2. 20 mins learning chunks
3. Spaced learning for retention
4. Reinforcement through pictures and stories

Learning (Environment)

1. The home space
2. Weapons of mass distraction at home
3. Effective communication at home

Andy McCann
DNA Definitive

GCSE Maths

In year 11 students are following the AQA linear 8300 specification. They will sit 3 exams, each 90 minutes long. The first is without a calculator and papers 2 and 3 require the use of a calculator.

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/mathematics/gcse/mathematics-8300>

There is no coursework or controlled assessment element to this course.

Maths revision strategies.

- Little and often – 15 minutes a day or every other day is much better for your brain than a solid hour or 2 once or twice a week.
- Have specific targets – not “algebra” but “I want to be able to solve an equation with 1 variable”. This will enable you to track your progress more rapidly.
- Mini-mocks – making sure that you stay on top of the topics being tested and commit to revising if you need to retake a mini mock are vital.
- The only way to get better at maths is to do more of it. Practice papers and questions are the best way to revise once you have nailed your specific target topics. As a new course there are no past papers but there are plenty of practice and specimen papers available along with mark schemes. We are following the AQA linear course but any past maths papers you find are useful.
<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/mathematics/gcse/mathematics-8300/assessment-resources>
- Get hold of a revision guide or workbook. These can be purchased from the front office for £3 each or speak to Mrs Griffiths.
- Personal revision guide. All students are creating their own personalised revision guide and should be using this alongside exam papers.
- Topic cards – many students like to create topic revision cards with a question on one side and solution the other.
- Use the process Test, set personal targets, revise target, Retest, to ensure best progress.

GCSE English Language

The exam board for the English Language is AQA and the course is 8700

Speaking and Listening:

Students will need to take part in speaking and listening activities that show their skills in: presenting; responding to questions and feedback and use of Standard English. This will be assessed internally.

Exam:

Students will sit two 105 minute exams. Paper 1 is Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing and will require students to read one fiction extract and write a narrative or description. Paper 2 is Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives and will require students to compare two non-fiction texts and write presenting a viewpoint.

Revising for the Language Exam:

1. Time is short in exams. Practise writing at speed, making sure your handwriting is legible.
2. Use practice papers and time yourself on each question.
3. Try writing instructions for the method of answering each question.
4. Explore vocabulary you don't know. Look up words you come across in a dictionary and have a go at using them in your next piece of writing.
5. Learn common prefixes so you can guess the meanings of unknown words.
6. Revise punctuation marks you are unsure of.
7. Revise using a variety of sentence types.
8. Practise reading articles or chapters of stories, then summarise what you read in a short paragraph.
9. Revise different text types, such as formal and informal letters, articles, reports, speeches, interviews etc.
10. Try to persuade a member of your family to agree with you. Practise a range of persuasive techniques to do this.

AQA Website

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-language-8700/specification-at-a-glance>

BBC Bitesize

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zr9d7ty>

It is advised that students have their own set of highlighters to help them with exam techniques.

GCSE English Literature

The exam board will be AQA and the course is 8702.

Exam:

The students will sit two papers. Paper 1 is Shakespeare and the 19th Century Novel. This exam will ask questions around characters and themes in Romeo and Juliet or Macbeth (students will answer on the play they have studied) and A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens.

Paper 2 is Modern texts and poetry. Students can choose to answer a question on either The Lord of the Flies by William Golding or a question on the short story anthology. The poetry section will require students to compare two poems from the anthology they have studied. They will then be given an unseen poem which they will analyse and they will then compare this to a second unseen poem.

Revising for the Literature Exam:

1. Read the play/novels regularly.
2. Summarise each act/chapter in the play/novels.
3. Make cue cards with key quotes.
4. Brainstorm the themes in the play/novels. Then add key quotes to support the ideas you came up with.
5. Create character profiles of all the characters. Add key quotes to each to show what their character is like.
6. Have a go at questions from past papers.
7. Revise the poems in the anthology, using websites to help you.
8. Make notes about the poems on cue cards and then try to find ways of linking them.
9. Read a selection of poetry you haven't read before.
10. Think about the key message the poet is putting across.
11. Look up any vocabulary you don't know.
12. Draw images from the poem.
13. Annotate poems with your ideas and interpretations. Highlight positive and negative vocabulary. Research the poem on the internet. Do other people agree with your ideas on the poem?
14. Look for where the tone in the poem changes.
15. Have a go at writing your own poem.

