



HARROGATE
GRAMMAR SCHOOL
EXCELLENCE FOR ALL



Year 11 Supporting Success Information Evening

Key Dates:

Mock Exams

- w/c 10, 17 and 24 November
- w/c 23 February and 2 March (English, Maths and Science)

Year 11 Parents Evening – In School

Tuesday 9 December 4pm to 7pm

Study leave commences

Friday 22 May afternoon – post Year 11 leavers assembly

GCSE exams commence

w/c 4 May

Parent/Child/School – How can we be the most productive together?

- **Attendance**
- Keeping up to date
 - Parent letters and Website
 - Supporting Success Showbie Group
 - Half termly HGS Newsletter and weekly Student Newsletter
 - Arbor
 - Class Charts
- **‘The Plan’**
 - Finding Time – fun stuff 1st - Fill in the gaps
 - Prioritise – Sports, Social, Hobbies, TV, Jobs
 - Doing the Work – Timetable



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	
07:00								
08:00	SCHOOL						Sleep In	
09:00								
10:00						Hockey		
11:00								
12:00								
13:00								
14:00								
15:00								
16:00								
17:00								
18:00		Swimming		Swimming		Out With Friends		
19:00								
20:00				Cinema				
21:00								
22:00								
23:00								
00:00								

Procrastination

Reason - No motivation

Solution - Set a clear and specific goal

Reason - Overwhelmed

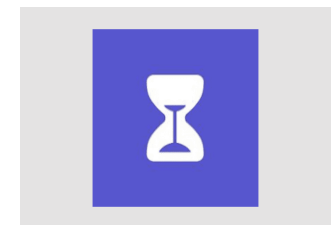
Solution - Break the work down, create a list

Reason - Dislike the work

Solution - Bribery, work with friends/parents

Reason - Social Media

Solution - Hold, Focus Me, Restrain Yourself



Support for Students in School

- Showbie Group – Supporting Success in Year 11
- Assemblies
 - Effective study strategies, coping with stress and anxiety, 6th form student perspectives, post 16 pathways, motivation.
- Staff/Student and 6th Form student/student mentors
- Supported lunchtime study groups
- Supported afterschool study groups
- Targeted and general afterschool revision and masterclasses
- Easter Revision
- Breakfast clubs
- Saturday School
- Harrogate Grammar School - Red Kite Learning Trust - Home



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KS4

Supporting Success

English





English at HGS will foster a **life-long love of English**.

- English will teach students to **communicate** orally and in writing **with conviction** and **precision**; to develop an **independent voice** underpinned by the **wide vocabulary** necessary to express it. This will include the rhetoric of effective engagement.
- Students will **read widely** and learn to **decode inferentially** and **metaphorically, evaluate** the impact of language effectively and recognise patterning and literary tropes.
- Our curriculum will teach students key literary contextual knowledge and cultural capital from which to build skills and develop as **empathetic global citizens**.



2025 results:

- Best English outcomes

9-7 = 41%

9-5 = 78%

9-4 = 89%



English Language Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing

Section A: Reading

- One literature fiction text (e.g. extract from 'Jamaica Inn' or 'Brighton Rock')

Section B: Writing

- Descriptive or narrative writing (e.g. response to picture)
- **Assessed through:**
- Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- 80 marks
- 50% of GCSE



English Language Paper 2: Writers' viewpoints and perspectives

- **Section A : Reading**
- One non-fiction text (e.g. article from a broadsheet newspaper) and one literary non-fiction text (e.g. letter from 19th Century)
- **Section B: Writing**
- Writing to present a viewpoint
- **Assessed through:**
- Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- 80 marks
- 50% of GCSE



English Literature Paper 1

Shakespeare and the 19th Century Novel

- **SECTION A One Shakespeare play**
"Macbeth"
- **SECTION B One 19th Century novel**
"Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde"
- Assessed through:
Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
64 marks (4 for SPAG)
40% of GCSE



English Literature Paper 2

Modern Texts and Poetry

- **SECTION A Post 1014 Prose fiction**
"Animal Farm"
- **SECTION B One Poetry Cluster from AQA**
Power and Conflict poetry
Unseen poetry analysis
Comparison of unseen poetry
- Assessed through:
Written exam: 2 hour 15 minutes
96 marks
60% of GCSE

Setting in English

Left	Right	Minimum Expected Grade
L1	R1	7
L2	R2	7
L3	R3	7
L4	R4	6
L5	R5	5

- Attendance to lessons and intervention sessions: Tuesday Period 1, Wednesday Period 6
- Home Learning – 2 per week – Revision based. One Language, One Literature.
- Own revision – students will be shown how to independently revise.
- Big Lectures.
- Ask your child the big question – What is the main message of the text they are studying?
- Read over your child's work for clarity and literacy.
- Encourage independent reading of fiction and non-fiction.
- Debate key issues – encourage your child to share their viewpoint on key issues.

