



HARROGATE
GRAMMAR SCHOOL
EXCELLENCE FOR ALL



Key Stage 4 Year 10 Supporting Success Information Evening

KS4 Results Overview

	2026 %9-5	2025 %9-5		2026 %9-4	2025 %9-4
Basics En/Ma	63.3	66.8		82.7	84.4
EBacc	38.8	39.4		49.8	55.4

- 80.3% of students gained 5 standard passes including En & maths
- 60.9% of students gained 5 strong passes including En & maths
- 34% of grades were at 9-7 – 815 grades – **National = 23.1%**
- 9% of grades were at 9 – 217 grades – **National = 5.2%**

70% joined Sixth Form

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

- **Attendance**
- Keeping up to date
 - Parent letters
 - Weekly Student Newsletter (also emailed to parents)
 - Website (Curriculum Information)
 - Arbor
 - Class Charts
- Keeping in contact with us
 - Nik Mason, Head of Upper School
 - Tom Inglis, Year Manager for Year 10

Procrastination

Reason - No motivation

Solution - Set a clear and specific goal

Reason - Overwhelmed

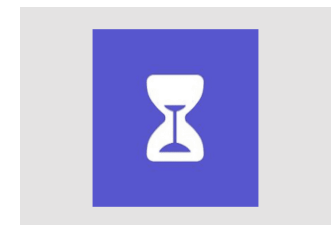
Solution - Break the work down, create a list

Reason - Dislike the work

Solution - Bribery, work with friends/parents

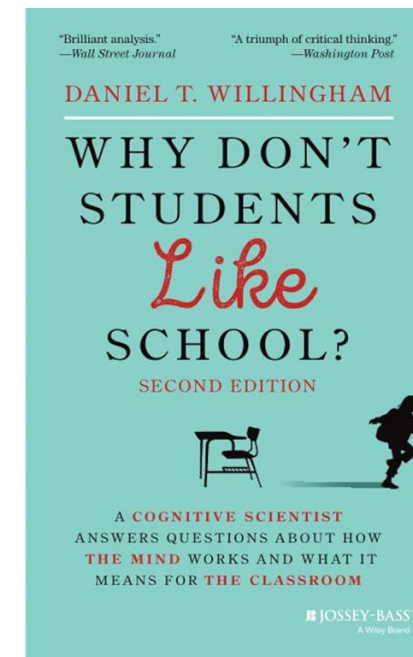
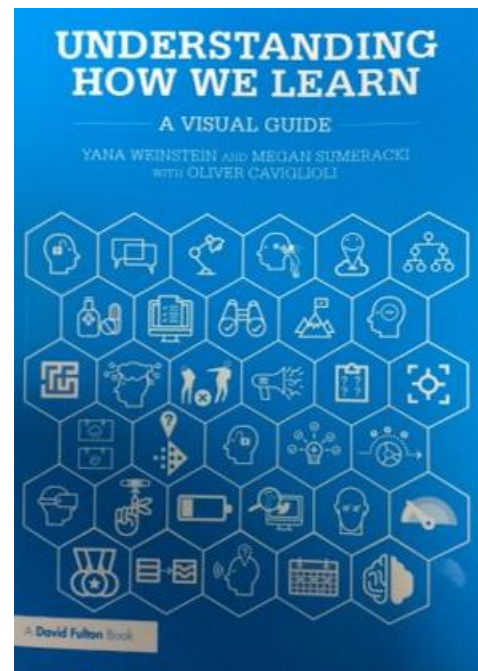
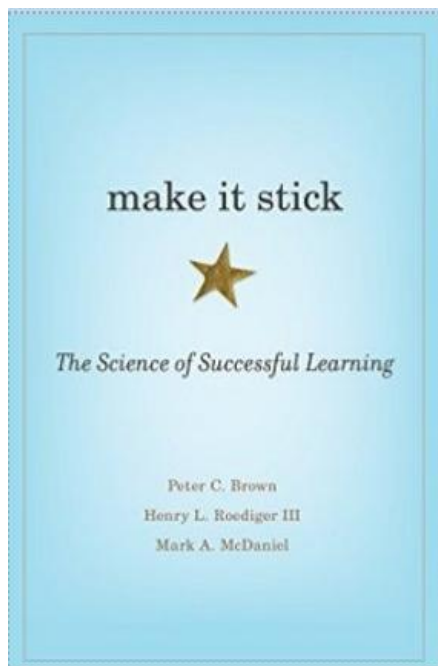
Reason - Social Media

