



Mayflower High School

Success and Opportunity for All

GCSE EXAMINATIONS
Summer 2018

Supporting Revision
A Parents' Guide

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Foreword

The summer GCSE examination period is a very challenging time for our students. Never again will they be expected to sit so many examinations in such a wide variety of subject areas in such a short space of time.

For all of our students it will be the culmination of many years of hard work starting when they first came to Mayflower as a new Year 7 intake. One of the many outstanding attributes of our school is the significant support constantly given to the teaching staff by parents and guardians.

The purpose of this evening's meeting and the accompanying handbook is to further help parents to support their sons and daughters through this demanding time. If at any point you have concerns regarding your son or daughter's progress up and until their final examinations, then please do not hesitate to contact either their form tutor or subject teacher.

Art and Design

Useful Resources (e.g. website addresses, revision guides)

Use the following websites to help research Artists

www.redbubble.com

www.pinterest.com (make boards for your ideas)

www.123inspiration.com

www.trendhunter.com

www.google.co.uk/images

www.art2day.co.uk

Top Tips

1. Use the sheets provided by the Art department that give clear instructions and keep to deadlines. Targets are set on the sheets at the back of the sketch book.
2. Produce 1 or 2 responses per week.
3. Research (including written analysis) at least 2 Artists.
4. Link your work to at least 3 artists/photographers/illustrators.
5. Use your own photography to work from, as well as google images and magazines.
6. Edit photos using photoshop.
7. Show experimentation with different materials.
8. Show development and refinement of ideas.
9. Visit Art galleries/ exhibitions and museums.
10. Use Art club every lunchtime and Monday & Wednesdays after school until 4.30pm to keep up to date.

Business Studies

Useful Resources

GCSE Business Studies App (£2.99)

Past papers with mark schemes (Exam paper code: 413001 and 413002)

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/business-subjects/gcse/business-subjects-and-economics-4130/past-papers-and-mark-schemes>

Revision Guide, Workbook and Answers - CGP GCSE AQA Business Studies

Show My Homework – PIXL resources

Useful Websites

- BBC Business Studies Bitesize – Revision notes and tests

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zpsvr82>

- Revision World – Revision notes and case study video clips.

<https://revisionworld.com/gcse-revision/business-studies/aqa-business-subjects-economics>

- www.youtube.com – search key terms, videos and lessons
- www.tutor2u.com – for revision notes, games and tests
- www.gcsepod.com – Videos, notes, quizzes

Top Tips

1. Read the case study scenarios and **underline/highlight key information**
2. **Attempt ALL of the questions**
3. Always **show your workings** in the calculations in the finance section.
4. Always answer in **CONTEXT** – answer the question in relation to the case study scenario
5. In a 9 mark question, **discuss all options THEN make a decision** based on the analysis you have made. Use the three paragraph structure you have been taught
6. Complete as many **past papers** as possible. Use the mark scheme to mark your work
7. **Make revision cards** for each topic to revise your subject knowledge
8. Practice **timed answers** (1 minute per mark)
9. Focus on your personal targets by **improving old answers** in your exercise book of from your tests
10. **Come to revision sessions** on Mondays after school

Computer Science

Useful Resources (e.g. website addresses, revision guides)

Class notes accessible via 'my files' area on Frog to access at home

Revision materials can also be found on GCSE Pod

Top Tips

1. Ensure you use all of the key terminology in your exam answers, don't forget your key words
2. Ensure that you answer all questions in full
3. When asked to write and interpret algorithms, ensure that you read the outputs carefully before you write your answer
4. Practice all number conversions, binary to hexadecimal, hexadecimal to binary, denary to binary and denary to hexadecimal, and hexadecimal to denary.
5. Ensure you show all working in number conversion questions
6. Make sure you learn at least one suitable answer for each of the types of program errors
7. Ensure that you can write a pseudocode algorithm for all of the sorting and searching algorithms you have learnt
8. Ensure that in your long answer questions you are giving full explanations with supporting arguments and key terms

Design & Technology

Useful Resources (e.g. website addresses, revision guides)

AQA for website for past papers.