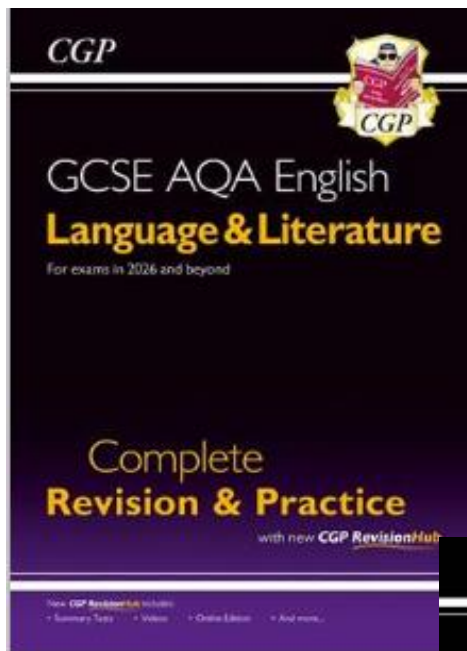


English Language Revision Bingo - Knowledge & Application

Watch a <u>youtube</u> clip of an English teacher focusing on a specific question and make a list of the top 5 pieces of advice given.	EMC Language revision booklet pg6 & 7– complete a <u>paper 1 Q2</u> under timed conditions (10 mins)	Write down the timings for each question for each paper on a flashcard.	Read the beginning of a fiction novel and identify 6 features of descriptive language being used.
EMC Language revision booklet pg10-15) - complete a <u>paper 2 Q2</u> under timed conditions (10 mins)	Find your own article in a newspaper or online news website – identify the viewpoint of the article – find evidence which shows this viewpoint.	EMC Language revision booklet pg6 & 7– complete a <u>paper 1 Q3</u> under timed conditions (10 mins)	Complete an activity from pages 30 & 31 of the EMC Language revision booklet focusing on writing descriptively.
Read the model answer to <u>paper 2 Q2</u> and compare it your answer on <u>pg 49</u> of the EMC Language booklet.	Watch a BBC Bitesize video and take the spelling test: Spelling strategies - Spelling - AQA - GCSE English Language Revision - AQA - BBC Bitesize	Read the model answer to <u>paper 1 Q3</u> and compare it your answer on <u>pg 41</u> of the EMC Language booklet.	Complete an activity from pages 20, 21, 22 or 23 of the EMC Language revision <u>booklet</u> focusing on improving analysis and inference.
EMC Language revision booklet <u>pg 16</u> – plan a response to <u>paper 2 Q5</u> under timed conditions (10 mins)	Make a mind-map of the key features of writing to argue.	Watch a video of a famous speech and identify 6 rhetorical features used.	EMC Language revision booklet <u>pg 9</u> – plan a response to <u>paper 1 Q5</u> under timed conditions (10 mins)

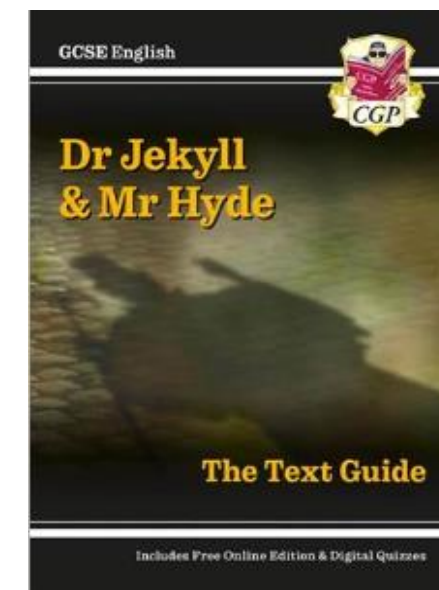
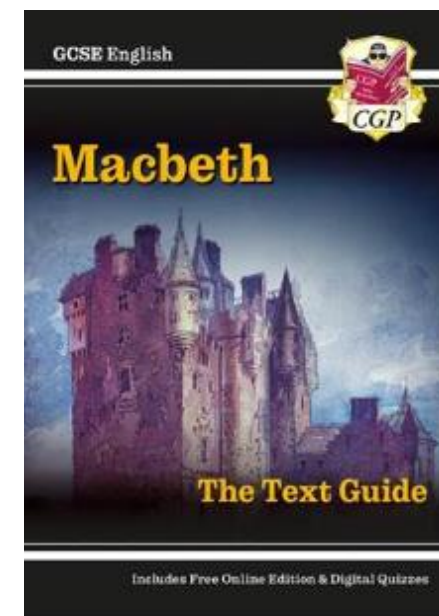
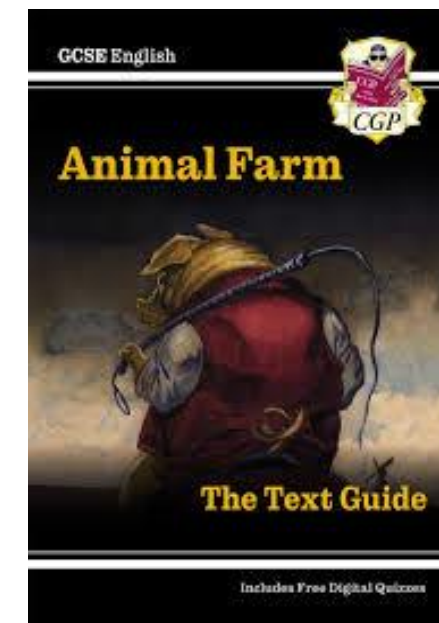
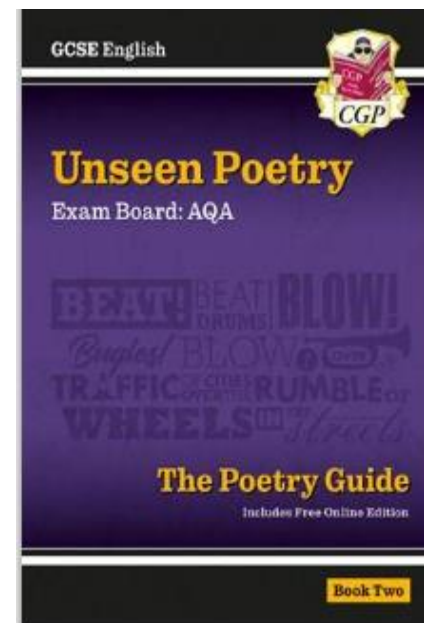
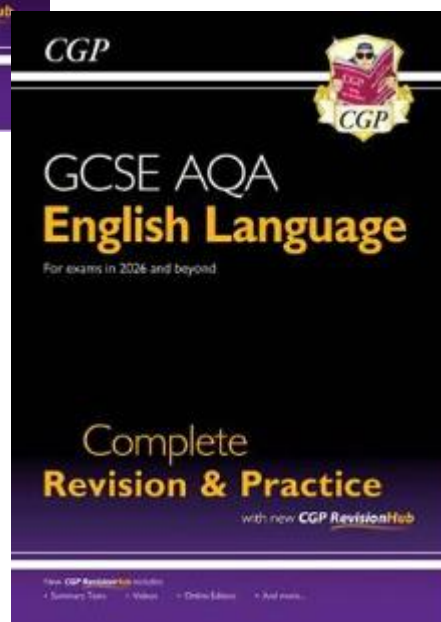


