



HARROGATE
GRAMMAR SCHOOL
EXCELLENCE FOR ALL



Year 11 Supporting Success Information Evening

Key Dates:



Mock Exams

- w/c 9, 16 and 23 November – results handed to students Monday 7 December
- w/c 22 February and 1 March (English, Maths and Science)

Year 11 Parents Evening – In School

Tuesday 8 December 4pm to 7pm

Sixth Form

- Wednesday 21 October – Sixth Form Open Evening
- Wednesday 13 January – Sixth Form Taster Day

Revision sessions

- Saturday mornings – 6 & 13 March, 10, 17 & 24 April – 10am to 1pm
- Easter revision – w/c 22 March

Study leave commences

Friday 28 May afternoon – post Year 11 leavers assembly

GCSE exams – provisional dates

From w/c 10 May to 18 June 2027 (contingency day 23 June 2027)

Results day – Thursday 19 August 2027

Parent/Child/School

How can we be the most productive together?

- **Attendance**
- **Keeping up to date**
 - Parent letters and Website
 - Supporting Success Showbie Group
 - Parent and Student weekly bulletin
 - Arbor
 - Class Charts
- **'The Plan'**
 - Finding Time – fun stuff first - 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

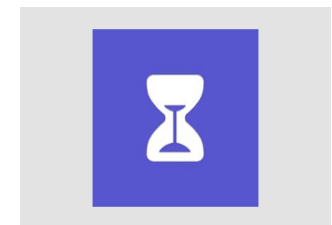
Solution - Break the work down, create a list

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 Folder – Supporting Success in Year 11

Assemblies covering effective revision strategies, coping with stress and anxiety, Sixth Form perspectives, post 16 pathways, motivation

Mentors – staff/student, Year 12/student

Revision and masterclasses

- Targeted and whole year group sessions after school
- Breakfast clubs
- Lunchtime study
- Easter revision
- Saturday morning revision (March and April)

Support webpage <https://www.harrogategrammar.co.uk/parentscarers/year-11-support/>



Mentoring
EDITABLE STROKE





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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**.



2026 results:

- Best English outcomes

9-7 = 32%

9-5 = 77%

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	5
L4	R4	5
L5	R5	5

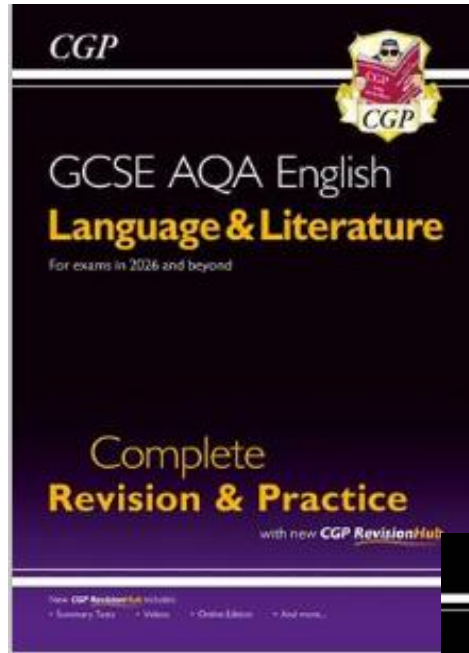
- Attendance to lessons and intervention sessions: Tuesday Period 1, Wednesday Period 6
- Home Learning – 2 per week – Revision based. One – Sparx Set Texts, One Literature.
- Own revision – students will be shown how to independently revise.
- Big Lectures.
- Ask your child the big question – What is 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