AQA English Literature:

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-literature-8702/specification-at-a-glance>

BBC Bitesize

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zckw2hv>

OCR 21st Century Science

	Biology			Chemistry			Physics		
Science A (Sets 1,2&3)	B1	B2	B3	C1	C2	C3	P1	P2	P3
Additional Science A (Sets 1,2&3)	B4	B5	B6	C4	C5	C6	P4	P5	P6
Further Additional Science A (Triple option group)	B7			C7			P7		

Students in all sets sit six exams (Science A **and** Additional Science A biology; chemistry and physics) each worth 25% of a GCSE, with 2 controlled assessments worth the final 25%. This will result in two combined science GCSEs.

Triple Option students also sit three further exams (Further Additional Science A; biology, chemistry and physics) each worth 25% of a GCSE, with 1 additional controlled assessment worth the final 25%. This means that they sit nine exams in total. This will result in three science GCSEs; biology, chemistry and physics.

Revision in science:

1. Use past papers and practice writing good answers. Look on www.ocr.org.uk for past papers and their marking schemes.
2. Be SMART about your revision. Look back at your RAG sheets from over the last two years (I have your old books if you don't – ask me!) Find your red topics and target your revision. If it's green you already know it!
3. Use <http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/science/21c/> to revise all of Science A (a fab and free resource).
4. Use <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zrkw2hv> to revise Additional Science A and Further Science A.
5. Use your revision flashcards that we have started in school. Condensing knowledge onto a card from a page of text will suit kinaesthetic learners, as will getting friends and family to test you.
6. Come to drop-in science revision sessions after school on Tuesdays.
7. Read <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-22565912> for the science of revision. Find out which techniques work best and why.

NCFE Level 2 Business and Enterprise

Overview:

There are 4 units to this exam.

Unit 1- Introduction to Business and Enterprise;

Unit 2 -Marketing for Business and Enterprise;

Unit 3 - Finance for Business and Enterprise;

Unit 4 - Plan, Develop and Participate in a Business or Enterprise Project.

Coursework:

Units 1, 3, and 4 are internally assessed units. Each unit will be marked as a portfolio of work which will be graded as either a pass, merit, or distinction. These units will account for 75% of the marks.

Exam:

Unit 2 will be externally assessed. This will comprise of 5 one hour exam papers which will be taken over a four day period. This unit will account for 25 % of the marks.

How to revise:

- Students should revise Unit 2 in their workbook which is 'Marketing for Business and Enterprise'.
- Use revision cards and write key words on one side and definitions on the back.
- Summarise explanations of the key topics covered.
- Revise with a friend or ask your parents to test you.
- Create a topic poster to hang on your wall.
- Fill out definitions and descriptions as in your workbooks using your prior knowledge and if necessary use your workbook to help you.
- Have a go at the practice paper answering questions as fully as you can
- There is an extended learner progress section at the back of unit 2. This will be a good revision tool and this should be attempted as this will also be good practice.
- Look at the criteria for pass, merit and distinction in Unit 2 and create revision cards accordingly.
- Use the internet to research and complete sections 3.2 and 4.1

GCSE History

Pupils should be revising regularly to enhance their understanding, please find the various units of study and the make up of the exam papers below. Revision classes are available on Monday evenings from 4-20-5.20 starting on February 6th once all course work is completed.

A011-A017	Aspects of International Relations, the chosen Depth Study	2 h each	Mon	5 June am
A021-A022	British Depth Study	1 h 30 min each	Wed	14 June pm

Paper 1: International Relations 1918-39 AND USA 1945-75	<u>International Relations 1918-1939</u>	<u>USA 1945-1975: Depth Study</u>
	The Paris Peace Conferences The League of Nations The collapse of international peace	Early Civil Rights Civil Rights (Martin Luther King vs. Malcolm X) Red Scare

Paper 2: British Depth Study 1906-18	<u>British Depth Study</u>
	The Liberal Reforms The Women's Suffrage movement Britain during WWI

To further enhance their own revision I suggest that pupils purchase a copy of the CGP Modern World History B revision guide; which can be found in all good book stores for roughly £5. Alongside this, I suggest using the following revision sites:

- ☒ Mr Allsop's GCSE History podcasts.
- ☒ John D Clare's History revision website.
- ☒ BBC Bitesize—Modern World History.