■ Revision Guides:

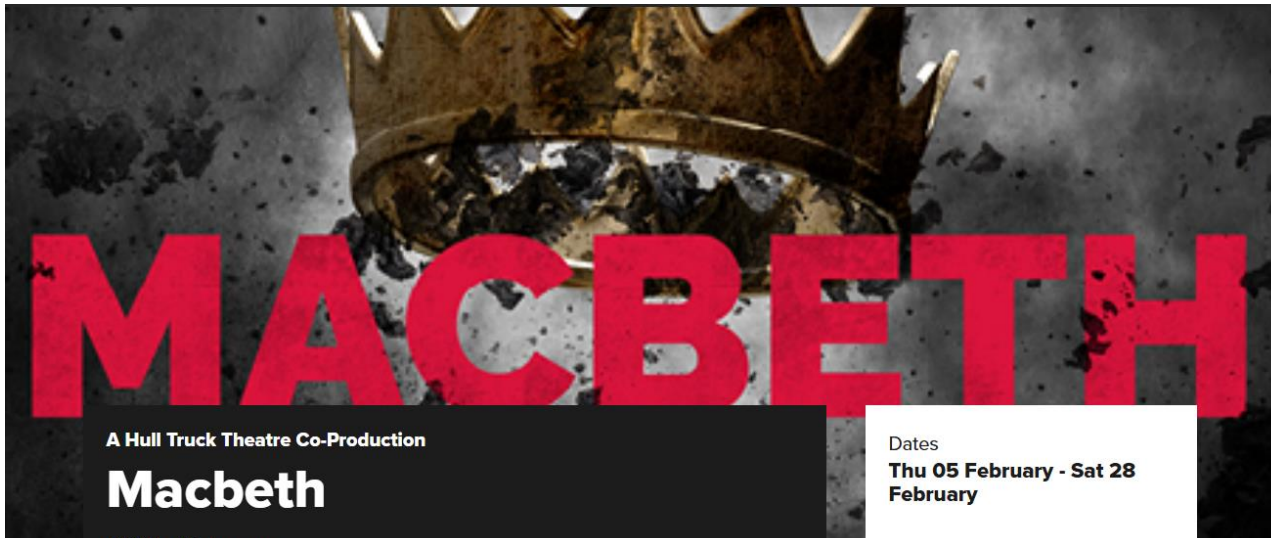


Reputable on-line
revision sources:

- Mr Bruff – Youtube
- BBC Bitesize
- Collins online
- AI Platforms



Watch texts in performance



A Hull Truck Theatre Co-Production

Macbeth

By William Shakespeare

HELL IS MURKY

In a country ravaged by war and rebellion, a fragile peace has finally broken out across an exhausted and wounded land.

Macbeth, returning from battle, meets three witches bearing a strange and fateful prophecy that begins a chain of bloody and brutal events.

Dates
Thu 05 February - Sat 28 February

Venue
Stage 1, Hull Truck Theatre

Tickets
£32 - £11
Concessions Available

DRAMA DEAL

[BUY TICKETS](#)



**Revision On Tour: Dr Jekyll &
Mr Hyde**
Grand Opera House York

Yr11 student comment

"Hello Sir,

I would love to share what I did to revise and what I found useful.

I found that writing practice questions/ papers every week (during class and at home) and getting them marked helped me to learn the structure of the exams and allowed me to improve. I was able to recognise my mistakes and receive constructive criticism for next time.

I used my time outside of school to continue to use online resources, make flash cards and posters on themes and quotes. This led me to eventually start a routine of completing past papers. In addition, it increased my confidence during lessons and for the final exams.

The continued support from teachers let me know that I could always ask for help when I needed it.

Thank you again for your support. "



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Supporting Success Maths



Key Contact



Jason Hill
Assistant Headteacher
Maths

Mr Hill
Assistant Headteacher - Maths
HillJ@hgs.rklt.co.uk



The Maths Faculty - Vision

Maths at HGS aims to **spark a passion in maths** for all students, no matter what their starting point is, through the beauty of **discovering patterns, making connections and looking for the 'why'** behind mathematical formulae.

Results

GCSE	2025	National 2025
9%	5	3
% 9-8	20	10
% 9-7	32	18
% 9-6	46	28
% 9-5	73	44
% 9-4	88	62

Other highlights:

- SEN: Maths improvement stands out – 58% (9–5) vs 46% last year.



