

GCSE Parent Guide 2025-2026

Allowing parents to support their children
through GCSE Examinations



 Waverley School

Humanity

Enabling all pupils to succeed in a global and British Society, through fostering an understanding of human values and attitudes, past and present.



 Waverley School

Equality

We value the diversity of the school community and respect the individuality of each person to ensure that there is an equality of opportunity for everyone.



 Waverley School

Aspiration

We all have the right to achieve and share the achievements (excellence) from all our backgrounds.



 Waverley School

Respect

We value diversity and respect the individuality of each person by creating an environment which allows all to flourish through mutual respect.

About this guide

The aim of this booklet is to offer you subject-specific guidance for supporting your child to prepare for their exams.

As a parent there is lots you can do to help your child revise for their exams, from reminding them to attend after-school revision sessions to encouraging them with praise and rewards. There are also various things you can do to support your child with their individual subjects. In this guide you will find practical tips and ideas from each of our subject areas.

Exams, particularly important public exams, are stressful for students and probably even more so for their parents. It goes without saying that all children are different, so it follows that there is no single approach to how parents can help, but here are some suggestions.

Students who do best in exams:

- have revised thoroughly and carefully.
- feel confident.
- have parents who take an interest in their revision.

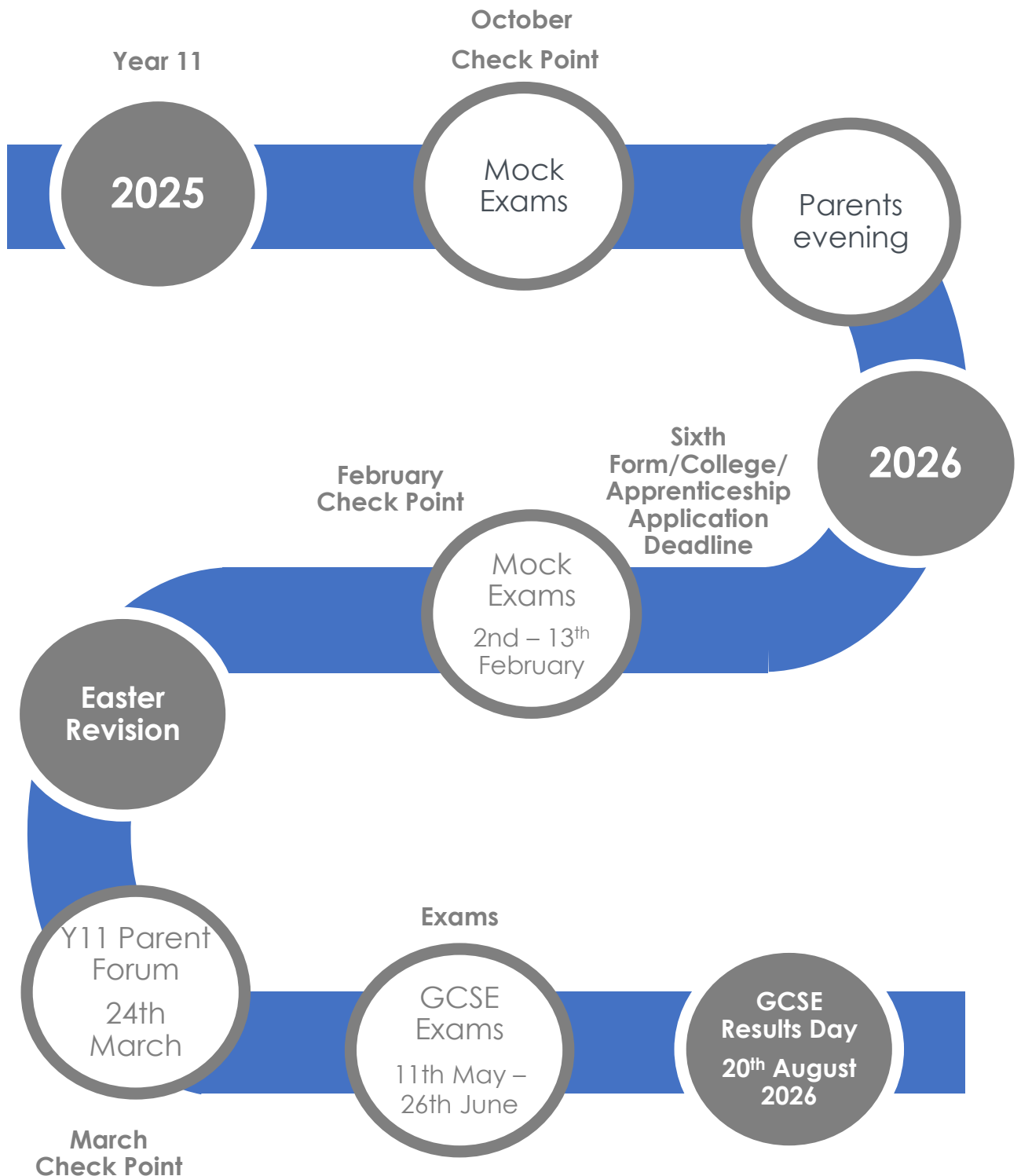
We wish all our Year 11 pupils the best of luck in their GCSE examinations. Please feel free to contact the school if you have any questions exam preparations.

Mr G Nandra

Ms J Chester

Assistant Principals

Year 11 Road Map



Creating a space for revision

How to make your home a revision-friendly environment

Their own study space



Adjust their tech

Because it's really distracting!