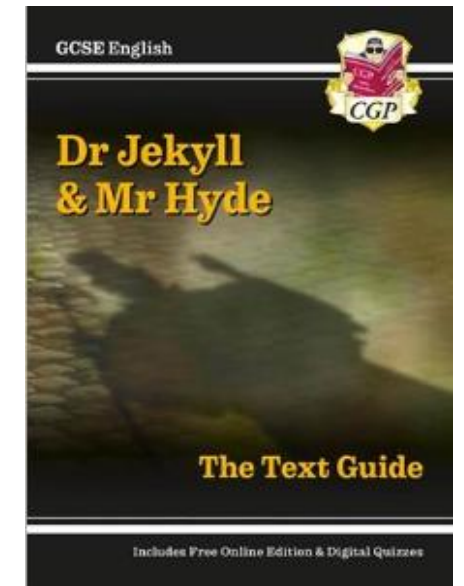
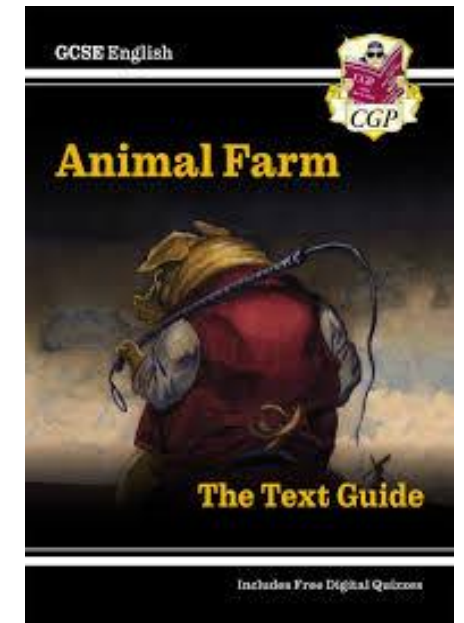
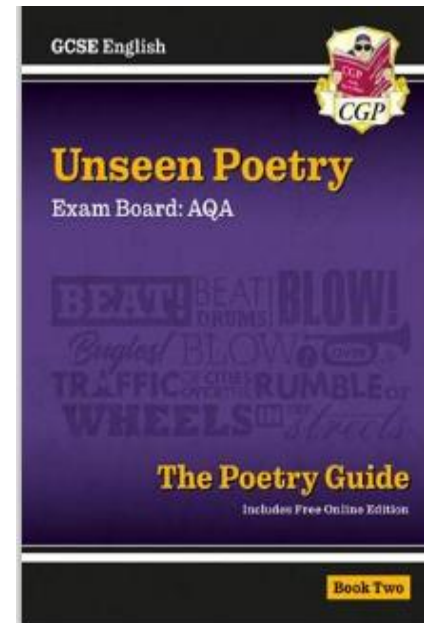
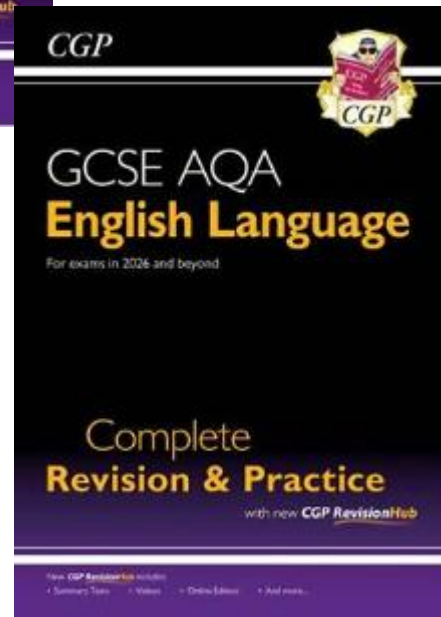
Watch a <u>youtube</u> clip of an English teacher focusing on a specific question and make a list of the top 5 pieces of advice given.	EMC Language revision booklet pg6 & 7– complete a <u>paper 1 Q2</u> under timed conditions (10 mins)	Write down the timings for each question for each paper on a flashcard.	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

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CKJvwWyq2z0>



<https://shakespearenorthplayhouse.co.uk/event/macbeth/> runs until Sat 3rd Oct

SHAKESPEARE NORTH PLAYHOUSE

Tue 15 September – Sat 3 October

MACBETH

What would you destroy to get what you want?
A dagger. A crown. The original text.
One musician. Ten storytellers. Fifty candles. A hundred and twenty breathless minutes.
Step into the shadows. Let the scorpions in your mind strike. Watch a world turn inside-out beneath a tyrant's rule.
Ben Crystal returns to Shakespeare North with a fast, spooky, blood-spattered staging of one of William Shakespeare's most famous works: *The Tragedy of Macbeth*—ambition-driven, greed-fueled, grief-filled, revenge-fueled, ghost-haunted... and absolutely cursed.
Something very wicked this way comes.