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Legacy

65% of students in the Sixth Form
take a Maths course



Legacy – Year 13 and 12 Results (2025)

- A Level Maths: 36% of students achieved an A* grade. 69% achieved A*-A.
- A Level Further Maths: 41% of students achieved an A* grade. 73% achieved A*-A.
- Core Maths: 25% of students achieved an A grade. 76% achieved an A-C.
- AS Maths: 57% of students achieved an A grade. 71% achieved A-B.

Maths GCSE 9-1



- Exam board – **Edexcel**.
- Three equally-weighted written examination papers.
- Paper 1 is a non-calculator exam, and a calculator is allowed for Paper 2 and Paper 3.
- Each paper is 1 hour and 30 minutes long.
- Each paper has 80 marks.

Tiering



- Two tiers of entry for Maths GCSE
- Higher – Grades 9-4 Foundation – Grades 5-1
- Higher Tier contains additional harder content not assessed on Foundation Tier
- Final decisions about tiering are not made until later in Year 11, but students 'on track' for one or the other depending on their set

GCSE 9-1 grade boundaries

- Higher Tier

Grade	2019	2022	2023	2024	2025
4	18%	21%	20%	17.5%	22%
5	33%	30%	33%	30%	36%
7	57%	65%	60%	57%	65%
9	83%	81%	85%	82%	90%

- Foundation Tier

Grade	2019	2022	2023	2024	2025
4	51%	56%	61%	59%	60%
5	65%	72%	75%	73%	73%



Maths classes in Year 11

In Maths, there are 5 groups on each side of the year:

11L1				11R1	Groups 1, 2, 3 and 4 are working towards entry on Higher
11L2				11R2	
11L3				11R3	
11L4				11R4	
11L5				10R5	Group 5 is working towards entry on Foundation

The main change this year is full setting has been introduced. Tier decisions, particularly for those students in set 4, will be made around Christmas time in Year 11 after the first round of mock exams. Set 4 students will therefore work towards Foundation tier, but could still be entered for Higher tier, if the mock exam results suggest this is appropriate.

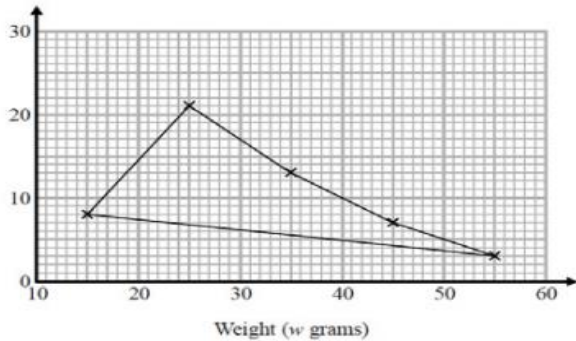
Weighting

	Foundation Tier	Higher Tier
Number	25%	15%
Algebra	20%	30%
Ratio, proportion and rates of change	25%	20%
Geometry and Measures	15%	20%
Statistics	15%	15%
Probability		

21 The table shows some information about the weights of 50 potatoes.

Weight (w grams)	Frequency
$10 < w \leq 20$	6
$20 < w \leq 30$	21
$30 < w \leq 40$	13
$40 < w \leq 50$	7
$50 < w \leq 60$	3

Iveta drew this frequency polygon for the information in the table.
The frequency polygon is **not** fully correct.



Write down **two** things that are wrong with the frequency polygon.

1.....

.....

2.....

.....

(Total for Question 21 is 2 marks)

GCSE 9-1

14 Saffron wants to work out an estimate for the total number of fish in a lake.

On Friday, Saffron catches 180 fish from the lake.
She puts a tag on each of these fish and puts them back into the lake.

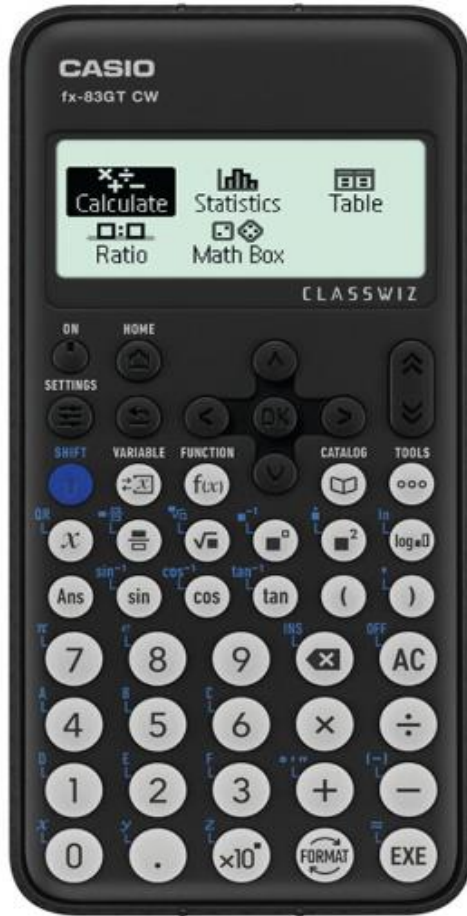
On Saturday, Saffron catches 305 fish from the same lake.
She finds that 45 of the 305 fish are tagged.

Work out an estimate for the total number of fish in the lake.