Use do not disturb mode; no desktop notifications (if they're using computer for revision; study without phone)



Really important for mental health, memory & learning



Encourage breaks

10-15 mins off every hour helps concentration



Keep talking



Teen & parents - so teen can voice their feelings & worries about anything & you, the parent, can help & comfort them

Online resources

The following websites and applications can be used to support your child's revision:



QUIZLET

Electronic flashcards and testing



ANKI

Flashcards with spaced repetition



SENECA LEARNING

Explains materials and generates tests



EXAM BOARDS

Past papers and mark schemes



MICROSOFT TEAMS

Resources shared by teachers



BBC BITESIZE

Revision guides and quizzes

Apps to Support Revision

The following apps can be used to support your child's revision:

1. [Gojimo](#)



2. [Socrative](#)



3. [Quizlet](#)

The Quizlet Live logo is a dark blue rounded rectangle with the text 'Quizlet Live' in white, where 'Quizlet' is in a bold font and 'Live' is in a smaller font.

4. [Kahoot!](#)

The Kahoot! logo is a purple rounded rectangle with the text 'Kahoot!' in white, bold font.

5. [Memerise](#)



6. [Bubbl.us](#)



7. [Revision Buddies](#)



8. [GoConQR](#)



9. [Word Flex](#)



10. [Breathr App](#)



Best ways to study - that you've probably never heard of

Have you heard of these revision methods? Whether it's the latest trend on studytok, or a scientifically proven way to learn, there's always a new trending study method with an odd name. From social media to study forums, we've found the revision strategies that students swear by - so you can make the most of your study time.

Active recall

Do you struggle to remember what you study? Active recall trains your brain to retrieve information when you need it. Instead of just reading and copying notes, test yourself repeatedly. It's one of the best ways to make learning stick.

Blurting

Study a topic, then put your notes away and write down everything you remember. After that, check for gaps and errors, then review that information and repeat until you've nailed it.

Feynman technique

This is a great method for talkers and practical learners. Teach a topic in simple terms to a friend, a pet, or even an AI tool. Identify what you don't fully understand, then simplify it more and try again.

Tip:

You could use the voice option of an AI like Google Gemini or Chat GPT as your student, and get it to ask you follow up questions.

Spaced repetition

This scientifically proven method boosts memory by reviewing information at increasing intervals. It helps you move knowledge to your long term memory while reducing overall study time. On page 8 we'll show you how to plan your revision using this method as you get closer to an exam or assessment.

Flashcards

Great for testing yourself! Write a question or prompt on one side and the answer on the other. Use apps like Anki, Quizlet or Gizmo to make digital flashcards with spaced repetition built in.

Pomodoro

Stay focused with short bursts of studying. Work for 25 minutes, take a 5-minute break, then repeat. After four rounds, take a longer break. This is a great method for ADHD or anyone who struggles with focus.

Mind maps

The humble mind map never becomes obsolete, plus it works for any kind of studying; coursework, exams, essays, presentations and more. Particularly good for visual learners, start with a central topic and branch out into key themes and details. Perfect for breaking down complex subjects and identifying connections.

Mnemonics

Make facts or names memorable with acronyms or silly phrases. For example "My Very Easy Method Just Speeds Up Naming" for the planets. The funnier the phrase, the easier to remember.

Traffic light system

Don't know where to start with your revision or studying? Use the traffic light system to find out what you need to work on most.



Focus on red topics first and plan more sessions for them, then move onto orange to strengthen your knowledge. Change the colours to ones you can recognise easily if you need to.



Secondary Revision Tips and Techniques

Method	Explanation
Revision timetable	Getting organised helps you to focus and motivates you. It also helps you to identify how much time you need to spend on different areas. It is a great starting point from which to build.
Exam practice	You don't need to endlessly practise papers – although some whole-paper practice is good. Break the paper down into question types and think about what skills/content is repeatedly required for those types of questions. Start with the ones you find most difficult.
Collaborate	Revising together does not mean just socializing, but it can be really productive to revise with a friend and share notes/tips/ideas. Test each other orally on your knowledge and peer assess each other's written answers.
Take regular breaks	This doesn't mean that you shouldn't do anything at all, but you should give your brain a chance to reboot. Make sure you have healthy snacks, water and get plenty of exercise in between revision sessions – prepare these beforehand so you don't waste time throughout the day.
Revision flashcards: key facts/quotations/terms	Make a set of revision flashcards – these could have a term on the front with a definition on the back. You could also use these for sequencing, learning processes, quotations or for essay planning. They are multipurpose and will be really useful.
Make purposeful revision diagrams	Diagrams can be useful, even for written subjects – whether you are looking at character development or a lifecycle, these can help. Don't waste time making them works of art – stick to clear, simple facts... and stick them up EVERYWHERE!
Sit at a proper desk and start early	Starting early in the day will still leave you time to relax later and ensure you feel on top of everything. Sitting at a proper desk will help you focus and prevent you getting so easily distracted.
Don't just read notes	Reading your notes endlessly isn't the way to do it. Create mind maps, flashcards, written responses and other visual aids.
Test yourself	Decide on the key things you want to know by the time you have finished revising that topic and create a test before you begin. You can then use this test to ensure your revision has been successful. If it hasn't, try some new techniques for this topic.
Spread it out	Spreading your revision out over time (rather than rushed at the last minute) is proven to be far more successful. Spend a small amount of time on everything you have to learn and repeat regularly.
Speak to your teacher/tutor	If there's anything you are unsure of – ask! Your teachers will have other resources and tasks that can help. You're not alone.

How to Structure an Hour of Revision

Step 1: Choose a past paper

These can be found on the internet (as long as you know the examining board for your subject). Alternatively, you could ask your teacher whether they have any past papers. You will also need access to the paper's mark scheme.

Step 2: Pick a question

Decide which question you would like to complete. Don't just pick questions you know you can do – target the topic you are revising that session. If the questions are short (for example, on a maths paper), choose a few questions – aim for between 15 to 20 marks.