Produced by
**SHAKESPEARE NORTH
PLAYHOUSE**

Directed, Cursed and Co-facilitated by
BEN CRYSTAL

Music by
SEMY WU

Design and Costumes by
MARK BAILEY

Associate Directed and Co-facilitated by
ANDREW CODISPOTI

Head of Producing
STOBHAN NOBLE

BOOK TICKETS

SHOW DETAILS

Venue Space
Cockpit Theatre

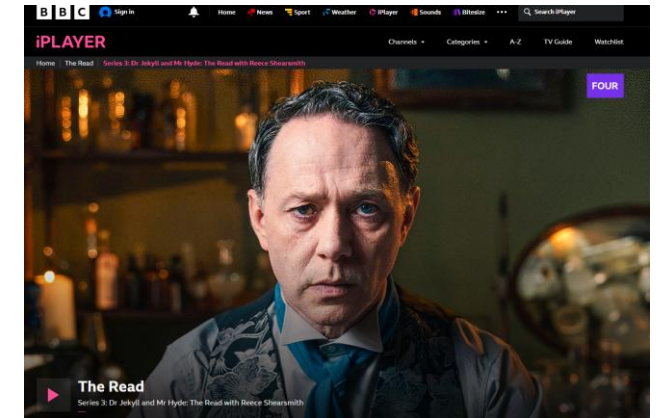
Length
1 hour 50 minutes inc. Interval

Ticket Prices
Tickets from: £12.00

Age Guidance
12+ (Advisory)

ACCESSIBILITY

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m0027pdf/the-read-series-3-dr-jekyll-and-mr-hyde-the-read-with-reece-shearsmith>



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
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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	2026	National 2026
9%	8	3.4
% 9-8	22	9.5
% 9-7	32	16.8
% 9-6	48	26
% 9-5	70	41
% 9-4	85	57.2

Legacy

50% of students in the Sixth Form
take a Maths course

In Year 12, around 200 students
have selected a Maths course.

Legacy – Year 13 and 12 Results (2026)

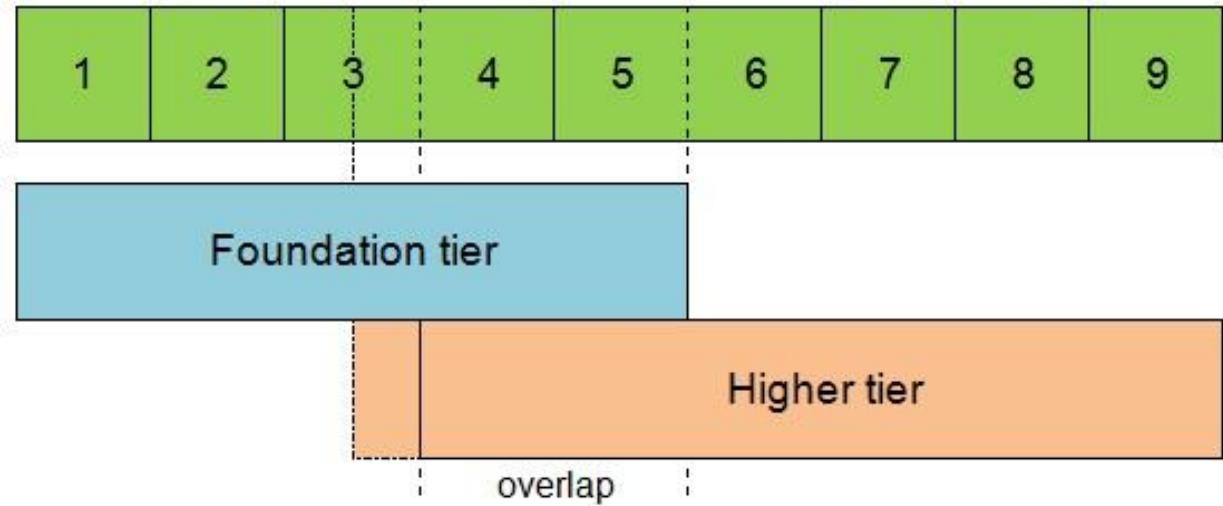
- A Level Maths: 24.4% of students achieved an A* grade.
53.7% achieved A*-A.
- A Level Further Maths: 33% of students achieved an A* grade.
67% achieved A*-A.
- Core Maths: 19.4% of students achieved an A grade.
69.4% achieved an A-C.