.....
(Total for Question 14 is 3 marks)

- Greater emphasis on problem solving
- Greater requirements to apply techniques
- Range of question types; some questions will be set in both mathematical and non-mathematical contexts

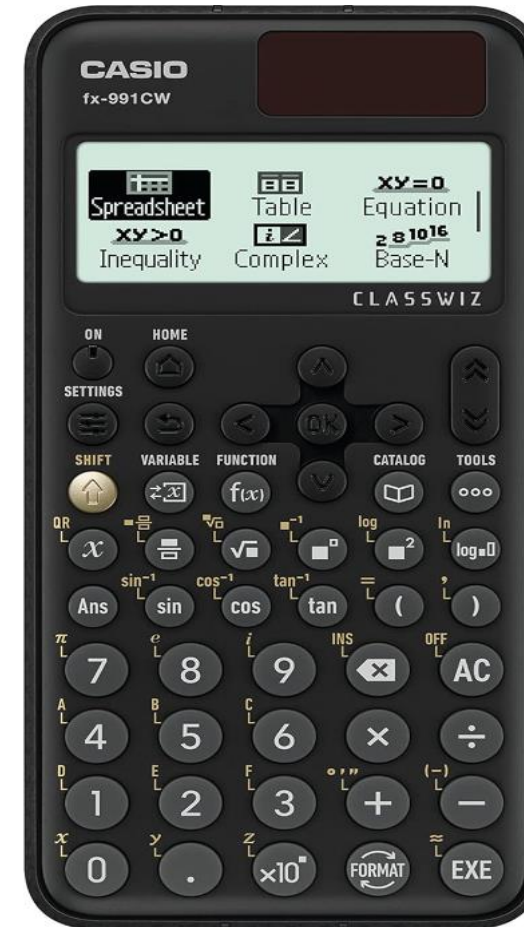
Which calculator?



This calculator can be purchased via most stationery shops and supermarkets (as well as online).

**Casio fx-
83GT CW**

**2/3 of GCSE Maths
requires confident use of
a scientific calculator**

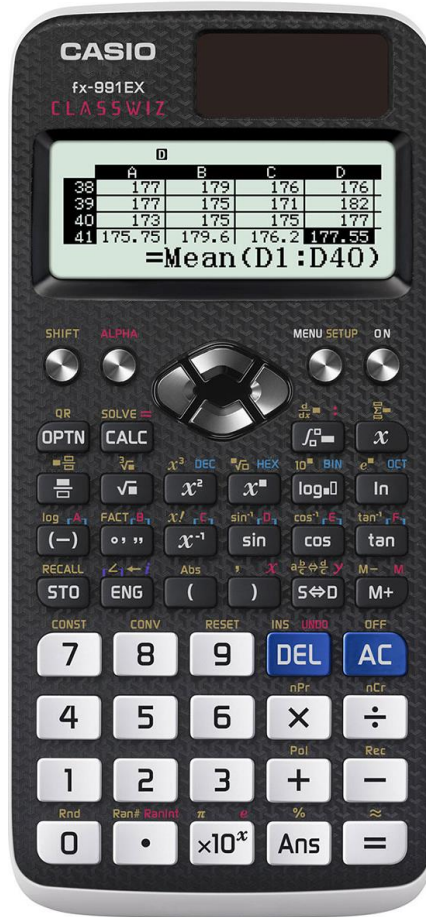


This calculator can be purchased via Arbor School Shop for a discounted price of £20.75. If you would like to purchase, please select this product from Arbor Shop (via Arbor Parent app).

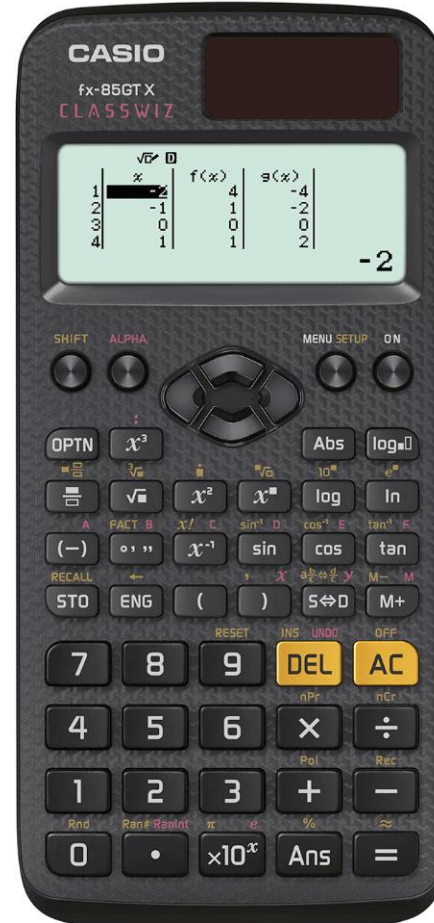
**Casio fx-
991 CW**

This is ideal if you plan to study GCSE Further Maths, or any Maths course in 6th Form.

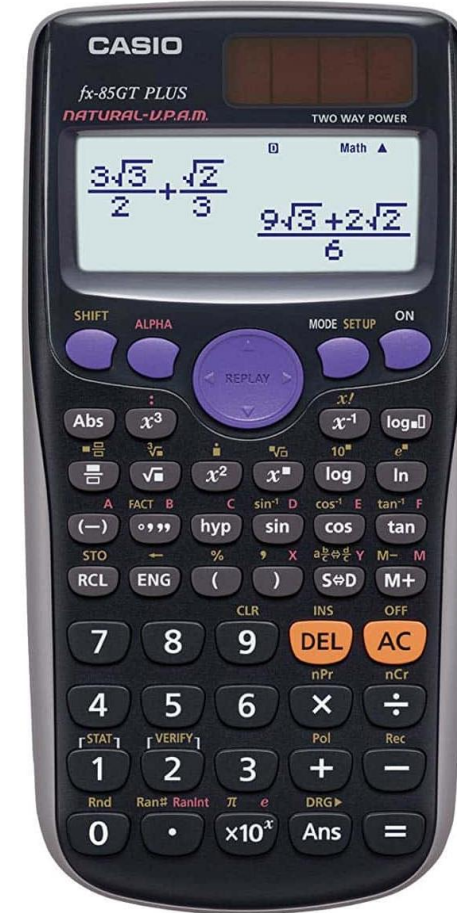
These are the previous models



Casio fx-991EX



Casio fx-85GTX



Casio fx-85GT PLUS

Home Learning (2 assignments)

- Please ensure you child completes their weekly assignments.
- Up to 60 minutes of home learning on Sparx Maths.
- Up to 20 minutes on 'GCSE Exam Question' – these are designed as retrieval style questions, giving students exposure to past paper questions.