Step 3: Revise

Spend 20 minutes revising the information you need to answer your chosen question/questions.

Step 4: Do the question

Next, spend 20 minutes answering your chosen question/questions.

Step 5: Mark your answer

Use the mark scheme for the past paper to check your answer. Using a mark scheme will also give you a better idea of what examiners expect in an answer.

Step 6: Get feedback

Show your work to a teacher or tutor. Ask them whether your marking is accurate and how you could improve your answers.

Revision Timetable

Create your own revision timetable. You could use colour to identify individual subjects. Remember to plan for sensible breaks, drink lots of water and have healthy snacks to hand.

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun	Subject	Sessions per week
9am									
10am									
11am									
12pm									
1pm									
2pm									
3pm									
4pm									
5pm									
6pm									
7pm									
8pm									



Additional Sessions

The following table indicates additional sessions taking place during the week to support GCSE learners:

	Form Time	After School
Monday	English Maths	Digital IT Science
Tuesday	English Maths	English
Wednesday	Maths	
Thursday	Maths Sports Studies	Geography History
Friday		Art

There will be further subjects added to the schedule in Term 2 as well as Saturday and Holiday classes

Mental health and wellbeing



The following websites can be used to support your child's mental health during the exam period:



KOOTH

<https://www.kooth.com>



PAUSE HUBS

<https://forwardthinkingbirmingham.nhs.uk/pause>



THE WELLBEING CREW

<http://thewellbeingcrew.co.uk/wellbeing-of-children.html>



CHILDLINE

<https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/school-college-and-work/school-college/assessment-stress/>



NHS

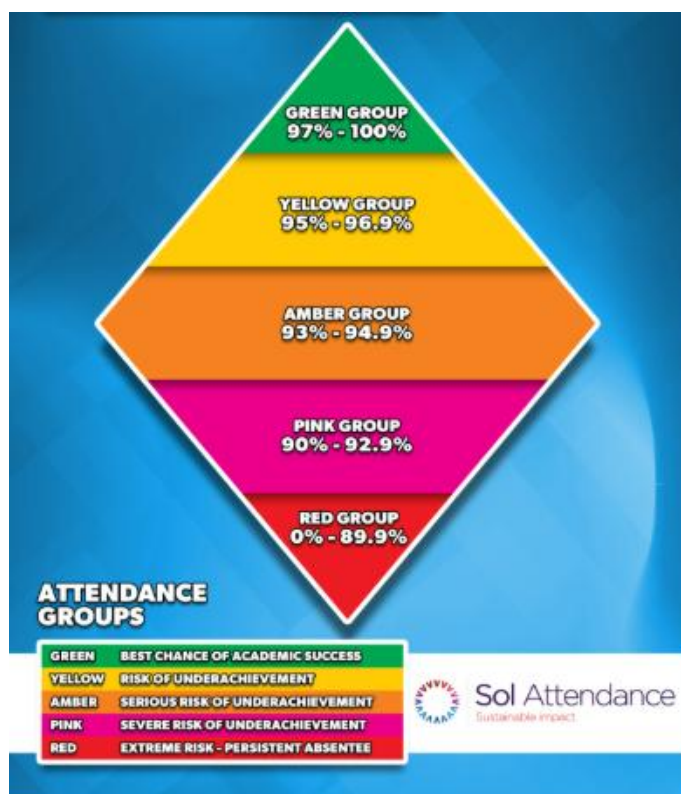
<https://www.nhs.uk/mental-health/children-and-young-adults/advice-for-parents/help-your-child-beat-exam-stress/>



YOUNG MINDS

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/young-person/coping-with-life/exam-stress/>

The importance of attendance



Attendance vs. Attainment

96% - 100%
Average Grade (2019)
6.5+

90% - 95%
Average Grade (2019)
5+

Below 90%
Average Grade (2019)
3.9+

	Lost Learning		
	Short Term	Academic Year	School Career
100%	Full attendance	None	None
95%	Half a day off per fortnight	2 weeks	10 weeks
90%	A day off a fortnight	1 month	Half a year
PERSISTENT ABSENTEEISM			
85%	A day and a half per fortnight	A half term	The equivalent of missing the whole of Y11
80%	A day off per week	Over a half term	A full year

English Language and English Literature



Key Dates

English Language Paper 1 (1hr 45 minutes):
21/05/2026 (AM)

English Language Paper 2 (1hr 45 minutes):
05/06/2026 (AM)

English Literature Paper 1 (1hr 45 minutes):
11/05/2026 (AM)

English Literature Paper 2 (2hr 15 minutes):
19/05/2026 (AM)

Another pathway for our students is the Entry Level Certificate. Further details and key dates can be found here:

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/elc/step-up-to-english-5970>

Useful Websites

AQA Website:

<https://www.aqa.org.uk>

BBC Bitesize:

www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize

Lit Charts:

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

SENECA Learning:

<https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/>

Physics and Maths Tutor:

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

YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/@ComicsandLit>

<https://www.youtube.com/@mrbruff>

Topic Checklist

English Language

- English Language Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing
- English Language Paper 2: Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives

English Literature

- English Literature Paper 1: (Shakespeare and 19th Century)
 - English Literature Paper 2 (Modern Texts and Poetry)
- Poetry is both seen and unseen poetry.

Exam Question Guidance

Listening:

During reading time, highlight key words in the questions. Predict trigger words and words you are expecting to hear.

Reading:

Skim- key words in question
Scan- find the key words in the text

Writing:

Photocard: 4 short simple sentences. 1 piece of information per sentence
40 words: cover all bullet points. Present tense. Variety of opinions/reasons

Step by step exam guidance, additional resources and tutorials are also available from the Oak Academy website and via the Mr Bruff video clips on YouTube.