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	2026
4	18%	21%	20%	17.5%	22%	21%
5	33%	30%	33%	30%	36%	34%
7	57%	65%	60%	57%	65%	61%
9	83%	81%	85%	82%	90%	87%

- Foundation Tier

Grade	2019	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
4	51%	56%	61%	59%	60%	63%
5	65%	72%	75%	73%	73%	75%

Maths Groupings in Year 11

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

11L1	11R1
11L2	11R2
11L3	11R3
11L4	11R4
11L5	11R5

Groups 1-3 are working towards entry on **Higher tier**. Groups 4-5 are working towards entry on **Foundation tier**.

Tiering is not currently fixed. Final tier decisions will be made as the academic year goes on.

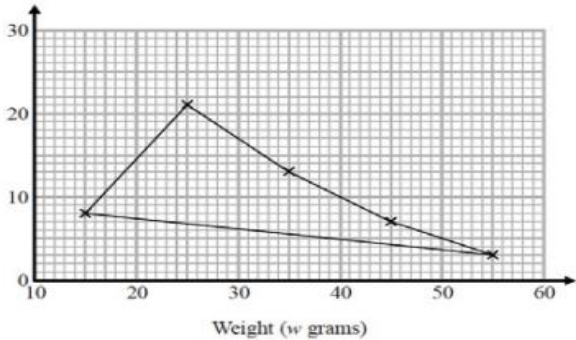
Weighting

	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

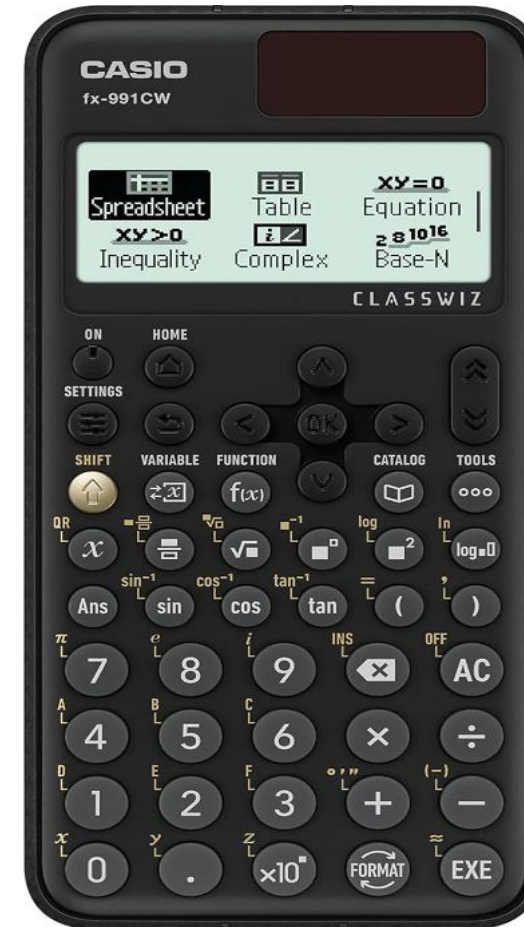
Which calculator?



Casio fx-
83GT CW

← This calculator can be purchased via Arbor School Shop for a discounted price of £9.65. If you would like to purchase, please select this product from Arbor Shop (via Arbor Parent app).