Y11 Higher Exam Question Homework Week 1

Solve the simultaneous equations

$$2x - 5y = 13$$

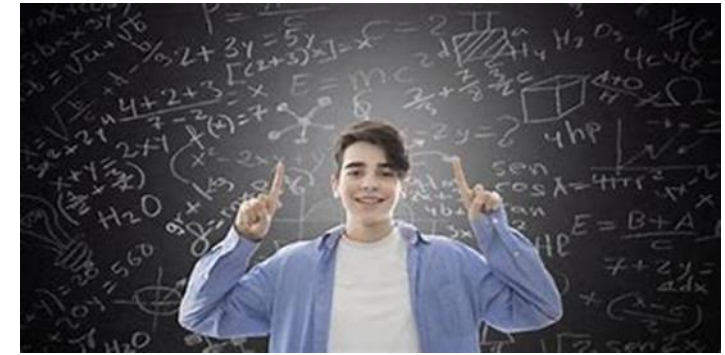
$$3x + 4y = 8$$

[4 marks]

GCSEs



Additional Sessions



- Encourage your child to attend all extra Maths sessions.
- We run Tuesday lunchtime Sparx Drop Ins. A perfect opportunity to get support with the weekly two home learning assignments!
- We run Wednesday Lesson 6 GCSE Maths Drop Ins in A39. An excellent chance to go through topics being covered in lessons, as well as past papers.
- We will also be running further timetabled interventions throughout this year. These will be assigned on Arbor.

What can you do to help?



- Ensure your child completes their 2 assignments each week (100% on Sparx, the GCSE Exam question via Showbie).
- Invest in a new scientific calculator if your child currently does not own one - 2/3 of GCSE Maths requires a calculator. Your child needs to feel confident using one!
- Encourage your child to attend all extra Maths sessions, including: Tuesday lunchtime Sparx Drop Ins, Wednesday Lesson 6 in A39, any other timetabled interventions.

Please get in touch if you have any questions



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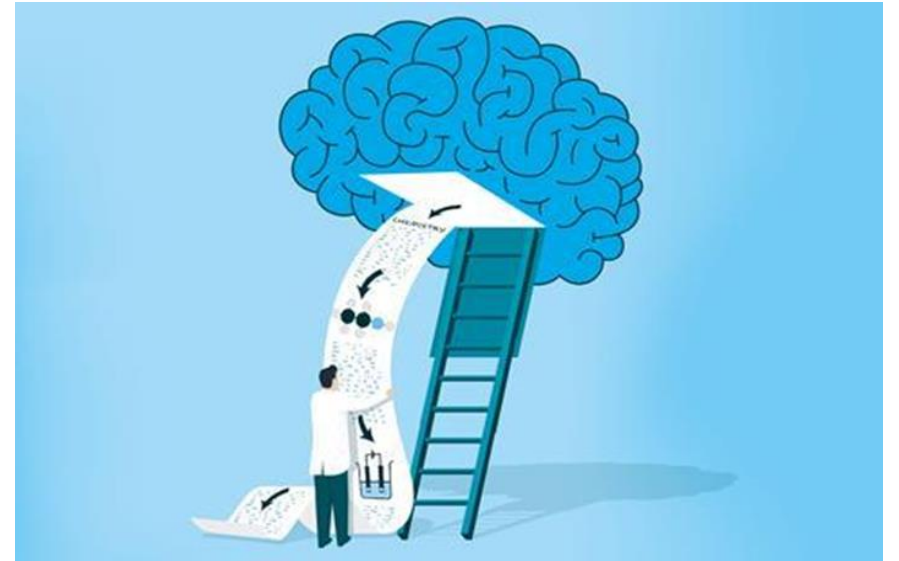
Supporting Success Science





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Science Revision



What to revise

AQA GCSE Combined Science Trilogy

Individual Papers (1 hour 15 minutes)

- Biology Paper 1
- Biology Paper 2
- Chemistry Paper 1
- Chemistry Paper 2
- Physics Paper 1
- Physics Paper 2

x 2 GCSEs

AQA

GCSE

What to revise

Triple Science

Individual Papers (1 hour 45 minutes)

