



LVS Oxford

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GCSE Revision Booklet

2022-23

This booklet has been created specifically for students in Year 11/12 to assist them in their revision and preparation for the summer 2023 examinations.

In this booklet you will find:

- **Advice on creating (and sticking to!) a revision timetable**
- **Examples and suggestions of revision strategies that students could use**
- **A detailed breakdown of the revision topics in each of our GCSE courses, including suggested revision sites, specification details and links should you wish to purchase revision guides**

We hope that students and parents will make good use of this booklet leading up to and during the examination period. Additional copies are available from Chris Lacey.

The Year Ahead: Mock Exams

<u>Date</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Time</u>
Tuesday 10 th January	English Language GCSE	1hr 45 minutes 0930
Wednesday 11 th January	Science GCSE	1 Hour exam 0930-1030
Wednesday 11 th January	ART GCSE	Periods 2 and 3
Thursday 12 th January	Maths GCSE	1 hr 30 minutes 0930
Monday 16 th January	English Literature GCSE	1hr 45 minutes 0930
Tuesday 17 th January	Science GCSE	1 Hour exam 0930-1030
Wednesday 18 th January	English Language	1hr 45 minutes 0930
Thursday 19 th January	Maths GCSE	1hr 30 minutes 0930
Monday 23 rd January	Geography GCSE	1 hour 0930
Tuesday 24 th January	Maths GCSE	1 hr 30 minutes 0930
Wednesday 25 th January	Functional Skills English - Reading	1 hour 0930
Wednesday 25 th January	ART GCSE	Periods 2 and 3
Thursday 26 th January	Functional Skills – Writing L2	1 hour 0930
Thursday 26 th January	ART GCSE	Periods 2 and 3
Tuesday 31 st January	Functional Skills Maths	Paper 1 25 minutes Paper 2 1hr 30 minutes 0930
Wednesday 1 st February	Maths GCSE	1 hr 30 minutes 0930

**** Fridays = Work Experience**

**** Monday 23rd January 2023 – PM Visit to Banbury College**

The Year Ahead: AQA/OCR/Pearson GCSE Exam Dates

2023 Summer series of exams run from 15th May – 28th June 2023.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Exam Duration</u>
Tuesday 16 th May (am) AQA	Combined Science Synergy Paper 1 - Life and Environmental Sciences	1hr 45 minutes
Wednesday 17 th May (am) AQA	English Literature – Shakespeare and the 19 th Century Novel	1hr 45 minutes
Friday 19 th May (am) AQA	Mathematics non-Calculator Paper 1	1hr 30 minutes
Wednesday 24 th May (am) AQA	English Literature – Modern texts and poetry	2hr 15 minutes
Monday 22 nd May (PM) OCR	Geography – Our Natural World	1hr 15 minutes
Thursday 25 th May (am) AQA	Combined Science Synergy Paper 2 – Life and Environmental Sciences	1hr 45 minutes
Monday 5 th June (am) AQA	English Language – Explorations in Creative writing	1hr 45 minutes
Tuesday 6 th June (am) AQA	Mathematics Calculator Paper 2	1hr 30 minutes
Friday 9 th June (am) OCR	Geography – People and Society	1hr 15 minutes
Friday 9 th June (PM) AQA	Combined Science Synergy Paper 3 – Physical Sciences	1hr 45 minutes
Monday 12 th June (am) AQA	English Language – Writers viewpoints and creative writing	1hr 45 minutes
Tuesday 13 th June (am) AQA	Combined Science Synergy Paper 4 – Physical Sciences	1hr 45 minutes
Wednesday 14 th June (am) AQA	Mathematics Calculator Paper 3	1hr 30 minutes
Friday 16 th June (PM) OCR	Geography – Geographical Exploration	1 hr 30 minutes

Creating your Revision Programme

Planning:

Planning your revision timetable must be done before anything else, to ensure there is enough time for GOOD coverage of all subjects.

Most exams start in May, the revision plan should be in place at least by January.

Decide what times you work best and put the tasks that require more energy or concentration during your optimum times.

The optimum concentration time is about 30 minutes so make sure you divide your revision time into small chunks

Order your subjects strategically:

List all the subjects you do and break them down into sub-categories.

Start your day off with something you know you can accomplish. This will give you more motivation for the rest of the day. Make sure the next slot is something heavier, so you don't put off your worst subjects until the end.

Scheduling English revision to appear early in your revision plan may provide useful when revising essay-based subjects such as History later.

Similarly, choosing Maths to be one of the first subjects that you revise may prove invaluable when studying numerical or statistical subjects such as Physics.

This practical layering of knowledge can reinforce and enhance your revision for each subject. Balancing this process with the demands of the exam timetable – for example, starting with a subject that appears early in the exam timetable – makes for an extremely good approach.

Balance subjects:

You should not feel as though you must devote an equal amount of time to each subject, since there may be a variety of reasons why certain subjects may require more revision.

For example, Science maybe be highly content-driven (therefore requiring a

good deal of factual memory learning), whereas English Literature will tend to be more essay-based (therefore more concerned with form than specific content).