The OCR website has resources for the course to help you including examples of exam papers and mark schemes. So make sure you look at it. The information will help you.

<http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse-history-b-modern-world-i418-from-2013/>

GCSE Geography

The exam board will be Edexcel and the course is Geography B (2009) 2GB01.

Controlled Assessment:

Unit 4, Investigating Geography, will be internally assessed under controlled conditions. Students will be required to complete a fieldwork investigation and report. This element is worth 25%.

Exam:

Unit 1, The Dynamic Planet, Unit 2, People and the Planet, are externally assessed, through two 1 hour 15 minute written examinations which contain a mixture of question styles. Unit 3, Making Geographical Decisions, is a 1 hour 30 minute exam. These exams are worth 75% of the final grade.

Revising for the Geography exam:

1. Make a revision plan, taking it one topic at a time.
2. Make topic posters.
3. Scan your notes, close your book and write down everything you can remember.
4. Cover your room with post-it notes or revision cards – use different colours for different topics.
5. Practice explaining processes to someone else, perhaps a friend or family member. It could even be the cat.
6. Mind map a topic, adding layers to explain in more detail.
7. Use plenty of diagrams – but make sure you label them.
8. Make audio notes on your iPad and listen to them before you go to sleep.

Edexcel Geography website:

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/content/demo/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/geography-b-2009.html>

Revision World:

<http://www.revisionworld.com/gcse-revision/geography>

Revision Sessions: After School Monday's.

The revision workbook for this exam is - My Revision Notes: Edexcel B GCSE Geography Second Edition (MRN) (ISBN-10: 1444193937)

French

Students will take a QCF qualification in French. This qualification is particularly attractive for the workplace, as students specialise in topics that will be useful for them and their employers. Additionally, there is a business and cultural element to the French course which involves linking with schools from France and continuing the learning in a real life context. The focus of the course is on building confidence and communicating in the foreign language.

Qualification:

Most students will be entered for Level 1 qualification within each of the units below. An Entry Level qualification is available for those who are learning French for the first time. Students will gain a separate qualification for each of the units they study.

Assessment:

Students' work will be internally assessed through a portfolio which they will start to compile in the New Year. Portfolios will then be passed on for external assessment.

Units:

The following units will be covered over the course of the year and are available to take as a written or spoken qualification.

- Communicating personal information
- Education and Employment
- Organising and planning

Practice and revision:

- www.languagesonline.com
- www.duolingo.com
- <https://quizlet.com/subject/french/>

It is important that students expose themselves to the French language as much as possible over the course of the year. Practice need and should not be limited to revision from books – it is most important that students retain an active interest in the language. There are many online resources which can support students' learning in a fun and interactive manner.

NCFE Level2 Certificate in Creative craft Studies.

This qualification is graded as Distinction(*), Merit, Pass, and is equivalent to GCSE grades A*-C.

During sessions in school students will be taught the information required to help them become better informed about how to research, design, plan, make advertise and sell a product economically to allow them to earn a profit. This will be done through the following units;-

Unit 1: Exploring craft skills and Enterprise

Unit 2: Research and Develop ideas

Unit 4: Planning & Manufacture of a craft item.

Unit 3 covers learning from units 1,2 & the Planning aspect of unit 4.
The topic for this is set and assessed externally by the exam board.

Exam Dates:

N.B. Unit 3 is undertaken as a controlled assessment, during February and March over a 30 hour period. The topic for this is set and assessed externally.

Revision strategies.

Unit 3 covers learning from units 1,2 & the Planning aspect of unit 4 and is undertaken as controlled assessment, during February & March over 30 hours. The topic for this is set & assessed externally.

The following information bullet points are important but must be expanded upon when completing unit 3. Complete a mind map of information for all of these points.

Materials and tools, choices, testing, selection and Safety.

Enterprise opportunities and relevant marketing.

Designing, planning, manufacturing, costs, profits and efficiency.

Selecting ideas and communicating to others.