<https://www.youtube.com/@mrbruff>

<https://classroom.thenational.academy/>

A guide for how parents/carers can further support their child with their exam preparation can be found here:
<https://www.theparentsguideto.co.uk/post/helping-your-child-with-their-revision>

Mathematics



Key Dates

Paper 1 (Non-Calculator):
Thursday 14th May 2026 AM

Paper 2 (Calculator):
Wednesday 3rd June 2026 AM

Paper 3 (Calculator):
Wednesday 10th June 2026 AM

The best way to improve at maths is to DO maths.

Lots of practice questions!

Useful Websites

Sparx Maths:
<https://sparxmaths.com/>

Maths Genie:
<https://www.mathsgenie.co.uk/>

GCSE Maths Tutor:
<https://thegcsemathstutor.co.uk/>

Mr Morley Maths:
<https://www.mrmorleymaths.co.uk/home>

Dr Frost Maths:
<https://drfrost.org/students>

1st class Maths:
<https://1stclassmaths.com>

Corbett Maths Ultimate Revision:

Higher
<https://corbettmaths.com/2023/04/16/ultimate-higher-revision-video/>

Foundation
<https://corbettmaths.com/2023/03/14/ultimate-foundation-revision-video/>

Topic Checklist

- Number
- Algebra
- Ratio, Proportion and Rates of Change
- Geometry and Measures
- Statistics and Probability

A revision checklist which shows all topics broken down into sub-sections can be found here:

Higher
<https://corbettmaths.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Edexcel-Higher-Checklist.pdf>

Foundation
<https://corbettmaths.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Edexcel-Foundation-Checklist.pdf>

Exam Question Guidance

Assessment Objective 1 (AO1):

AO1 is about using and applying standard techniques

Foundation: 50%
Higher: 40%

Assessment Objective 2 (AO2):

AO2 has a different focus. It is about reasoning, interpreting and communicating mathematically

Foundation: 25%
Higher: 30%

Assessment Objective 3 (AO3):

AO3 is about solving problems with much greater focus on solving non-routine problems in mathematical and non-mathematical contexts.

Foundation: 25%
Higher: 30%

Assessment Outline:

Marks provided: 80 per paper
Time given: 90 minutes per paper

Separate Science (Triple Award)



Key Dates	Useful Websites	Topic Checklist
<p>Biology Paper 1 (1 hr 45mins) 12/05/2026 (PM)</p> <p>Chemistry Paper 1 (1 hr 45mins) 18/05/2026 (AM)</p> <p>Physics Paper 1 (1 hr 45mins) 02/06/2026 (AM)</p> <p>Biology Paper 2 (1 hr 45mins) 08/06/2026 (AM)</p> <p>Chemistry Paper 2 (1 hr 45mins) 12/06/2026 (AM)</p> <p>Physics Paper 2 (1 hr 45mins) 15/06/2026 (AM)</p> <p>Another pathway for our students is the Entry Level Certificate. Further details and key dates can be found here: https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/elc/science-5960</p>	<p>Edexcel Website: https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcse/sciences-2016.html#%2Ftab-Biology</p> <p>https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcse/sciences-2016.html#%2Ftab-Chemistry</p> <p>https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcse/sciences-2016.html#%2Ftab-Physics</p> <p>GCSEPod https://www.gcsepod.com/</p> <p>BBC Bitesize GCSE Science: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zrkw2hv</p> <p>BBC Bitesize GCSE Edexcel: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zqkww6f</p> <p>Youtube (GCSE Walkthrough) https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL7O6CcKg0HaE91FiVrcssy2RjAwGeQVdC</p>	<p>Biology Paper 1 Topic 1 – Key concepts in biology, Topic 2 – Cells and control, Topic 3 – Genetics, Topic 4 – Natural selection and genetic modification, Topic 5 – Health, disease and the development of medicines</p> <p>Chemistry Paper 1 Topic 1 – Key concepts in chemistry, Topic 2 – States of matter and mixtures, Topic 3 – Chemical changes, Topic 4 – Extracting metals and equilibria</p> <p>Physics Paper 1 Topic 1 – Key concepts of physics, Topic 2 – Motion and forces, Topic 3 – Conservation of energy, Topic 4 – Waves, Topic 5 – Light and the electromagnetic spectrum, Topic 6 – Radioactivity</p> <p>Biology Paper 2 Topic 1 – Key concepts in biology, Topic 6 – Plant structures and their functions, Topic 7 – Animal coordination, control and homeostasis, Topic 8 – Exchange and transport in animals, Topic 9 – Ecosystems and material cycles</p> <p>Chemistry Paper 2 Topic 1 – Key concepts in chemistry, Topic 6 – Groups in the periodic table, Topic 7 – Rates of reaction and energy changes, Topic 8 – Fuels and Earth science</p> <p>Physics Paper 2 Topic 1 – Key concepts of physics, Topic 8 – Energy - Forces doing work, Topic 9 – Forces and their effects, Topic 10 – Electricity and circuits, Topic 12 – Magnetism and the motor effect, Topic 13 – Electromagnetic induction, Topic 14 – Particle model, Topic 15 – Forces and matter</p>
<p>Exam Question Guidance</p>	<p>Combined Science: In Science, the exam paper can be broken down into three parts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Many short answer questions ranging between 1-4 marks.- One long answer question (6 mark) – spelling, punctuation and grammar will be assessed.- Very few multiple-choice questions. <p>Reading the question: Please take your time trying to understand what the question is asking of you. Many students see a scientific key word and write everything they know about it. If you are unsure about the question, please move onto the next question as this is a timed examination and return to the question later.</p> <p>Writing: Use scientific keywords in your answers. This will maximise your chances of gaining marks. Be concise, be clear and use terminologies you have learnt in science.</p>	

Combined Science (Double Award)



Key Dates

Biology Paper 1 (1hr 45mins)
12/05/2026 (PM)

Chemistry Paper 1 (1hr 45mins)
18/05/2026 (AM)

Physics Paper 1 (1hr 45mins)
02/06/2026 (AM)

Biology Paper 2 (1hr 45mins)
08/06/2026 (AM)

Chemistry Paper 2 (1hr 45mins)
12/06/2026 (AM)

Physics Paper 2 (1hr 45mins)
15/06/2026 (AM)

Another pathway for our students is the
Entry Level Certificate.