Make sure that sufficient “blank” time is left close to the exam to revisit subjects, modules, or topics that you feel need last-minute attention.

Mix your subjects up. Don't put all your nightmare subjects on one day, and the ones you like on another day.

Focus on strengths and weaknesses:

A large part of planning how much time to spend on each subject will be based on how much attention you feel each subject requires.

Balance strengths and weaknesses to give yourself confidence in all areas.

It is important, therefore, that every area of study is covered at least once, and that nothing is glossed over.

Strict yet flexible:

It is important both to create a revision plan and stick to it. Not only does this foster mental discipline, but it also ensures that every topic area will be covered at least once in the run-up to each exam.

Falling behind early could mean that a crucial area is missed out, resulting in valuable marks being dropped.

If one subject, module, or topic takes longer than expected, then you should not panic, as hopefully the time can be made up in the planned “blank” space.

Give yourself regular breaks. If when doing your revision, you are doing well, you can always decide to keep going.

Cross things off as you do them because it will give you a sense of accomplishment.

You must also make allowances for your life outside of revision. Playing sports, meeting friends, and going to concerts are all important outlets you should use to keep concentration levels at an optimum.

Using ICT effectively for revision

Organisation

- Use Google Calendar to create a revision timetable – share it with friends and family
- Use online revision calendars such as “getrevising” <https://getrevising.co.uk/>
- Receive text messages to tell you that you should be revising and get organized

Self Testing and Practice

- Exam boards have past papers online on their websites
- Find the exam board for your subject and then go to their website and download past papers
- Read the examiners tips and advice

Mindmaps and revision diagrams

Creating diagrams can be a very effective way of revising because:

- Creating the diagram makes you think deeply about how ideas/facts are linked together – the act of creating the diagram is a great revision strategy in itself
- You can easily condense a large amount of information to just the basic key facts
- You can see, understand, and think about the links between different pieces of information
- Many students find the visual nature of diagrams easier to memorise than large pieces of text

Effective use of revision cards

Revision cards are a very effective way to help space out learning and memory recall. Some tips on the effective use of revision cards:

1. Make your own
2. Use pictures and colour
3. 1 card – 1 question
4. Break down complex ideas into simple ones
5. Say your answers out loud
6. Learn first, then use flashcards to review

How I make my revision flashcards link:

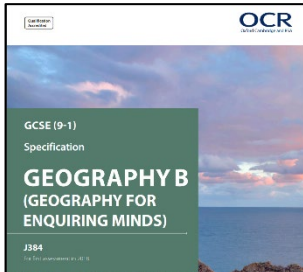
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R26ZGpBGYIA>

<https://www.wikihow.com/Write-Flash-Cards>

Revising for the Geography (OCR) Mock Exam

Your mock exam is from Paper 1 – Our Natural World and will consist of the following topics:

- Global Hazards
- Changing Climate
- Distinctive Landscapes



<https://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/207307-specification-accredited-gcse-geography-b-j384.pdf>

The exam is 39 marks in total and will take the entirety of one lesson (extra time included.) Please take your exercise books home with you before the exam and make sure to check the specification for each topic so you know what content you are responsible for learning. Above is a link to the specification for the course (pages 12 – 15 we have covered.)

To review your learning, please click on the following link:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zswcg82>

Tips for revision –

- Put the bulk of your energy into the case studies. They're worth the most marks and can easily swing your total score up, or down, by one whole grade. It is imperative that you know place-specific details (What towns does the river go through? What coast is it on? What is the weather like in that climate zone?)
- Know the key terms from each topic. If you don't understand them you won't be able to decode the questions.
- Know the command words. These are essential to understanding what the question wants you to do.
- Understand how many points you'll need to make in an answer based on how many marks a question is worth.

Cut your losses. Instead of staring at a question for 3 minutes that you clearly don't know the answer to, move on and focus your energy on questions you can get marks from.

Good luck and please ask me if you need further assistance.

Best of luck

Joe

GCSE MATHEMATICS - revision suggestions and links for the 2023 EXAMS

BOARD & LEVEL

This year we are entering all our students for the AQA GCSE Mathematics examination at FOUNDATION level.

SOME HELPFUL TIPS FOR MATHS REVISION:

[mrbartonmaths - revision hints and tips](#)

RECOMMENDED REVISION BOOK

[cgpbooks.co.uk. gcse maths foundation aqa complete revision and practice](#)

PAST PAPERS

Working through past papers (AQA) are one of the best preparations for the GCSE Maths exams. These are always available and can be collected from Neil.

OWN CALCULATOR

We recommend that students buy their own scientific calculator, and bring these not only to paper 2 & 3 exams (the calculator papers) but to all lessons, so that they become very familiar with how to access the different operations and functions needed for the Maths exam on their own particular calculator, as they all operate slightly differently.

MYMATHS:

Our students have logins for MyMaths. Online lessons can be accessed for every GCSE topic and short questions can be worked through for each topic.