Extensive school revision resource available on Frog learning platform including; AQA past papers, making schemes. Revision presentations and self-test quizzes. Frog: Student Resources-Design and Technology-GCSE Product Design-Revision folder.

Useful Websites:

<http://www.technologystudent.com> (look out for pre-release information)

<http://www.design-technology.info/>

<http://www.dtonline.org>

<http://www.techitoutuk.com>

<http://www.designandtech.com/>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/bitesize/>

<http://www.mr-d-n-t.co.uk>

Books:

AQA Design and Technology: Product Design (ISBN: 978 1 4085 0276 1)
by Jeff Draisey, Brian Russell, Krysia Ballance, and Andrea Bennett

Top Tips

1. Use your past exam papers such as yr10 and year11 mock to identify areas to improve.
2. Study the Exam board released information to develop knowledge in the design areas addressed in the paper. (Pre-release topic)
3. Commit to memory acronyms useful in the subject such as ACCESS FM, iPICTPD etc.
4. Add detail to answers, make sure if the question is worth 6 marks put down six reasons.
5. Add colour, tone and texture to design diagrams as well as annotation.
6. Highlight key words and double check you have addressed each section of the question

Drama

Useful Resources (e.g. website addresses, revision guides)

www.edexcel.com – GCSE Drama (2016)

www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/

Top Tips

1. For the practical examination on March 24, learn lines. You will only score at most 1 mark out of 8 for characterisation if you do not know your lines.
2. Be familiar with the marking criteria
3. Agree on rehearsal times to meet outside of lessons. Commit to attending and inform the group if you cannot. You need the extra rehearsal time.
4. Rehearse! Rehearse! Rehearse! Attend the rehearsal Day on 17 March
5. For Component 3 (An Inspector Calls and live theatre review) make sure you have re-read An Inspector Calls
6. Attend the theatre visit (it will be arranged after the Easter holidays). Make notes after the visit.
7. Remember to approach An Inspector Calls from the Point of View of Drama i.e. acting a section of text, designing a section and directing
8. Be creative in your ideas but stay true to the original style of the play (mainly naturalistic)

English Language

Useful Resources (e.g. website addresses, revision guides)

Revision booklet issued to all students by the English faculty

After-school revision sessions

Marked mock exam papers and feedback in class

BBC Bitesize website: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/english/>

AQA GCSE English Language website: <http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-language-8700>

OED punctuation advice: <http://www.oxforddictionaries.com/words/punctuation>

OED spelling advice: <http://www.oxforddictionaries.com/words/spelling>

CGP and Collins revision guides

Snap revision guides (available on Parent Pay)

Top Tips

READING:

1. Read non-fiction texts in preparation for the exam – newspaper and magazine articles, autobiography and biography, travel writing – as well as fiction
2. Practise meeting the requirements of each question precisely.
3. Learn a range of linguistic and structural concepts and terminology to apply to the texts.
4. Use suitable connectives when asked to compare (e.g. Similarly, Likewise, Conversely, However).

WRITING:

1. Learn punctuation rules and practise using a range of punctuation whenever you write.
2. Make a list of spellings of commonly used words you regularly misspell and learn them.
3. When writing, practise using a variety of different sentence lengths and structures
4. Practise planning answers, considering how points will be organised in paragraphs.
5. Familiarise yourself with the requirements of different types of text you could be asked to write – letters, articles, speeches, blogs, essays.

English Literature

Useful Resources (e.g. website addresses, revision guides)

Revision booklets issued to all students by the English faculty

After-school revision sessions

Exam practice and feedback in class

BBC Bitesize website: www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zckw2hv

AQA English Literature website <http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-literature-8702>

Revision guides on the relevant set texts by CGP, York notes for GCSE and Oxford Literature Companions

Snap Revision guides (available on Parent Pay)

Top Tips

1. Re-read all the set texts carefully at least once before the examination.
2. Make a timeline of the main events in the story
3. Create revision cards showing key quotations to illustrate ideas, themes and characterisation. Choose examples which include linguistic devices to explore.
4. Learn literary terminology to describe the techniques used by the authors of your set texts.
5. Include contextual information in your revision (e.g. supernatural beliefs in Shakespeare's time; poverty in Dickensian London).
6. Practise analysing unseen poems using poems in the anthology you have not studied.
7. As you revise the poetry anthology, look for links and connections between the poems, as you will need to compare in the examination.
8. Remember, all responses to set texts are testing three things:
 - Your knowledge and understanding of the text
 - Your ability to analyse the methods the author uses to convey ideas
 - Your understanding of context and ability to link contextual factors to details of the text.
9. Devise your own examination questions and try to answer them – you might strike lucky and second-guess the examiners!

