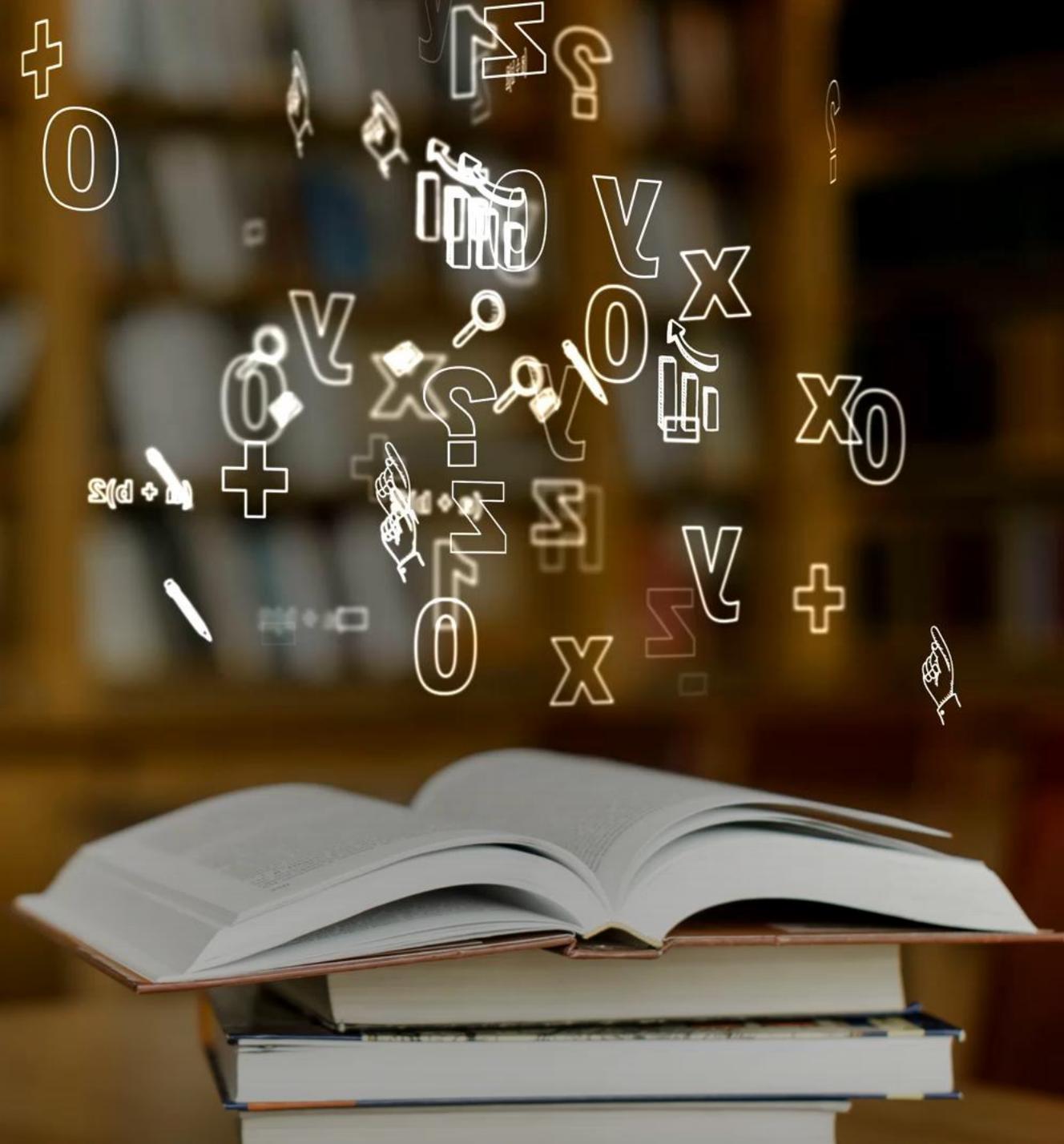


Final information

# GCSE EXAMS





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# The Examination Timetable



- You will find this in your booklets.
- In tutor time tomorrow, please check and highlight the exams applicable to you.
- There are only 30 school days until the written exams begin on 1<sup>st</sup> May... 12 days before Easter, 18 days after.



# Examination timetable

- You **must** be available on the day of the exam – they are sat at the same time **nationwide** and **cannot be moved!**
- You must also be available on the **contingency days**. These are days where, if something happens **across the country**, an exam may be moved to these days (not by student request!).