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

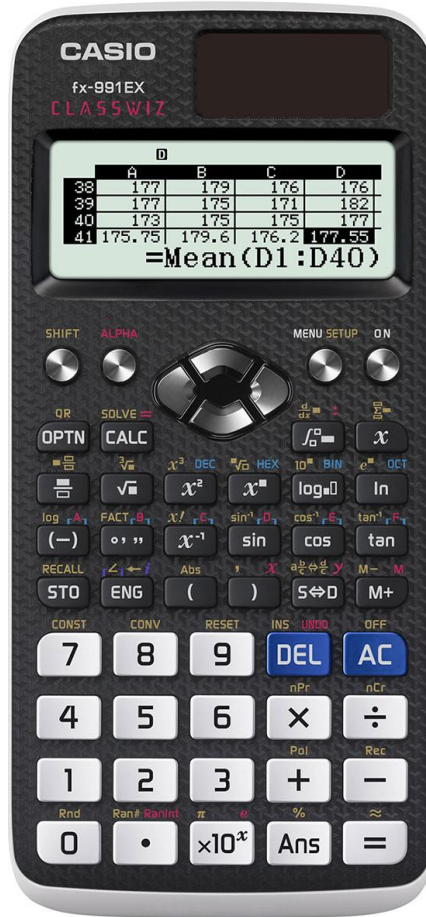


Casio fx-
991 CW

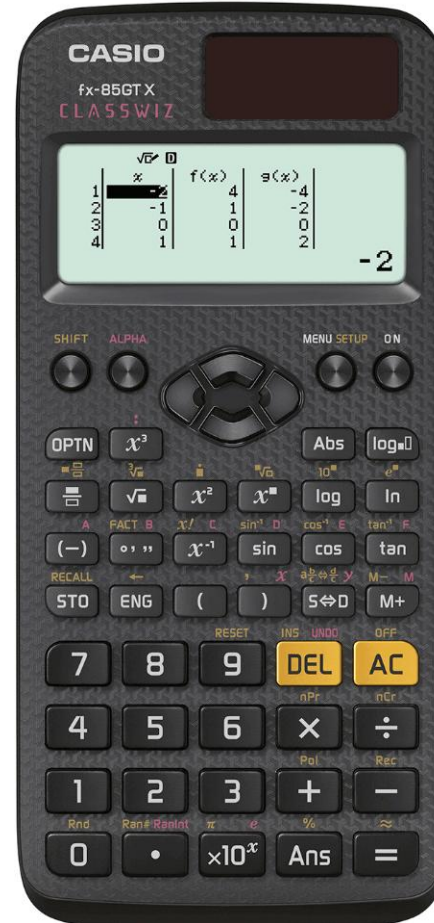
→ This calculator can be purchased via Arbor School Shop for a discounted price of £20.85. If you would like to purchase, please select this product from Arbor Shop (via Arbor Parent app).

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

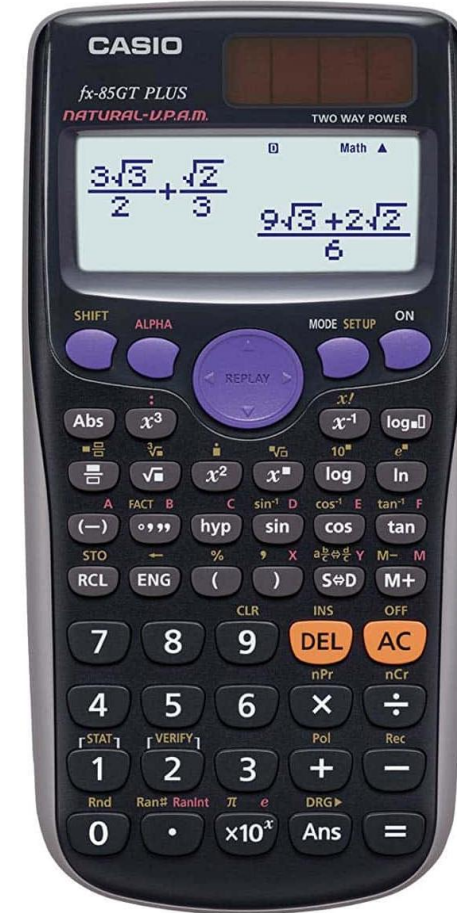
These are the previous models



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

$$2x - 5y = 13$$

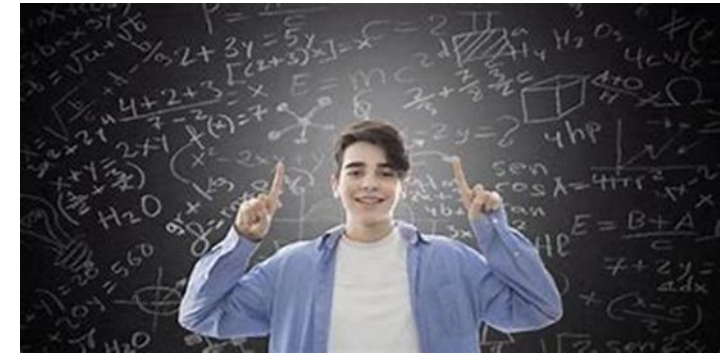
$$3x + 4y = 8$$

[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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Assistant Headteacher
Maths