Food Preparation and Nutrition

Guidance for Students for NEA2 (Non Exam Assessment 2)

NEA2 is worth 35% of the final GCSE marks.

Students will need to be fully prepared for their 3 hour practical exam which will take place on either 22 or 23 March.

Students will have been informed of the date of their exam.

Students will need to have completed their NEA2 portfolio by this stage, apart from the final evaluation.

They will need to have a time plan completed which they will follow in the practical exam and they will have to complete a nutritional analysis and costings of their final dishes.

The deadline for the completion of the portfolio is Friday March 30.

It would be helpful if students could practice cooking their dishes at home before the exam.

All the information for the above will be put on Frog and Show My Homework.

Revision for the Written Exam

Top Tips for the Written Exam

1. A revision list will be given to the students by the end of term, and this will also be put on Frog.
2. However, they can use their mock revision list to revise from the text book that they have been given.
3. Revision resources will also be put on Frog for students to access.

French

Useful Resources:

- Pearson Edexcel GCSE Textbook (Higher)
- Pearson Edexcel Translation & Grammar workbook

Other:

- Past Papers on the examination board websites (EDEXCEL, AQA) or teacher request. Maybe legacy A* - G but still useful
- Revision classes – Wednesday lunchtimes 1.30pm Mrs Ford Room 112 Mrs Davis Room 105
- Class notes and vocabulary sheets, with tracking sheet.
- A 'revision buddy'

Websites:

1. <https://quizlet.com> (free)
Enter 'Mayflower French' in search box and look for files L_Davis76.
2. <http://www.cramit.co.uk>
3. gcsepod.com
4. memrise.com
5. languagesonline.org.uk

Top Tips for Students

PREPARATION

1. To design vocabulary revision timetable by topic. (use index of text book / GCP book)
2. To have a weekly vocab list and colour code red, amber, and green.
3. To revise the red and the amber vocabulary from this list 15 minutes per day.
LSCWC
4. Organise your vocabulary by infinitive verb, noun, and adjective (positive & negative).
5. Add synonyms.
6. Revise opinion phrases, explicit and implicit.
7. Revise tense indicators.
8. Revise tenses including the sound of each verb in the 5 main tenses.
9. Attempt questions on the topic from workbook or text book
10. Listening examination: record words / phrases on Quizlet to make mini –quizzes specific to you.
11. For the Grades 8 & 9 collect French colloquialisms and their English meanings, as they will not translate literally.

IN THE EXAMINATION

1. Read the Instructions on the Paper and ensure you answer the correct questions
2. Follow the paper specific advice from your teacher as to how to approach the different types of question.
3. In the Listening examination use the 5 minute reading time thoroughly to annotate the script and take in the topic and sub-topics.
4. Questions will not be topic specific, anticipate sub-topics and a transfer of related vocabulary.
5. Look for 'who' you are answering for and the 'tense' you are answering in, watch out for negatives..

Geography

Useful Resources (e.g. website addresses, revision guides)

The specification:-

<http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse-geography-b-geography-for-enquiring-minds-j384-from-2016/>

Student Text book – content and practice questions

Revision book – CGP GCSE Geography OCR B Geography for Enquiring Minds

Exam practice book - CGP GCSE Geography OCR B Geography for Enquiring Minds

Geography Revision and Examination Preparation booklet

Geographical skills: Maps to be studied:

<http://ocr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapJournal/index.html?appid=b56d896f39194809b47f233ba89f9271>

Geographical skills: Graphs and charts to be studied:

<https://ocr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=fa44b6cbad7c41ea95675f46669502d8>