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# Exam period: 7<sup>th</sup> May onwards

- **Morning exams:**
- Free breakfast served from 8 a.m.
- You must be in the hall by 8:30 a.m for a revision session.
- Exams start 9 a.m. prompt
  
- **Afternoon exams:**
- These start at 1 p.m. (2-1-2 from 7<sup>th</sup> May)
- You must be in the hall by 12:40 for a revision session.



**Travel and Tourism** – this exam is on the afternoon of 1<sup>st</sup> May, before 2-1-2 begins. We will ensure you have an early lunch to allow your exam to start at 1:00 pm – instructions will be shared with you.

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# Individual arrangements

- All exams will be in the **gym** unless otherwise stated.
  - **Normal rules** for uniform, jewellery, behaviour apply. However, leavers hoodies may be worn if you have purchased them.
  - Students with **special examination arrangements** will be informed of room arrangements individually.
  
  - **Study leave** – we don't do it. All students must be in all lessons until **8<sup>th</sup> June**. After this, if you have finished all exams in a subject, you could get signed off for chunks of time where you can go home.
-



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# Arrangements for exams

## Before the exam

- Sit quietly and wait to be called into the gym.
- Enter the gym in silence and in the order called, then sit in your designated seat.
- Listen carefully to the instructions of the invigilators.
- Check you have the correct paper and equipment and raise your hand if unsure.

## During the exam

- Full exam board conditions apply. Never attempt to communicate with another student or attract their attention.
- Write in black pen.
- Raise your hand if you need anything.
- Follow invigilator instructions in case of emergency.
- Use all of the available time. You will not be allowed to leave early. There will be a clock at the front of the room.



# Arrangements for exams

- You are under exam conditions until you have left the room.
  - When instructed by the invigilators, leave silently and go to the Hall to collect your bag.
  - Collect valuables from Reception.
  - **Go straight back to your normal lesson.** Do not wait around in the Hall or disturb lessons by being noisy in the corridors
-



# The Exams Team

**Mrs Melton** is the **exams officer**, and she also has a team of invigilators.

## The role of the invigilators:

- **Maintaining Order and keeping the exam conditions FAIR:** Invigilators are essential for maintaining order during examinations, ensuring a fair testing environment for all students.
  - **Rule Enforcement:** They ensure that all examination rules are followed, preventing any potential cheating or malpractice. Invigilators will check your photocard to make sure that you are sitting in the correct place – but it is up to you to make sure the exam you are sitting is the correct paper/ level.
  - **Student Assistance:** Invigilators provide necessary assistance to students during exams, helping to clarify any doubts they may have.
-



# Equipment

Please ensure you have the correct equipment.

Check now as you may have to buy these and shops may be running low on supplies.

Clear Pencil case, Black pens, Pencils, Rubbers, Rulers, Calculators, Protractors & Compass.

**The Joint Council for Qualifications does not require centres (school) to provide candidates with these.**

**As a candidate sitting an exam you are responsible for providing your own equipment.** However, we do provide equipment on desks for you. The only exception to this is a **calculator – please remember to bring your own.**

**Note: Any type of erasable pen is not allowed!!**





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# Watches

## Prohibited Devices

- Students are not permitted to wear any watch during the exam.
  - It takes too long to work out which are or aren't smart watches, so everything is banned.
  - You can't wear a Fitbit or any other electronic device around your wrist.
  - You can't wear smart glasses.
  - EarPods and other electronic devices need to be in your bag (and should be anyway).
  - You can hand phones, watches and other valuables to reception for safekeeping if you wish.
-



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# Water bottles and drinks

- Clear Bottles Only
  - Students are permitted to use only clear bottles, ensuring visibility of the contents during the exam. It can only be water.
  - No Labels Allowed - bottles must be free of any labels to maintain a standardised and distraction-free exam environment.
  - Invigilators have the authority to ask you to remove the lid so they can check there is nothing hidden inside the lid.
  - Hydration During Exams: having water available helps keep students hydrated, enhancing focus and performance during the exam.
-



# Other

## Tissues

- If you need a tissue, then ask the invigilator for one – you can't bring your own in case you have written on them.

## Hands

- Do not write on your hands/ make sure they are clean – the invigilator will not know when any designs were added so it can be seen as an attempt to cheat.

## Starting your exam

- The invigilator will tell you when you can pick up your pen, so don't sit down and start writing.





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# What is malpractice?

**It means not complying to rules and regulations in relation to the examination.**

**There will be a formal warning letter sent home for anyone not complying with exam board regulations, as well as in-school sanctions.**

Examples are:

- Breach of instructions from an invigilator
- Failing to abide by the conditions of supervision
- Working with other candidates
- Copying from another candidate
- Allowing work to be copied
- Deliberate destruction of another candidates' work
- Disruptive behaviour in the exam room
- Misuse of materials or technology to support with the exam

This includes not being quiet outside an examination room and disturbing those left inside.