Further details and key dates can be
found here:

[https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/
elc/science-5960](https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/elc/science-5960)

Useful Websites

Edexcel Website:

[https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/
qualifications/edexcel-
gcse/sciences-2016.html#%2Ftab-
CombinedScience](https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcse/sciences-2016.html#%2Ftab-CombinedScience)

GCSEPod

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

BBC Bitesize GCSE Science:

[https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/
subjects/zrkw2hv](https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zrkw2hv)

BBC Bitesize GCSE Edexcel:

[https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/
examspecs/zqkww6f](https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zqkww6f)

Youtube (GCSE Walkthrough)

[https://www.youtube.com/playlist?lis
t=PL7O6CcKg0HaE91FiVrcssy2Rja
WGeQVdC](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL7O6CcKg0HaE91FiVrcssy2RjaWGeQVdC)

Topic Checklist

Biology Paper 1

Topic 1 – Key concepts in biology, Topic 2 –
Cells and control, Topic 3 – Genetics, Topic 4
– Natural selection and genetic modification,
Topic 5 – Health, disease and the
development of medicines

Chemistry Paper 1

Topic 1 – Key concepts in chemistry, Topic 2
– States of matter and mixtures, Topic 3 –
Chemical changes, Topic 4 – Extracting metals
and equilibria

Physics Paper 1

Topic 1 – Key concepts of physics, Topic 2 –
Motion and forces, Topic 3 – Conservation of
energy, Topic 4 – Waves, Topic 5 – Light and
the electromagnetic spectrum, Topic 6 –
Radioactivity

Biology Paper 2

Topic 1 – Key concepts in biology, Topic 6 –
Plant structures and their functions, Topic 7 –
Animal coordination, control and
homeostasis, Topic 8 – Exchange and
transport in animals, Topic 9 – Ecosystems
and material cycles

Chemistry Paper 2

Topic 1 – Key concepts in chemistry, Topic 6
– Groups in the periodic table, Topic 7 –
Rates of reaction and energy changes, Topic 8
– Fuels and Earth science

Physics Paper 2

Topic 1 – Key concepts of physics, Topic 8 –
Energy - Forces doing work, Topic 9 – Forces
and their effects, Topic 10 – Electricity and
circuits, Topic 12 – Magnetism and the motor
effect, Topic 13 – Electromagnetic induction,
Topic 14 – Particle model, Topic 15 – Forces
and matter

Exam Question Guidance

Combined Science:

In Science, the exam paper can be broken down into three parts.

- Many short answer questions ranging between 1-4 marks.
- One long answer question (6 mark) – spelling, punctuation and grammar will be assessed.
- Very few multiple choice questions.

Reading the question:

Please take your time trying to understand what the question is asking of you. Many students see a scientific key word and write everything they know about it.

If you are unsure about the question please move onto the next question as this is a timed examination and return to the question at a later time.

Writing:

Use scientific keywords in your answers. This will maximise your chances of gaining marks.

Be concise, be clear and use terminologies you have learnt in science.

Key Dates	Useful Websites	Topic Checklist
<p>Paper 1 (8035/1) 13/05/2026 (AM)</p> <p>Paper 2 (8035/2) 03/06/2026 (PM)</p> <p>Paper 3 (8035/3) 11/06/2026 (AM)</p>	<p>AQA Website: AQA GCSE Geography Assessment resources</p> <p>Internet Geography Home - Internet Geography</p> <p>Use this for extra reading on case studies</p> <p>Revision Worl Geography GCSE Past Papers Revision World</p> <p>BBC Bitesize GCSE Geography - BBC Bitesize</p> <p>Youtube Type in topics that you want to watch. E.g. KS4 Geography Rivers Hard Engineering.</p>	<p>Paper 1 Tectonic Hazards Weather Hazards Climate Change Ecosystems Tropical Rainforests Hot Deserts Rivers Coasts</p> <p>Paper 2 Section A - Urban Issues and challenges – Rio de Janeiro Urban Change in the UK – Birmingham Section B - The Changing Economic World Nigeria The Changing UK Economy Section C – Resource Management Energy Management</p> <p>Paper 3 Resource Booklet Geographical Application</p>

<p>GCSE GEOGRAPHY CASE STUDIES</p>	<p>Paper 1 Haiti (LIC Earthquake), Japan (HIC Earthquake), Somerset Levels Floods, Epping Forest, Amazon Rainforest, Sahara and Thar Deserts, River Tees, Banbury (managing the floods), Swanage, Med merry and Lyme Regis.</p> <p>Paper 2: Rio de Janeiro, Birmingham, Jamaica, Nigeria, UK Economy (e.g. HS2, rail links, Transportation), Chambamontera micro-hydro scheme.</p> <p>Paper 3: Resource Booklet Ashes Hollow Velocity of the river and sediment sizes Birmingham New Street and Brindley Place Regeneration</p>
-------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

History



Key Dates

Paper 1 - Thematic study and historic environment (Medicine)
15/05/2026 (AM)

Paper 2 - British depth study and period study (Elizabeth and Cold War)
04/06/2026 (AM)

Paper 3 - Modern depth study (Germany)
09/06/2026 (PM)

Useful Websites

[History | Pearson qualifications](#)

[GCSE History - Edexcel - BBC Bitesize](#)

Topic Checklist

Medicine through time c1250-present

Weimar and Nazi Germany 1918-1939

Early Elizabethan England 1558-1588

Superpower relations and the Cold War 1941-91

Exam Question Guidance

AO1: Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the key features and characteristics of the periods studied.