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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

AQA GCSE Combined Science Synergy

Individual Papers (1 hour 45 minutes)

- Paper 1
- Paper 2
- Paper 3
- Paper 4

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

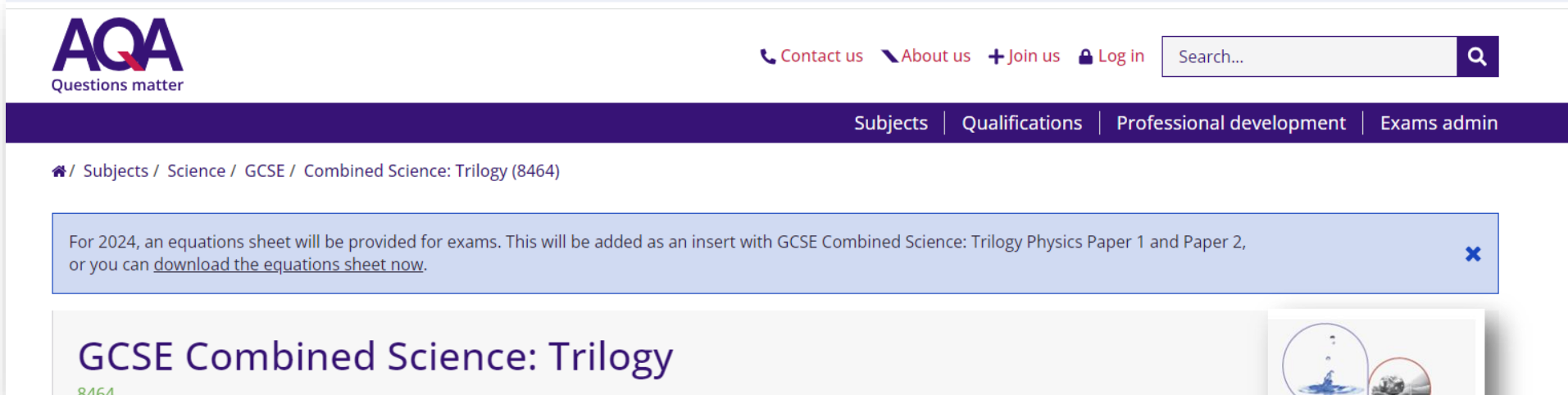
- Physics Paper 1
- Physics Paper 2

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. The main navigation bar lists 'Subjects', 'Qualifications', 'Professional development', and 'Exams admin'. The 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](#).' Below this, the title 'GCSE Combined Science: Trilogy' is displayed with the code '8464' in green.

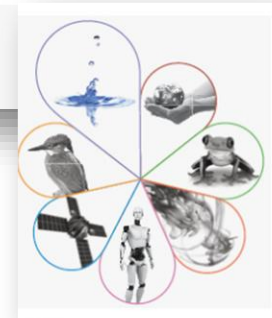
Showbie



Paper 1 Revision
4 assignments



Paper 2 Revision
no assignments



How to revise?