FROG – OCR B revision folder – Recall sheets, fieldwork resources

PixL app- <https://geographyapp.pixl.org.uk/>

GCSE pod - <https://www.gcsepod.com/>

Dynamic Learning tests and quizzes

Skills revision booklet

Quizlets eg <https://quizlet.com/subject/geography-ocr-b/>

Kahoots

Geography You tube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCDLL4wGI9z8DMKWEsdy25Yg/videos>

BBC Bitesize - <https://www.bbc.com/education/examspecs/zpsx2p3>

S- Cool - <http://www.s-cool.co.uk/gcse/geography>

Top Tips

1. Know the specification – use the PLCs given to you to check your understanding and focus your revision
2. In addition to making revision cards for topics, make case study revision cards.
3. Know the command words and what they mean.
4. Practice examination skills.
5. Know what is required of a Level 3 answer.
6. Remember you will be assessed on your **Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar (SPaG)**
7. Ensure that you use a case study for the extended questions (6 -8 mark questions), plus where specified in the exam paper.
8. Learn Geographical Skills and practice them – use the skills revision booklet and the story maps (see above)

History

Useful Resources (e.g. website addresses, revision guides)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/examspecs/zw4bv4j> (Also has an app version)
<http://www.gcsepod.com>
<https://www.youtube.com/user/TheBennewmark>
<https://www.youtube.com/user/worcesterjonny>
[Pixl History App – login: mf3263 followed by last name and first initial – password](#)

If you would find a revision guide useful, try:

- CGP guide available from accounts at £3.30
- Revision guides for individual topics (e.g. Elizabethan England 1558 -1588), available for History (9-1) for edexcel published by both Pearson and by Hodder

Top Tips

1. Draw up and keep to a revision timetable.
2. Consider the following methods of revision: revision cards, mind maps, spider charts, lists, acronyms, model answers and practice questions, traffic lighting, revision in pairs and groups, testing each other. What else suits you?
3. Visit the above revision sites to vary your revision.
4. Make sure that you know the timings and how to answer the questions on each paper – they differ!
5. Make sure that you revise SPED. This will allow you to back up any points made in the answer with specific evidence
6. Study your PPE exam and previous exam answers – redraft your answers with alterations to gain marks and confidence

ICT

Useful Resources (e.g. website addresses, revision guides)

Frog > My set work > Year 11 ICT

Class notes compressed and saved into your 'my files' area on Frog to access at home

Revision materials can also be found on GCSE Pod

Top Tips

1. Ensure that you practice all of the 3 units, not just the areas you find easy.
2. Use the past papers provided to you to practice questions in the format that you will see in the examination.
3. Ensure that when practicing 6 mark questions that you read the question carefully and answer what is set, not what you think you have read!
4. Look out for key words in questions such as 'discuss' 'define' 'explain' 'justify' and write your answer accordingly.
5. Make sure you know examples of wireless and wired connections and where they are used.
6. Make sure that you know the difference between KB, GB and MB.
7. Make use of FrogMail to contact your teacher if you get stuck on understanding a particular topic.

Mathematics

Useful Resources (e.g. website addresses, revision guides)

Mock Paper(Students have)

Students should have these in a folder

Past Examination Papers and Mark Schemes

Frog/Student resources/Maths/Year 11/GCSE (9-1)

MyMaths.co.uk

Lessons as well as exercises

Login: Mayflower

Password: Sector

Corbettmaths.com

5 a day, Videos, Worksheets, Practise papers, Practise questions

MA Cup Sets 1-3 (Students have)

Student competitions throughout the year involving new style examination questions

Top Tips

1. Don't spend too much time practising questions you find straight-forward.
2. Don't cross any of your working out on a mathematics paper.
3. Ensure that the calculator you are using in class is the one you will use for the examination.
4. Make sure you ask for tracing paper in the examination if you need it.
5. Always write your calculations down.
6. When using a computer to revise ensure you have a pen and paper to do your working out.
7. It is a good idea to attempt the same practice/past papers after a gap.
8. Use your peers.
9. Make your own revision cards.