AO2: Explain and analyse historical events and periods studied using second-order historical concepts.

AO3: Analyse, evaluate and use sources (contemporary to the period) to make substantiated judgements, in the context of historical events studied.

AO4: Analyse, evaluate and make substantiated judgements about interpretations (including how and why interpretations may differ) in the context of historical events studied.

Key Dates	Useful Websites	Topic Checklist
<p>Exam Dates:</p> <p>Paper 1 – Religion – 12/05/2026</p> <p>Paper 2 – Themes – 20/05/2026</p>	<p>AQA Website: https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/religious-studies/gcse/religious-studies-a-8062</p> <p>BBC bitesize: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zjgx47h</p> <p>Youtube – Saddleback (Christianity)- https://www.youtube.com/@SaddlebackKids</p> <p>Youtube – No Waffle GCSE (28) Creation AQA CHRISTIANITY – YouTube</p> <p>(28) Sunni and Shia AQA Islam - YouTube</p> <p>Youtube - Mr McMillanRE</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Islam beliefs • Islam Practises • Christian beliefs • Christian Practises • Theme A – Relationship and families • Theme B – Religion and Life • Theme D – Religion, peace and conflict • Theme E – Crime and Punishment • Theme F – Human Rights and Social Justice

<p>Exam Question Guidance</p>	<p>Reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skim- key words in question • Scan- find the key words in the text • During reading, highlight key words in the questions <p>Writing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Photocard: 4 short simple sentences. 1 piece of information per sentence 40 words: cover all bullet points. Present tense. Variety of opinions/reasons • Practise exam techniques - 12 Mark questions <p>Practise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage with revision activity booklet and answer in questions • Complete knowledge organisers
--------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

French



Key Dates	Useful Websites	Topic Checklist
<p><u>SPEAKING</u> 16th April – 21st May 2026</p> <p><u>LISTENING</u> Wednesday 20th May 2026 (AM)</p> <p><u>READING</u> Thursday 4th June 2026 (PM)</p> <p><u>WRITING</u> Monday 8th June 2026 (PM)</p>	<p>EDEXCEL Website: Languages Pearson qualifications</p> <p>Active Learn: https://www.pearsonactivelearn.com/app/Home</p> <p>SENECA Learning: https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/</p> <p>Languages Online: https://www.languagesonline.org.uk/Hotpotatoes/index.html</p> <p>I Jour I Actu: https://www.ijourlactu.com</p> <p>BBC GCSE Bitesize: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zhy647h</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Family• Friends• Relationships• Equality• Physical wellbeing• Mental wellbeing• Food and drink• Sports• Places in town• Shopping• Transport• The natural world• Environmental issues• Social media and gaming• Future opportunities• School• Music• TV and film• Accommodation• Tourist attractions

Exam Question Guidance	<p><u>Listening:</u> During the 5 mins initial reading time, highlight key words in the <u>questions</u>. Predict trigger words and words you are expecting to hear.</p> <p><u>Speaking:</u> Prepare and memorise a one-minute presentation Prepare and memorise set list of questions and answers for the 5 themes</p> <p><u>Reading:</u> Skim- key words in question Scan- find the key words in the text Watch out for distractors and negatives</p> <p><u>Writing:</u> <u>Photo question:</u> 4 short simple sentences. 1 piece of information per sentence. Start every sentence <i>En la foto hay...</i> <u>Essay Questions:</u> cover all bullet points. Identify the tense of each bullet point. Use 3 different tenses. Variety of opinions/reasons</p>
-------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Spanish



Key Dates	Useful Websites	Topic Checklist
<p><u>SPEAKING</u> 16th April – 21st May 2026</p> <p><u>LISTENING</u> Tuesday 9th June 2026 (AM)</p> <p><u>READING</u> Tuesday 16th June 2026 (AM)</p> <p><u>WRITING</u> Wednesday 17th June 2026 (PM)</p>	<p>EDEXCEL Website: Languages Pearson qualifications</p> <p>Active Learn: https://www.pearsonactivelearn.com/ap/ Home</p> <p>SENECA Learning: https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/</p> <p>Languages Online: https://www.languagesonline.org.uk/ Hotpotatoes/index.html</p> <p>BBC GCSE Bitesize: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ examspecs/z799hbk</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family • Friends • Relationships • Equality • Physical wellbeing • Mental wellbeing • Food and drink • Sports • Places in town • Shopping • Transport • The natural world • Environmental issues • Social media and gaming • Future opportunities • School • Music • TV and film • Accomodation • Tourist attractions