Some Useful Resources

- **Showbie**

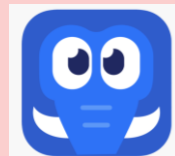
- **Google Drive**



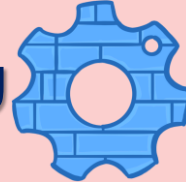
- Recommended revision guides

- BBC Bitesize 

- Simple Study



- **Seneca Learning**

- **Cognito Edu** 

- **Isaac Physics**



- **Brainscape (Biology)**



- Oak National Academy



- **Sparx Science**

Sparx Science



Q1 ✓

Q2 ✓

Q3 ✓

Q4 ✓

Q5 ✓

Q6 ✓

Q7

Q8

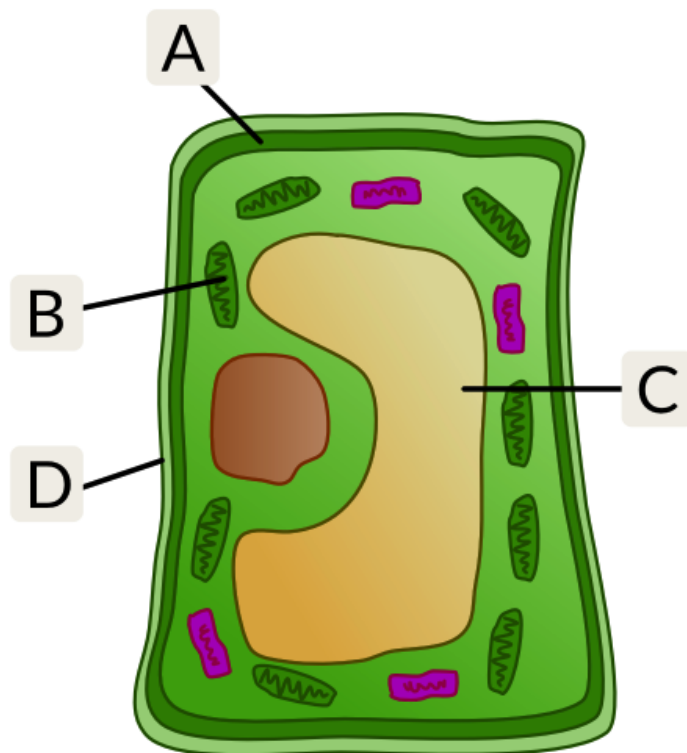
Q9

Q10

Q11

Q12

Q13



The diagram represents a **plant cell**.
Name each labelled part of the cell.