GCSE Music

Useful Resources (e.g. website addresses, revision guides)

All students have a copy of the 'GCSE Student Guide'

There are revision sessions every Wednesday morning in the Music Department

You will complete one more PPE paper before the exam

BBC GCSE Bitesize has some general resources that could help with theoretical knowledge and help prepare you for the unprepared listening

<https://www.teoria.com>

Top Tips

1. You have time in the examination to read the questions before the music starts to play. It sounds obvious, but it is vital that you read the questions. Underline any key words to help you answer the questions. During each gap between the playback, try to give yourself time to think about what you will concentrate on during the next listen.
2. At the beginning of the question it tells you how many times the piece of music is going to be played. Try to maintain the same level of concentration from the first playing until the very last.
3. Do not start answering the questions before the music plays. The answers are usually based on the piece of music that you will hear in the exam, so make sure your answer reflects that.
4. Never leave a blank answer, as you will always score zero if you put nothing in. Have a guess if you don't know the answer, as you might be lucky and get it right!
5. Do not repeat answers in the same question. You can only get the mark for it once.
6. The first six questions are all based on the set works. When revising for the exam, look at the key features of the piece of music and try to think what questions the examiner could ask you about the content.
7. The aural dictation question is taken from one of the set works – this is an advantage as you should be able to remember the section so you can repeat it in your head between each playing. Use a pencil during the question but finalise your answer in pen. Look at how many marks there are for 'rhythm' as this should indicate how many notes there are. To practise for the exam, find small melodies in your set works and try to write the melody down or use the melody & rhythm dictation sections on Teoria.
8. For the unfamiliar listening, the best preparation is to listen to familiar pieces that aren't set works and see how you can describe what is happening in the music in different sections, using the DARK MITTS headings to help you. When trying to identify chord sequences in the exam look to see if there are any clues in the skeleton score already.
9. In the essay question you have a specific area(s) to write about and these are clearly listed in the question. It sounds obvious, but only write about what has been identified in the question, so if it is about harmony you do not need to write about the melody etc.
10. In the essay you must identify the feature (reference it with bar numbers) and use musical vocabulary. The essay needs to present a discussion/argument about how the feature(s) are used in both pieces, so it would be best to plan your essay before writing it, so you do not lose the thread of the discussion. Make sure there is a concluding statement.
11. "Don't panic Mr. Mainwaring!" You know the content and you've revised - you can do it! However, if you get a question that freaks you out, try your best, forget about it and move on!

BTEC Music

Useful Resources (e.g. website addresses, revision guides)

<https://www.careersinmusic.com/music-careers/>

<https://ccskills.org.uk/careers/advice/job-profiles/music>

http://www.bbc.co.uk/1extra/events/get_aheadaz.shtml

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p016hy06>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/profiles/24r7mcftgLJHbN27VbKsxhJ/advice>

Top Tips

1. Section A of the exam starts with multiple-choice questions. You will need to know what the different unions, companies and job roles are. With any multiple choice questions, immediately discard answers that cannot be correct before making your final decision.
2. Look at how many marks a question is worth and how much space there is to answer it. It is a really good indicator of how much you have to write!
3. If a question says, “explain one reason why...” it will usually be worth two marks. You get one mark for identifying the issue and the other for the explanation of why it is or isn’t important.
4. Section B and C are scenario questions. You need to think of all of the issues around the scenario and be prepared to argue the pros and cons.
5. For the essay questions, make a point and validate it. Do not repeat statements and do not babble – you don’t have time to do that! Use space on the question paper that isn’t for your answer to make notes about what you need to mention and tick them off once you’ve included them in your essay.
6. For your revision, make sure you know what the different jobs are, what they have to do and how they fit into the grand scheme of things. Think about the pros and cons of each job to prepare for the scenario questions.
7. Remember that there are two ways of thinking about the music industry. There are artistic ideals – driven by artists wanting to make art for arts sake; the other is based around money – how much money can be made from this commodity. With either of these ideals, **target audience** is always key.

Physical Education

Useful Resources (e.g. website addresses, revision guides)

Edexcel revision guide- available from school accounts office.

www.mypeexam.org

Planet PE app (**Not** Edexcel but still useful)

Physical Education GCSE Revision Guide App

PPE Papers

www.edexcel.com

Top Tips

1. Don't spend too much time practising questions you find straight-forward.
2. Revise the topics you find hardest first – make mind maps of these parts of the syllabus
3. Practice planning Long Answer Questions. Use the PEER method to structure your answers.
4. Use your peers.
5. Make your own revision cards.