<p style="text-align: center;">Exam Question Guidance</p>	<p><u>Listening:</u> During the 5 mins initial reading time, highlight key words in the <u>questions</u>. Predict trigger words and words you are expecting to hear.</p> <p><u>Speaking:</u> Prepare and memorise a one-minute presentation Prepare and memorise set list of questions and answers for the 5 themes</p> <p><u>Reading:</u> Skim- key words in question Scan- find the key words in the text Watch out for distractors and negatives</p> <p><u>Writing:</u> <u>Photo question:</u> 4 short simple sentences. 1 piece of information per sentence. Start every sentence <i>En la foto hay...</i> <u>Essay Questions:</u> cover all bullet points. Identity the tense of each bullet point. Use 3 different tenses. Variety of opinions/reasons</p>
--------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Key Dates	Useful Websites	Topic Checklist
<p>Paper 1: Listening and understanding in Urdu Thursday 18 May 2026</p> <p>Paper 3: Reading and understanding in Urdu Thursday 18 May 2026</p> <p>Paper 4: Writing in Urdu Tuesday 02 June 2026</p> <p>Paper 2 Speaking in Urdu Speaking window: From: 16 April 2026 TO: 21 May 2026</p>	<p>Pearson Website: https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/urdu-2017.coursematerials.html#%2FfilterQuery=category:Pearson-UK:Category%2FExam-materials</p> <p>Urdu in UK: https://urduinuk.com</p> <p>Ling App: https://ling-app.com/learn-urdu</p> <p>Lingo Play App: https://www.lingo-play.com/en/urdu-articles/how-to-learn-urdu-language-from-scratch-at-home/</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family, friends and relationships • Free time and technology • Festivals, food and celebrations • Town and region • Holidays and travel • School types • School day • Subjects • Rules and pressures • Celebrating success • Dealing with problems • Directions • Eating out • Shopping

<h2>Exam Question Guidance</h2>	<p>Listening: Read all the given information, eliminate wrong answers and match answers carefully to the correct choices.</p> <p>Reading: Skim- key words in question Scan- find the key words in the text Many exam questions are deliberately designed to contain distractors and words that change the meaning of a sentence. Some require degrees of inference to find the correct answer.</p> <p>Writing: Develop a portfolio of responses. Create your own collection of “template answers” for subtopics that you can revise from, adapt and embellish according to the eventual exam questions.</p> <p>Speaking: The general conversation carries most marks, so factor this into the amount of time dedicated to it during preparation. Intensive work on the recognition of question words and forming answer stems in a variety of tenses from questions will be worthwhile.</p>
---------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Should I help with revision?

The next 6 month period is one of the most important times in a student's life. It is the culmination of 12 - 13 years of school education.

Our young people can rarely achieve their best independently; best results are always achieved when a partnership is formed between student, family and school, and your support as parents is fundamental to this success. Please check the links out below on how you could support your child.

Parent guide:

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

<https://www.tassomai.com/gcse-survival-guide>

Assessment Objectives:

Be sure to complete all the AO's in your planning, each one carries 20 Marks.

AO1 (Develop) 20 marks

- Find **relevant** artists to look at
- Produce research pages showing your understanding
- Use this work to **inspire** your own work
- Make **personal** comments and about their work

AO2 (Refine) 20 marks

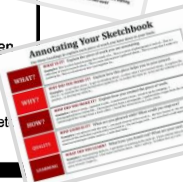
- Explore **different** media and materials
- Use **different** techniques and processes
- Evaluate** how successful your experiments have been

AO3 (Record) 20 marks

- Collect and present **relevant** imagery
- Produce **high quality** drawings/sketches/ paintings etc
- Take your **own** photographs
- Annotate** your work thoroughly

AO4 (Present) 20 marks

- Produce **confident** and **high quality** final piece/s
- Ensure your work **links** to your prep work and artists you have researched



Collect your EXAM CHECKLIST.

Task	Do you have it?	Is it ready to go?	Do you have it?	Do you have it?
Bring your portfolio with you				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 clean sheets My own photographs My own sketches/drawings 				
Bring your research and inspiration to school with you				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Artist research page, paragraph with images Copy of artist's work One of your hand-drawn studies in the artist's style Hand-drawn sketches of the artist's work Selected artist research page, paragraph with images Copy of what/where/when of one of the above images One of your own drawings created in the artist's style Artist's experiments, that you've tried Artist's experiments about experiments 				
Bring your final experiments to school with you				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experimentation on different materials/techniques Work from a variety of images - not repetition To different ways of using the same image Change the location of your work Alternative material experiments, eg. fabric/leather/wood or paper over a painted background Printed or hand-drawn sketches in your own style - not half a finished piece More than one half size piece At least one hand-drawn sketch that has been inspired by your final piece, the other half by your research Hand-drawn sketches, eg. from a page in the sketchbook 				
Bring your final piece to school				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Final piece experiments - colour, composition etc. One of your own drawings and photographs that you've used Multiple final sketches, drawing and painting Experimentation of ideas Final piece design sketches with annotations to explain where ideas came from and how you have used them together 				
Bring your final piece to school				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Final piece that links together all your experiments and research to the final piece, it should be your best experiment or idea Final piece design sketches - around half a page to reflect on your choices and the overall project 				

SKETCHBOOK Examples



Websites:

- <https://www.pinterest.co.uk>
- <https://www.impressions-gallery.com/>
- <https://openeye.org.uk/>
- <https://www.saatchigallery.com/schools/>
- <https://www.vam.ac.uk/whatson>
- <https://www.birminghambotanicalgardens.org.uk/>
- <https://macbirmingham.co.uk/>
- <https://www.tate.org.uk/>
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs>
- <http://www.sciencemuseum.org.uk/>

Video links:

- <https://www.youtube.com>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u4KsSFbn3Os>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F7sqSfgrTsQ>

Annotation guide:

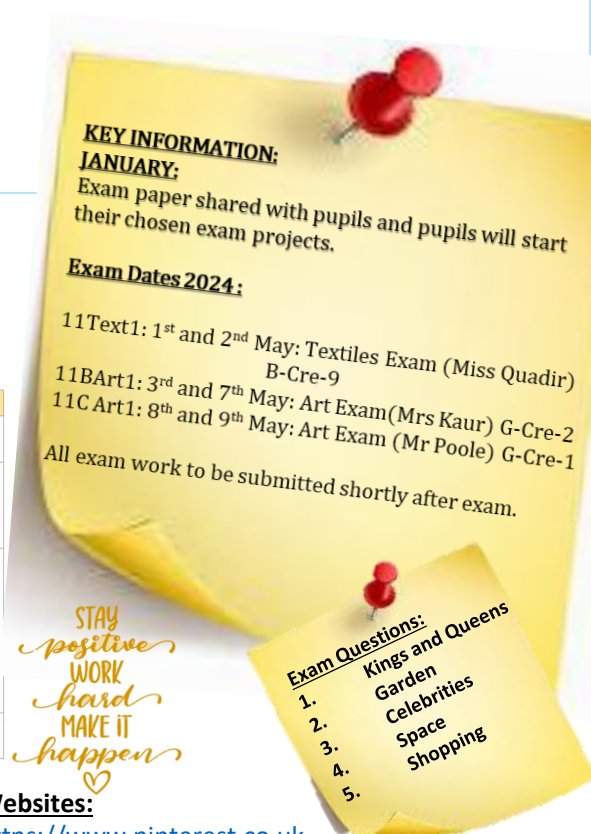
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ogUZkcEzL2I>

OCR GCSE Art & Design Exam paper 2024

<https://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/702884-externally-set-task-june-2024.pdf>

We have an open door policy in the CREATIVE Faculty, But Please:

- attend fortnightly Interventions
- Pop in to speak with us
- Use the materials and ICT facilities



Computer Science



Key Dates	Useful Websites	Topic Checklist
<p><u>13th May 2026 (PM)</u> ± Paper 1: Principles of Computer Science</p> <p><u>19th May 2026 (PM)</u> Paper 2: Application of Computational Thinking</p>	<p>Edexcel Website: https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/computer-science-2020.html</p> <p>You Tube: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KyH-9WGIutM&list=PLCiOXwirraUCo6-YUFGk34mAinrmC7y6j</p> <p>BBC bitesize Edexcel GCSE Computer Science</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Computational thinking• Data• Computers• Networks• Issues and impact• Problem solving with programming

Exam Question Guidance	<p><u>Programming:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use of decomposition skills to breakdown the problem.• Then work through each sub problem. <p><u>Interoperate algorithms:</u> Read the code Identify programming constructs used</p> <p><u>Writing:</u> Answers should be written in full sentences. You should also: use technical terminology</p>
-------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Health & Social Care



Unit for delivery:	Component 2 – Health and Social Care Services and Values	
Coursework Write up Date:	Topic Checklist	
TBC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Services for children and young people • Services for adults and children with specific needs • Services for older adults • Informal Social Care • Physical barriers to services • Sensory barriers to services • Social, cultural and psychological barriers to services • Language barriers to services • Geographical barriers to services • Intellectual barriers to services • Resource barriers for providers • Financial barriers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empowering and promoting independence • Respect for others • Maintaining confidentiality • Preserving dignity • Effective communication • Safeguarding and duty of care • Effective communication • Safeguarding and duty of care • Promoting anti-discriminatory practice • Apply care values in a compassionate way • Working together • Making mistakes • Reviewing own application of care values • Receiving feedback • Using feedback

Course details:	
Link to specification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-tech-awards/health-and-social-care-2022.html

Health & Social Care



Unit for delivery:		UNIT 3 – HEALTH AND WELLBEING	
KEY DATES	Topic Checklist		
Exam: May 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health and wellbeing Genetic inheritance Ill health Diet, exercise, substance use Personal hygiene Social interactions Stress Willingness to seek help or access services Financial resources Environmental conditions Housing The impact of life events relating to relationship changes The impact of life events relating to changes in life circumstances Health Indicators Resting pulse rate and recovery after exercise Blood Pressure Peak Flow BMI 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using published guidelines to interpret health indicators Risks to physical health of abnormal readings Interpreting lifestyle data Interpreting lifestyle data on smoking Interpreting lifestyle data on alcohol Interpreting lifestyle data on inactivity The importance of a person-centred approach Recommended actions to improve health and wellbeing Short and long term targets Sources of support Potential obstacles to implementing plans Emotional/psychological obstacles Time constraints Availability of resources Unachievable targets Lack of support Ability /disability and addiction Barriers to accessing identified service 	
	Course details:		
Link to exam specification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-tech-awards/health-and-social-care-2022.html 		
Link to past paper examples	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/btec-awards/health-and-social-care/2022/specification-and-sample-assessments/btec-l1l2-tech-award-health-social-care-bhs03-sept-2022.pdf 		
Link to associated mark schemes/ annotated exemplar answers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/btec-awards/health-and-social-care/2022/specification-and-sample-assessments/btec-tech-award-hsc-comp-3-addsam-mark-scheme.docx 		

Health & Social Care



Unit for delivery:	UNIT 3 – HEALTH AND WELLBEING
Supporting with Revision	
Exam preparation	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WYdNyAnEcQc
Revision video	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iP1qwexp8C8
	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l_BajWmHh94
Enrichment and relevant Wide Horizons	
	https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/btec-tec-awards/health-and-social-care/2022/specification-and-sample-assessments/btec-tech-award-health-and-social-care-sams-comp-3.pdf
Learning Aim A	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nzVh6fd9wCo
	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sRtrKVwllpM
Learning Aim B	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zULFA71u9eE
Learning Aim C	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NGnwCrP2O5M
	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h20SIhv2Fdw
Advocacy	https://www.advocacyfocus.org.uk/what-we-do
Equality and diversity	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y980OX8Nc0U