A: cell membrane ✓

B: cloroplast ✓

✓ chloroplast

C: permanent vacuole ✓

D: cell wall ✓

I don't know

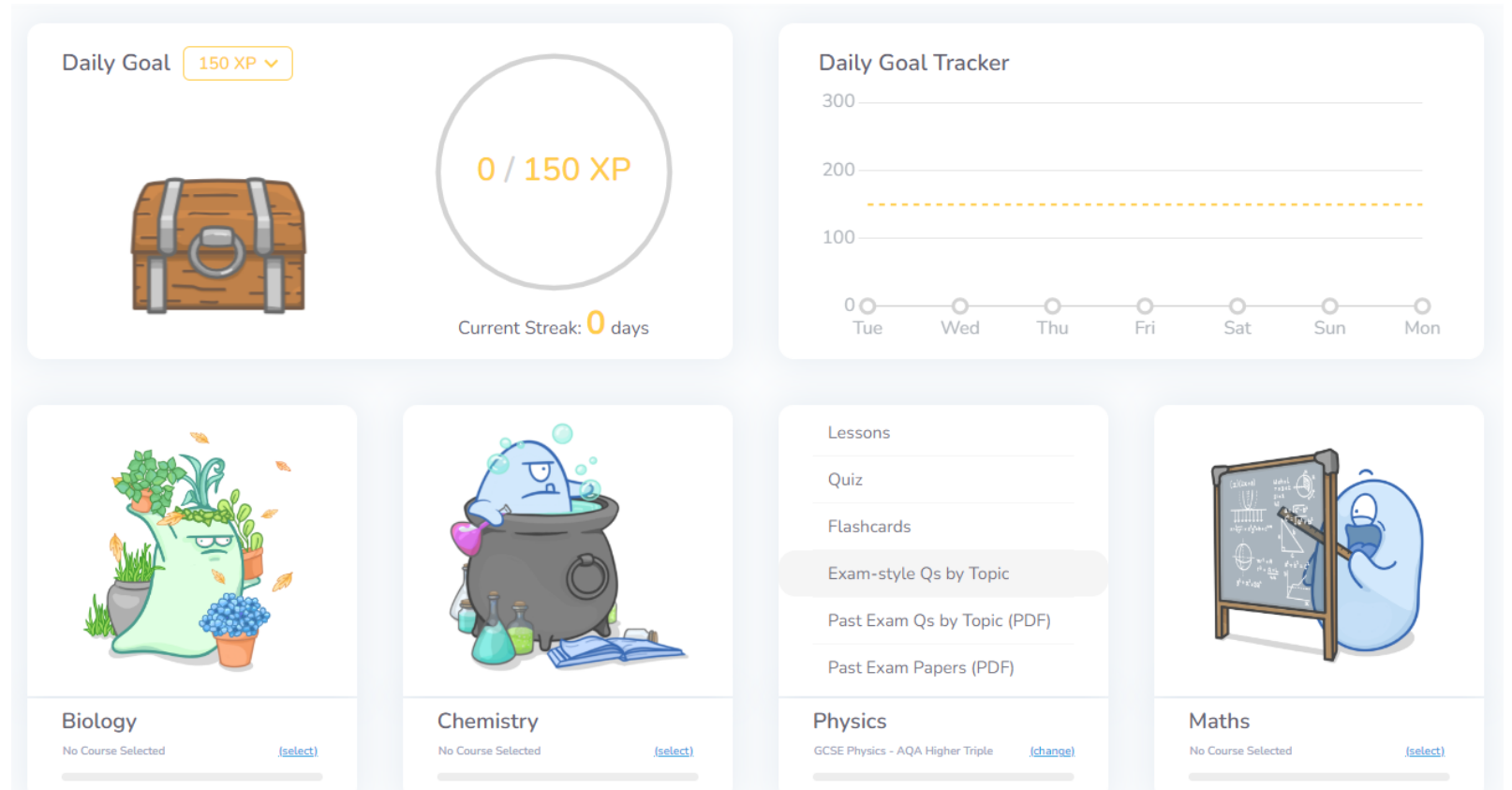
Submit >

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
- Simple Study
- BBC bitesize
- Seneca Learning
- Cognito Edu
- Oak Academy
- Sparx Science
- **Brainscape - Biology**

Test knowledge using:-

- Showbie Resources
- Seneca Learning
- Simple Study
- Cognito Edu
- Oak Academy
- ***Sparx Science***
- **Brainscape - Biology**

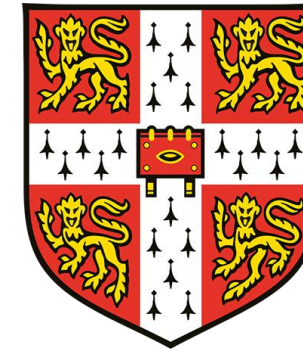
Apply knowledge:-

- Simple Study
- Showbie Resources
- **Isaac Physics – Physics**
- Google Drive
- ***Sparx Science***
- **Exam Questions**

Exam Practice:-

- Simple Study
- 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.
- Big Picture and Wednesday Period 6 support for targeted students.
- Sparx Science Support – Wednesday Lunch time
- Science Revision Sessions TBC.

Sixth Form Open Evening



Wednesday 23 October

Session 1: 4pm to 6pm or
Session 2: 6.30pm to 8.30pm

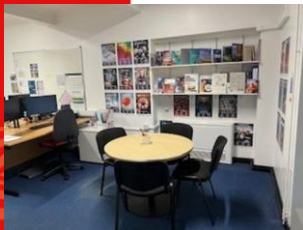
Reserve your place using the link
below.

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



HGS Careers Department Supporting Students During Year 11

- Students are supported at key moments of their journey through secondary school by the Careers Team at HGS.
- **Big Picture lessons, Big Picture Careers Mornings** continue to provide opportunities for students to learn about the different education, training and employment options they can consider for the future. Information and resources are shared with students through Showbie, emails and student bulletins.
- All students in Year 11 are provided with the opportunity to attend a **Year 11 Careers Guidance Meeting** during this term with one of the HGS Careers Advisers. The aim of the meeting is to provide information, impartial advice and guidance about different pathways so students can make decisions about their next steps. They are also offered support with their applications for the next stage of their journey after Year 11 if that would be helpful.
- Students in Year 11 can also **self-refer** at any stage during the year if they have any questions or would like any support. This can be arranged through Form Tutors, Year Managers or by dropping into the **Careers Hub Office** (in the Hub) during break or lunchtimes to speak to a member of the Careers Team.
- Students and parents/carers are also invited to the annual **HGS Careers Fair** which will take place on **Thursday 19 November 2026** from 7pm to 8.30pm in the Sixth Form. Representatives from education and training providers will be attending as well as a range of local and national companies to help inform and inspire students with their next steps.
- For more information or if you have any questions, please email Mrs Hinkins (HGS Careers Leader) using hinkinsj@hgs.rklt.co.uk or Mrs Mitchell (HGS Lead Careers Adviser) using mitchellk@hgs.rklt.co.uk



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.