Religious Studies

Useful Resources (e.g. website addresses, revision guides)

AQA have a revision guide specific to the course- Buddhism and Christianity. They are available to purchase for £6.10 on Parent Pay.

Every Thursday after school revision sessions are held in Room 85, 3.15-4.15pm. All students are welcome to attend. We focus mainly on going over past papers, exam techniques and model answers.

GCSE Pod (<http://www.gcsepod.com/>) contains very useful RS revision resources – the students should follow the instructions for Humanities then to RS.

GCSE Bitesize (<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zb48q6f>) also has revision material and tests for various topics included in RS AQA GCSE.

AQA (www.AQA.org.uk) is a useful website which has past exam papers, mark schemes and specification details for the module we study at GCSE RS.

Frog Revision Resources – Revision resources can be found on Frog along with many other resources and past questions.

Top Tips

1. Don't spend too long answering part 1-3 questions, they are worth the least amount of marks.
2. Answer in bullet points for part 1 & 2, with simple definitions or examples.
3. Learn some key Bible quotes that can be used for a range of topics.
4. Learn key terminology and their meaning for a range of topics.
5. For Part 4 questions use Point, Explanation, Point, Explanation
6. For part 5, use IFAC and PEDAL format (I- Intro F-For A- Against C- Conclusion). (P-Point E-Evidence D-Detailed explanation A-Analysis L-Link)
7. Complete some past papers at home.
8. Attend Revision sessions.

Science (Separate and Combined Science Trilogy)

Useful Resources (e.g. website addresses, revision guides)

Revision Guides – available on ParentPay.

BBC Bitesize

PPE Papers.

Revision classes

www.aqa.org.uk

Top Tips

Start revising now if you haven't already done so.

1. Create revision aids for the topics studied – summary notes / cards / spider diagrams. (Do not just copy out of a book).
2. Show your working out when answering calculation type questions.
3. If there are areas which you really find difficult, answer those questions last in the exam – do not waste time.
4. Practise past examination questions after you have revised a topic.
5. Ask your subject teacher if you are unsure.
6. Answer what the question is asking you, do not go off on a tangent with your answer.

Spanish

Useful Resources

- English/Spanish Spanish/English dictionary
- Memrise website – search for Edexcel GCSE Spanish vocabulary
- Revision Guide ISBN 978-1-4469-0353-7 (Pearson)
- Revision Workbook ISBN 978-1-4469-0-343-8 (Pearson)
(Available online from Pearson Publishing)
- Exam Resources uploaded to Show My Homework
- Class notes and vocabulary books
- Edexcel GCSE text book vocabulary pages + pages 198 and 199 specifically for the speaking examination
- Grammar and translation workbook (students have their own copy)
- Speaking and revision club – Tuesdays after school

Top Tips for Students

PREPARATION

1. Organise your vocabulary revision by topic and traffic light (green, amber, red) each topic's list to focus on the unknown and partially known words / phrases.
2. Note down any new words you come across in lessons and find time to look over them at home before the next lesson.
3. Given that your school text book is produced by Edexcel, you should be aware that the vocabulary targeted by the book ties in very closely to the vocabulary which will come up in the exam.
4. Questions will not be topic specific, anticipate sub-topics and a transfer of related vocabulary.
5. Think of a topic, give yourself a minute or two to write a list of twenty words related to the topic IN ENGLISH and then check to see how many of those words you know in Spanish. Look up the ones you do not know.

IN THE EXAMINATION

6. Follow the paper specific advice from your teacher as to how to approach different types of questions.
7. In the Listening examination use the 5 minute reading time thoroughly to annotate script and take in the topic and sub-topics

Online Resources

School-based licences

Mayflower High School has purchased a licence for one of the leading GCSE revision resources to make it available to all Year 11 students. GCSEPod covers 20 subjects and feature over 5,000 audio-visual podcasts, providing over 500 hours of curriculum relevant learning and revision material, written by teachers, narrated by professional voiceover artists and is enhanced with text and images to engage the user. The podcasts cover the main UK examination boards. Each title features 3-5 minute chapters providing students with relevant, easy-to-digest information.