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# Potential penalties for malpractice

The awarding body is notified immediately. They may decide to:

- Take no action
- Carry out a full investigation

**Possible sanctions include:**

- Warnings
- Loss of marks
- Disqualification
- Barred from taking all exams for a set period
- Permanent record on your individual results

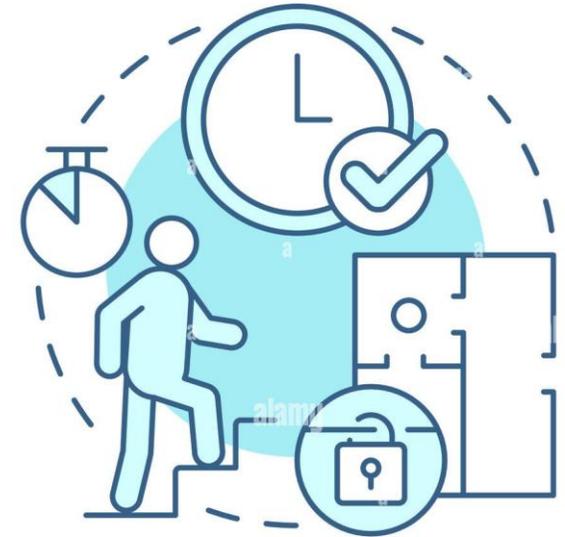




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## On the day...

- Have breakfast and check your bag for all equipment for the exams today.
- Be on time!
- If you are going to be late, call the school as soon as you can to inform them.



BE ON TIME

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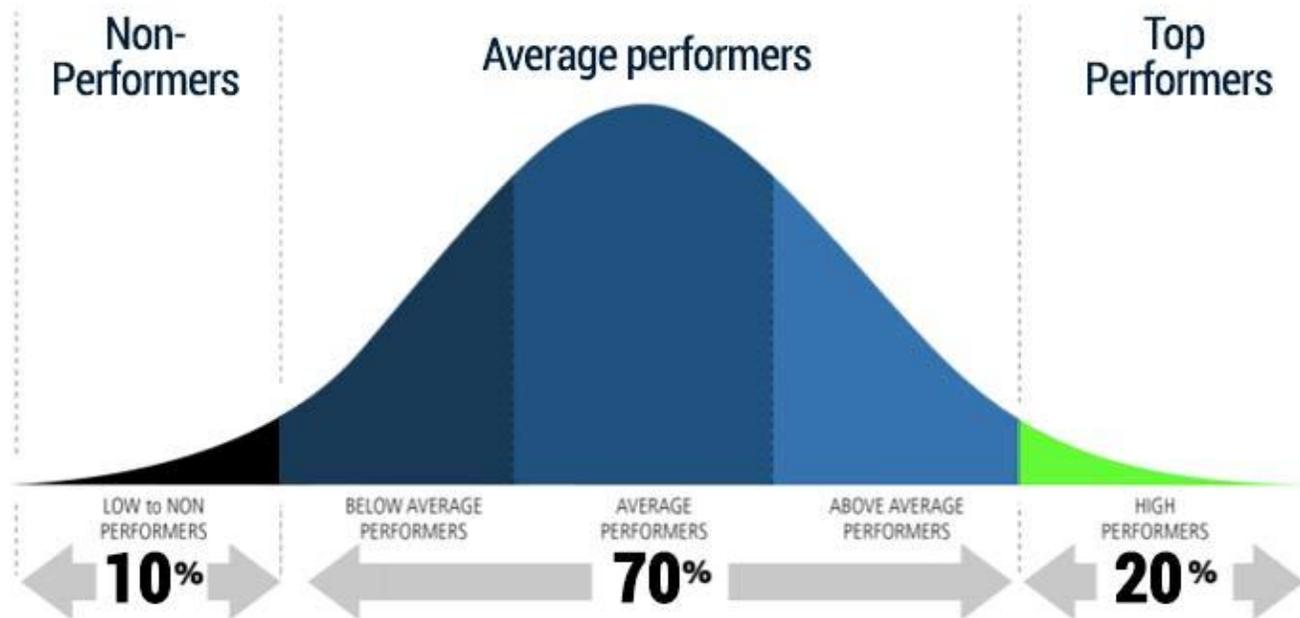


# If you are late...

- It is always best to turn up even if you are late, as you will be allowed to sit the exam.
  - Lateness is reported to the exam board who may take action, especially if it happens more than once!
  - If you arrive over 1 hour late and sit the exam, it is possible you will receive 0 marks if the lateness was avoidable based on the evidence submitted.
-

# How are the exams marked?

- I shared this with you following mock results, but:



- [How GCSE and A level grading works](#)
- Remember, you are in competition with everyone else taking the exam.