LINKS TO GCSE MATHS TOPIC REVISION ON YOUTUBE:

[GCSE Maths Grades 1-3 Mrs Jaggars](#)

[GCSE Maths Grades 3-5 Mrs Jaggars](#)

[Quick GCSE Revision – Hegarty Maths](#)

[Number – PGSMaths](#)

[Algebra – PGSMaths](#)

[Shape – PGSMaths](#)

[Data – PGSMaths](#)

Here are some checklists of topics:

[corbettmaths - foundation checklist and video index](#)

[corbettmaths - link to all videos](#)

Best of luck

Neil

GCSE Science (AQA)

In January you will be sitting two science exams. The first will contain questions from paper 1 and paper 2 (environmental sciences), and the second from papers 3 and 4 (physical sciences). To ensure you do as well as you can I suggest you revise these topics:

Papers 1 & 2

- ✓ Atom structure
- ✓ Diabetes
- ✓ Heart
- ✓ Plants and plant diseases
- ✓ Particle model
- ✓ Aerobic and anaerobic respiration
- ✓ Smoking

Papers 3 & 4

- ✓ Periodic table, group 7 and fullerenes
- ✓ Ionic bonding
- ✓ Speed, forces
- ✓ Current in a wire, electromagnet investigation
- ✓ Spring extension investigation

Make flash cards

Questions/information/graphs/diagrams on one side and the answers on the other.

There are online flashcards – quizlet or this website

[Free GCSE Science 10-Minute Tests | CGP Books](#) – CGP free online 10-minute quizzes.

Recommended websites

- ❖ [Freesciencelesson.com](http://freesciencelesson.com)
- ❖ Cognito [Cognito - Learn GCSE Maths, Biology, Physics and Chemistry - Completely Free \(cognitoedu.org\)](http://cognitoedu.org) or youtube
- ❖ BBC Bitesize make sure you pick synergy exam board. [GCSE Combined Science - AQA Synergy - BBC Bitesize](#)

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There are online flashcards – quizlet or this website [Free GCSE Science 10-Minute Tests | CGP Books](#) – CGP free online 10-minute quizzes.

Recommended websites

- ❖ [Freesciencelesson.com](http://freesciencelesson.com)
- ❖ Cognito [Cognito - Learn GCSE Maths, Biology, Physics and Chemistry - Completely Free \(cognitoedu.org\)](#) or youtube
- ❖ BBC Bitesize make sure you pick synergy exam board. [GCSE Combined Science - AQA Synergy - BBC Bitesize](#)

Alternatively pick a topic from above and start a mind map, then use your notes or a website to check you are correct and to add more information in another colour.

You can also use the sheets I will give you too. You can also go to AQA website, science and find synergy exam questions and mark schemes to practice answering questions.

Best of luck, Emma

GCSE English

The most important part of revising is having a break and taking care of your mental health. I hope you spend lots of time with your family and friends, eat lots of healthy vegetables and fruit and drink lots of water.

I will be sending home lots of optional past papers for you to work through, and we can go over the answers when we return. If you would like to do additional revision, then the best thing you can do is get a revision booklet and work through it. Below is a list of links to some good booklets that you can purchase:

English Language GCSE:

<https://amzn.eu/d/aQ59VHY>

English literature GCSE:

An Inspector Calls: https://www.amazon.co.uk/Inspector-Calls-York-Notes-Work-book/dp/1292100796/ref=mp_s_a_1_4?crid=KLVC7XMOC2DE&keywords=an+inspector+calls+work-book&qid=1671429291&srefix=an+inspector+calls+workbook%2Caps%2C86&sr=8-4

Power and Conflict poetry: https://www.amazon.co.uk/Power-Conflict-Revision-Practice-Literature/dp/1407183214/ref=mp_s_a_1_6?crid=3TVD4WL64U3K2&keywords=power+and+conflict+poetry+revision+guide&qid=1671429409&srefix=power%2Caps%2C119&sr=8-6

Unseen poetry: https://www.amazon.co.uk/Unseen-Poetry-Revision-Practice-Literature/dp/1407183222/ref=mp_s_a_1_5?crid=3S01PUKDVTZQ4&keywords=unseen+poetry+revision+guide&qid=1671429488&srefix=poetry+revision+guide%2Caps%2C71&sr=8-5

Exam stress can occur at any age where children are taking tests or exams. Children who are uncertain of their own capabilities, ambitious or perfectionist may be more at risk. Exam stress can cause poor attainment and attendance as well as more serious mental health outcomes.

Tools

[Charlie Waller Health Trust Resources](#) Approach to GCSEs booklets - guides for [pupils](#), [parents](#) and [teachers](#).

[Coping Strategies for Exam Stress](#) - 20 minute session guide, coping planner

[Mind 14 Ways to beat exam stress](#) - includes Emoodji app

For Young people

[Exams](#) on oxme.info - stress busting tips and more

[Childline on Exam and Assessment Stress](#) - videos about managing stress, social pressures and more

For Parents

[NHS Moodzone on helping children cope with exam pressure and anxiety](#)

Search

Find [Local Services that can help with exams in Oxfordshire](#).