AQA GCSE Biology

- Biology Paper 1
- Biology Paper 2

AQA GCSE Chemistry

- Chemistry Paper 1
- Chemistry Paper 2

AQA GCSE Physics

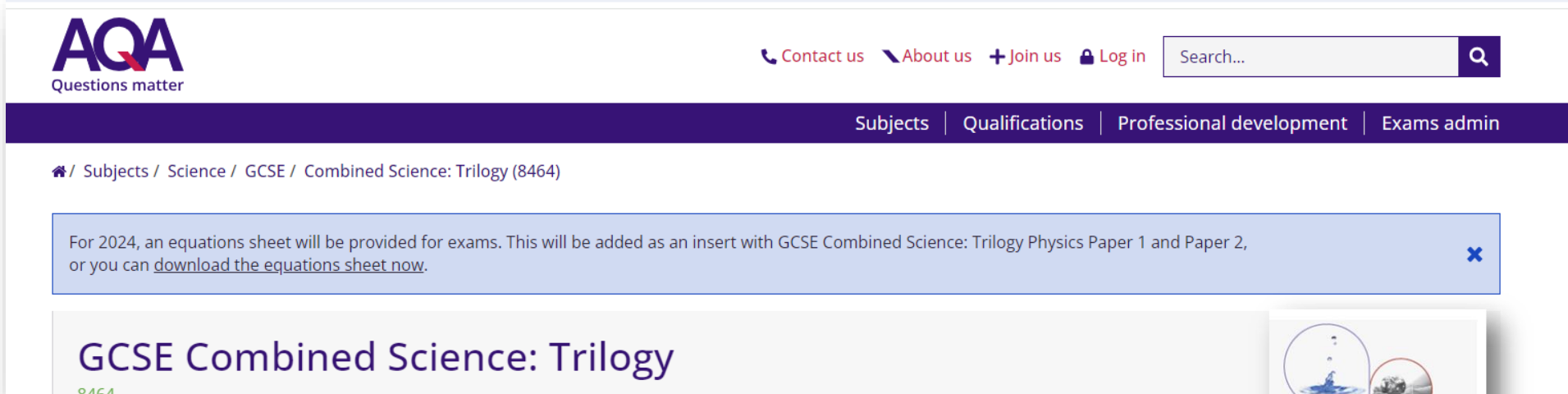
- Physics Paper 1
- Physics Paper 2

x 3 GCSEs

AQA
GCSE

Where to find more information?

AQA Website



The screenshot shows the AQA website header with the logo 'AQA Questions matter'. Navigation links include 'Contact us', 'About us', 'Join us', and 'Log in'. A search bar is present. A purple navigation bar contains links for 'Subjects', 'Qualifications', 'Professional development', and 'Exams admin'. Below this, a breadcrumb trail reads 'Subjects / Science / GCSE / Combined Science: Trilogy (8464)'. A blue notification box states: 'For 2024, an equations sheet will be provided for exams. This will be added as an insert with GCSE Combined Science: Trilogy Physics Paper 1 and Paper 2, or you can [download the equations sheet now](#).' The main heading 'GCSE Combined Science: Trilogy' is displayed with the code '8464' below it.

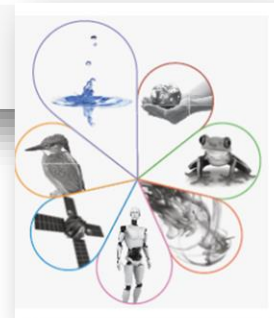
Showbie



Paper 1 Revision
4 assignments



Paper 2 Revision
no assignments



How to revise?