# REVISION SESSIONS

	<b>Tutor time</b>	<b>Lunchtime</b>	<b>After school</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Week 1 GCSE English Lang Booster (Library – invitation only)</li> <li>• Week 2 GCSE English Lit Booster (Library - <u>invitation</u> only)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Week 2 – Chemistry (Combined and Triple) Room 36</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Week 1 – GCSE English Retake session</li> <li>• Week 2 – Physics (Combined and Triple) Room 36</li> <li>• <b>Religious studies</b></li> </ul>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Week 1 English Lit Revision</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maths club Room 32</li> <li>• RS&amp;S drop-in session Room 72. Students to sign up to individual sessions with class teacher.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Photo/Textiles - Exam coursework Rooms 9, 14 &amp; 11 (RM, KS &amp; SM)</li> </ul>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GCSE English Retake (Rm 5)</li> <li>• Week 1 Science Revision</li> <li>• Week 2 Maths Revision</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• P.E. room 50</li> <li>• GCSE English Lit <u>Revision</u> (Rooms as per Homework booklet)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Art - Exam coursework Rooms 10 &amp; 11 (RF)</li> <li>• <b>Business studies</b></li> </ul>
<b>Thursday</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MFL drop-in session Rooms 22/ 23 (after Feb half term). Students to sign up to individual sessions with class teacher.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• History</li> <li>• Geography (Room 71)</li> </ul>
<b>Friday</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Week 1 – Biology (Combined and Triple) Room 1</li> <li>• History boosters</li> </ul>	



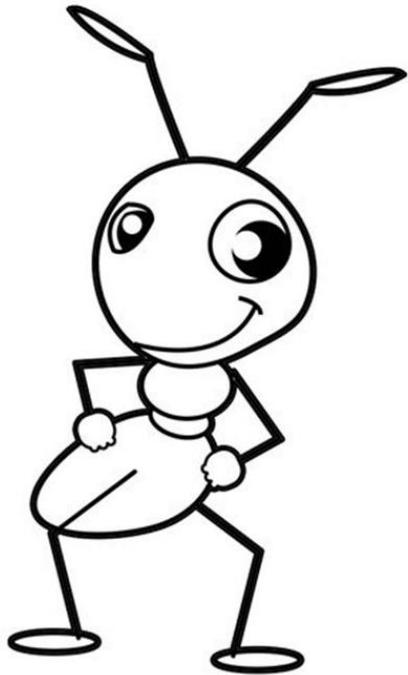
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# There will be a prize draw...

Every time you attend a revision session and the teacher completes a register, this will be added to your record, and you will be entered into a prize draw...

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**B**

ox the command word.

**U**

nderline key information.

**G**

o over the question again.

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## Top tips

- **Read** the question. **Underline** the key words. Work out **how long** to spend on each question and check **how many** questions you have to answer.
- Do your most confident questions first then go back to those you're unsure of.
- **Answer ALL questions:** a wrong answer won't LOSE you marks but a lucky guess / partial answer could give you the one mark which takes you over the grade boundary.
- **Use ALL the time** available. Grab every possible mark. If you have extra time USE IT!
- **Keep your cool and remember the competition**
- **Be the 'best side' of yourself.** Show the characteristics which will help you get the best results.



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# Priorities



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- **Start with the official sources.** Use your exam board specifications, school revision guides, and past papers first so your revision matches exactly what will be assessed.
- **Organise your revision resources early.** Gather notes, textbooks, flashcards, and online materials in one place so you're not wasting time searching when you should be studying.
- **Prioritise active revision.** Focus on methods that make you think—past questions, quizzes, flashcards, and teaching a topic to someone else—rather than only rereading notes.
- **Plan your time realistically.** Create a weekly revision timetable that balances subjects, builds in breaks, and focuses extra time on areas you find most challenging.





# Final Assembly

- Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June, following your Chemistry exam.
- Bring a sharpie!





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# Prom!

- When: Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June
- Where: Fakenham Racecourse
- Ticket price: £25
- Includes: mocktails and other soft drinks, selfie pod with props and attendant, 'bucket list' style loaded fries, DJ and surprises!
- Buying tickets: they will be available on Arbor before Easter.





# Remember to stay strong

[PiXL Motivational Video -  
When you can't see the  
wood from the trees on  
Vimeo](#)