Always remember to **PEEE**.

Make a **P**oint, give **E**vidence & **E**xamples to **E**xplain what you mean.

Useful websites

www.ncfe.org.uk

and search for qualification 601/0043/6

Important dates for parents 2015-2016

Date	Event	Notes
October 26 th to 30 th	HALF TERM	
November 9 th -17 th	Year 11 trial exams	
Thursday November 26 th	INSET – School closed to students	Year 11 will be at work placement, Year 10 will be given independent study tasks
W/B Monday 14 th December	Year 10 progress report home	
December 21 st – January 1 st	WINTER BREAK	
Monday 4 th January 2016	INSET– School closed to students	
Monday 11 th January	Year 11 parents evening	Full subject reports available
Tuesday 12 th January	Year 11 parents evening	Full subject reports available
February 15 th – 19 th	HALF TERM	Details of revision sessions will be shared
Friday 18 th March	Year 11 progress report home	
Monday 21 st March	Year 10 parents evening	Full subject reports available
Tuesday 22 nd March	Year 10 parents evening	Full subject reports available
Thursday 24 th March	INSET– School closed to students	
March 25 th – April 8 th	SPRING BREAK	Details of revision sessions will be shared
May 30 th – June 3 rd	HALF TERM	Details of revision sessions will be shared
Friday 10 th June	College closed for festival	Students will be in school
W/B Monday 13 th June	Year 10 exams	
Monday 11 th July	Year 10 progress report home	To include exam grades
Tuesday 19 th and Weds 20 th July	INSET– School closed to students	

NB. x5 INSET training days have been positioned throughout the year to enable our Studio Staff to train, plan, and prepare for improving the learning experience for our students. These dates have been submitted to the Local Authority.

GCSE DATES 2017

Date	Exam
Tuesday 16 th May (pm)	Core Science: Biology (60mins)
Thursday 18 th May (am)	Core Science: Chemistry (60mins)
Friday 19 th May (am&pm)	Engineering exam at the college
Monday 22 nd May (am) (pm)	English Literature: Paper 1 (105mins) Geography: Unit 1
Wednesday 24 th May (pm)	Core Science: Physics (60mins)
Thursday 25 th May (am)	Maths 1 (90mins)
Friday 26 th May (am)	English Literature: Paper 2 (135mins)
Half-Term	
Monday 5 th June (am)	History: Paper 1
Tuesday 6 th June (am) (pm)	English Language: Paper 1 (105mins) Geography: Unit 2
Thursday 8 th June (am)	Maths 2 (90mins)
Friday 9 th June (am)	Additional Science: Biology (60mins)
Monday 12 th June (am) (pm)	English Language: Paper 2 (105mins) Geography: Unit 3
Tuesday 13 th June (am)	Maths 3 (90mins)
Wednesday 14 th June (am) (pm)	Additional Science: Chemistry (60mins) History: Paper 2 (90mins)
Friday 16 th June (am)	Additional Science: Physics (60mins)
Monday 19 th June (am)	Further Additional Science: Biology (60mins)
Wednesday 21 st June (am)	Further Additional Science: Chemistry (60mins)
Thursday 22 nd June (am)	Statistics (120mins)
Friday 23 rd June (am)	Further Additional Science: Physics (60mins)

Booster Sessions

Subjects	Day
English	Mondays 4.15-5.15pm
Maths	
Science	
History	
Business	

6TH FORM LIFE – WHAT ARE MY OPTIONS?



WEIGHING -UP THE OPTIONS IS CRITICAL



- IOW Studio School 6th Form
- Another 6th Form on/off the IOW
- Further Education College
- Training Provider on/off the IOW
- Apprenticeship / Traineeship

HAVE A GOOD HARD LOOK

- Career aspirations, skills & interests
- Courses & experiences that will support progress
- What's important to YOU
- Logistics
- Pathways - Next steps beyond the 6th form



WHAT DOES THE IOW 6TH FORM OFFER LOOK LIKE....?



Personalising YOUR Pathway is our priority.
We will work with you to make it fit & balance YOUR needs and interests.
Combinations of:

- A Levels.
- GCSE Retakes (where needed).
- Vocational L2 & L3 qualifications.

Industry recognised accreditations.