Some Useful Resources

- **Showbie**

- **Google Drive**

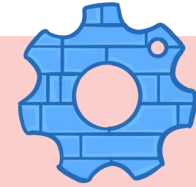


- Recommended revision guides

- BBC Bitesize **BBC BITESIZE**

- **Seneca Learning**

- **Cognito Edu**



- ***Educake***

- **Isaac Physics**



- **Brainscape (Biology)**



- **Oak National Academy**

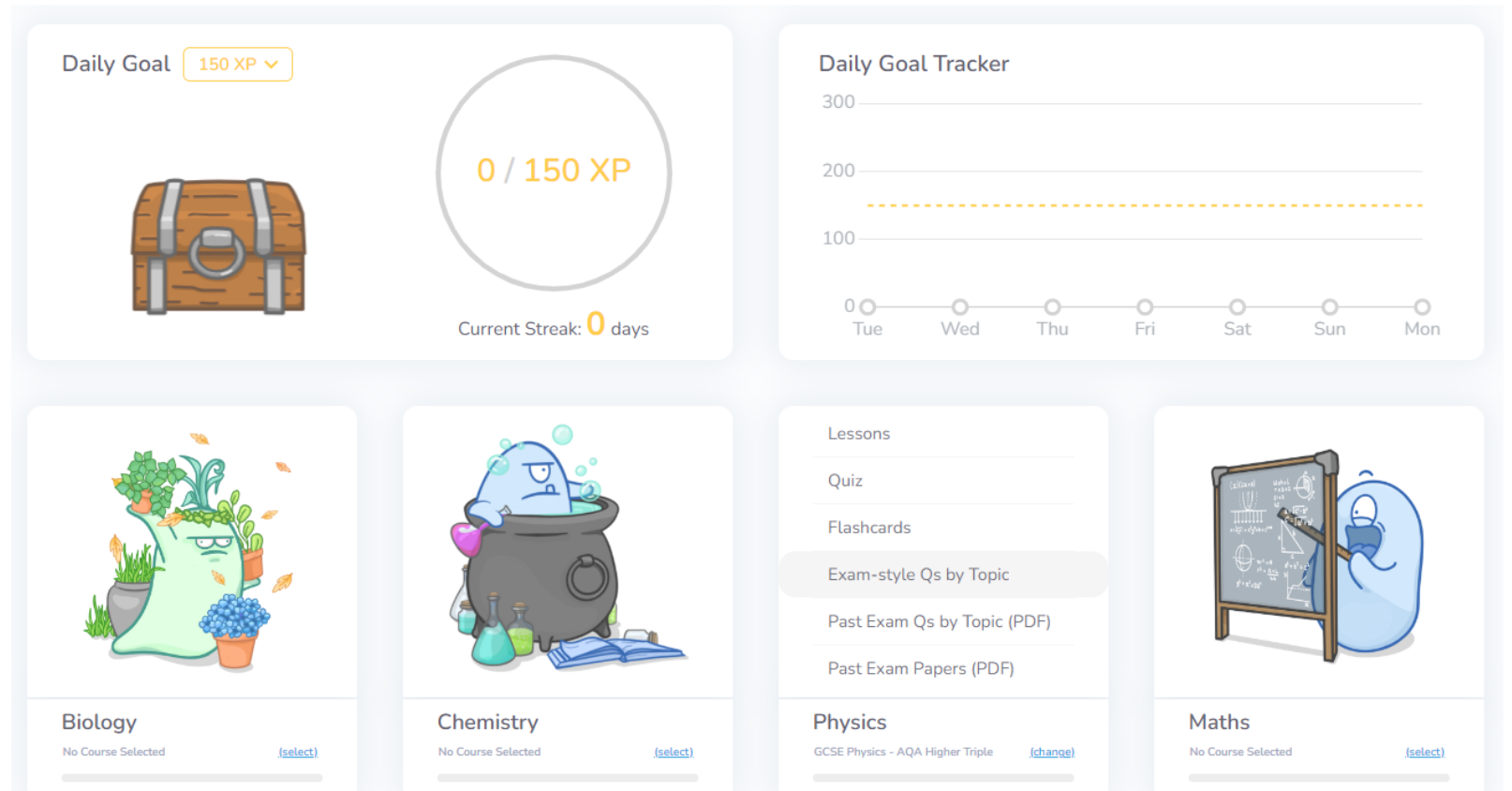


How to revise?

Cognito



Cognito - Learn
GCSE Maths,
Biology, Physics
and Chemistry
(cognitoedu.org)



How to revise?

Google Drive



Shared with me > GCSE Science 1-9

Type People Modified

Name ↑

- GCSE Astronomy 1-9
- GCSE Biology 1-9
- GCSE Chemistry 1-9
- GCSE Physics 1-9
- Maths Skills for Science
- Science For Society

- 1) Past Paper Questions
- 2) Physics Equations
- 3) Knowledge Maps and Revision PowerPoints
- 4) PowerPoints and Worksheets
- 5) Physics videos
- 6) Physics Homework Plan and Homework Booklets
- Old Specification GCSE Physics
- Physics Stretch & Challenge
- Recovery Curriculum
- Revision Sessions
- End of year 9 revision PHYSICS booklet (002).docx
- Quizlets
- Y11 Combined Foundation SPM1 Assessment MS.docx

Name ↑

- Answers
- ConservationanddissipationofEnergy.pdf
- EnergyChangesinaSystem
- EnergyChangesinaSystem.pdf
- Methodsofgeneratingelectricity1.pdf
- Methodsofgeneratingelectricity2.pdf

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0B2h98W2gK1SYRUhKVXJtMWpsSGc?resourcekey=0-PoPdIGjuXE4YhzU59-Dz6Q&usp=sharing>

Revision Activities

- Best place for up-to-date and bespoke revision resources is Showbie.

Review content using:-

- Showbie Resources
- BBC bitesize
- Seneca Learning
- Cognito Edu
- Oak Academy
- ***Brainscape - Biology***

Test knowledge using:-

- Showbie Resources
- Seneca Learning
- Cognito Edu
- Oak Academy
- ***Brainscape - Biology***
- ****Educake****

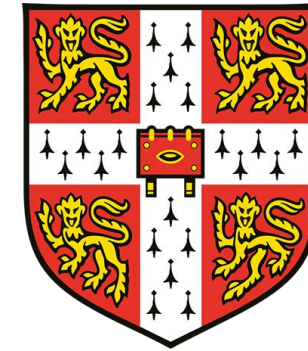
Apply knowledge:-

- Showbie Resources
- ***Isaac Physics – Physics***
- ****Educake****
- Google Drive
- ***Exam Questions***

Exam Practice:-

- Showbie Resources
- Google Drive
- ***Exam Questions***

Exciting Initiatives



- COMPOS (Comprehensive Oxford Mathematics and Physics Online School)
 - <https://compos.web.ox.ac.uk/>
- Isaac Science Mentoring Scheme
 - https://isaacscience.org/pages/isaac_mentor

Wider Support



- Science Masterclasses will be published in the student newsletters.
- Tuesday lunch Science drop-in A16.
- Big Picture and Wednesday Period 6 support for targeted students.
- Science Revision Sessions TBC.

Sixth Form Open Evening



Wednesday 22 October

4pm to 6pm or
6.30pm to 8.30pm

Reserve your place using the link
below.

<http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/harrogate-grammar-school> 

Questions and Answers

Question	Answer
Which calculator is best for students?	Casio FX83GT CW
Are there any poems we can purchase?	The students are provided with a brand-new anthology book in Year 10.
Are there any revision sessions?	Yes, these will take place in the Easter break and May half term for Year 11 students.
Which revision guides should we purchase?	A separate letter will be sent to parents in the next couple of weeks detailing the recommended revision guides for each subject.
Is there a timetable for interventions/additional support?	Yes, this will be sent to all students later this term. Some students will be asked to attend certain sessions which should take priority. We have tried to space out all subjects as much as possible to ensure students can attend as many as they can.
When will the Year 11 curriculum content be complete?	Subjects will finish at different points depending on the volume of the content. Students have access to what they will be studying each half term within their Showbie folders.