The podcasts use the power of both audio and visual images to help your students internalise learning, written by teaching experts and professionally narrated to clearly and concisely cover the key learning points, with careful use of colour and diagrams to cover key facts, quotes, keywords, dates and annotated diagrams on screen to help consolidation.

GCSEPod can be accessed through a direct link on the school's website or direct via www.gcsepod.com.



There are some subject-specific programmes that students can use, such as **My Maths**.



In some subjects, revision materials are available through e-books, for example, **Dynamic Learning** for GCSE Combined Science or Separate Sciences.

Examination Boards

Each of the examination boards have a host of useful information about the courses being followed by our students. You can access the precise details of each course, examiners' reports, study guides and past practice papers. There is a list of subjects and the related examination boards on the school's website under the **Teaching & Learning** tab. There are direct links to the appropriate websites for each subject in the **Key Stage 4** section of our website. The link to that information is: <https://www.mayflowerhigh.essex.sch.uk/key-stage-4>

The generic websites are as follows:

- AQA: www.aqa.org.uk
- Edexcel: www.edexcel.com
- OCR: www.ocr.org.uk
- WJEC: www.wjec.co.uk

Revision Websites

There is a plethora of revision websites to use. Many are specific to individual subjects, although there are some generic sites. The best of these include:

- BBC GCSE Bitesize: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/>
- Revision Centre: www.revisioncentre.co.uk
- Revision World: <http://revisionworld.com/>
- S-cool: www.s-cool.co.uk/gcse

One word of caution: make sure that you are using material which is directly related to your specific course and exam!

Appendix - Presentation slides – How can I help my child?



How can I help my child?

- Ask if they need help on regular occasions. Gentle reminders work best!
- Stay calm. Teenagers taking exams can get tunnel vision, so rows can be common place at the stressful time. Anger can be a cover for fear.
- You can't make them study, but you can emphasise why they need to study.
- Try to diffuse negative thoughts. Try to be realistic.
- Ensure you child is eating regular meals and eating food that will help them.



How to help you child deal with common exam issues

“ There is so much to learn”

- **Have a revision calendar**
- **Write on the Exams and key dates**
- **Divide the day into three sessions (morning, afternoon and evening)**
- **Focus on subject topics**
- **Have variety in subjects and activities**



How to help you child deal with common exam issues

40 minutes revising
10 minutes testing
10 minutes resting



How to help you child deal with common exam issues

“ I can't concentrate!”

- **Concentration levels do vary for each individual**
- **Begin working for short periods**
- **Introduce the ideas of rewards and goals**



How to help you child deal with common exam issues

“ This is so boring.....”

- **Revision is not fun!**
- **Get actively involved with the materials**
- **Use a range of techniques**
- **Have variety and goals**



How to help you child deal with common exam issues

“I like studying in bed”

- **Have a quiet place without distractions**
- **Insist on no TV, no computer games and no phone calls when revising**
- **Ensure a place at a table or desk**
- **Quiet music in the background**



“I can’t remember anything”

- This is a panic cry
- Try to recall information after a revision session
- Use strategies such as charts to jog memories, post-it notes of key terms



“I don’t understand”

- Contact the subject teacher
- Use a range of resources including textbook, revision guides and notes
- Examination Boards have guidance



Tips from Parents

“As a parent it is never good to get caught up in arguing about revision, however frustrated you may get. Try to remain calm and be open to negotiation when it comes to free time/rewards”

“Don’t try to make your child sit at a table for hours revising. It doesn’t work. Encourage short timed sessions of revision”



Tips from Parents

“Encourage them to talk to you about what they have been doing. It’s good for them to know that you are interested!”

“Help them to stay calm. It’s always about trying to do their best and come away knowing that they have tried their hardest!”



Tips from Parents

“If you find yourself getting stressed out, step back. Ask for support from a family member. Share the worry!”

“Plan in ‘guilt- free’ me time. This will reward revision. Let them enjoy playing on the computer game, watching TV etc”

“Organisation! Organisation! Organisation!”



Tips from Parents

“Make sure they have a dedicated study area. Try to organise work by subjects. Stick the revision timetable up somewhere”

“Keep in touch with them. Encourage them every day.....don’t nag!”