Solution - Hold, Focus Me, Restrain Yourself





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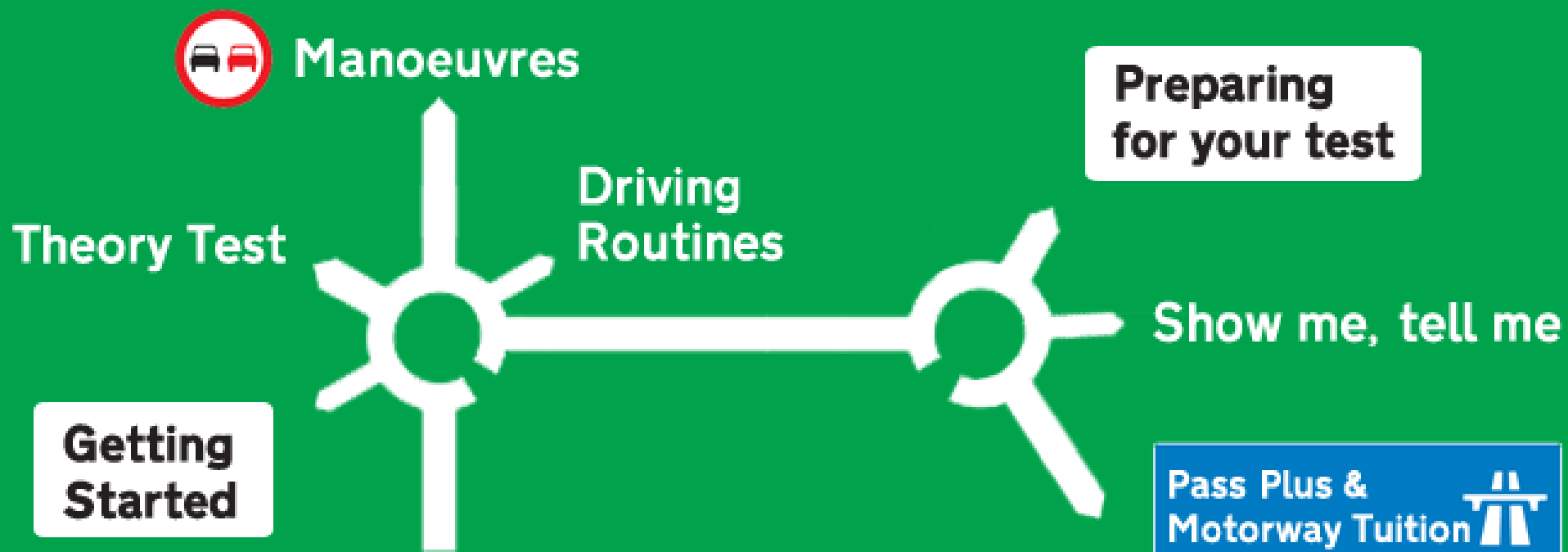


Making Learning Stick

Supporting Your Child to Learn More Effectively
and Develop Greater Memory Retention

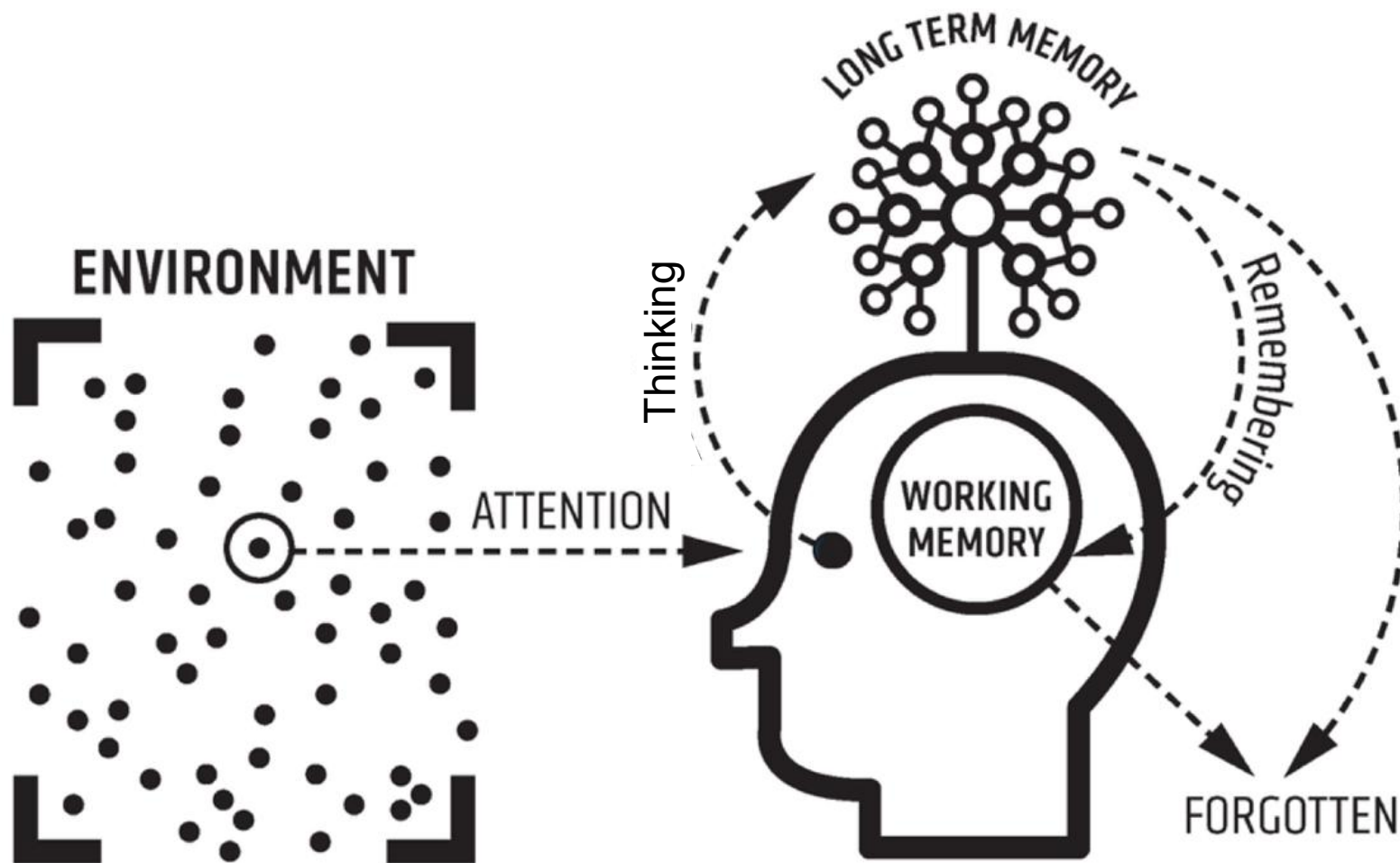


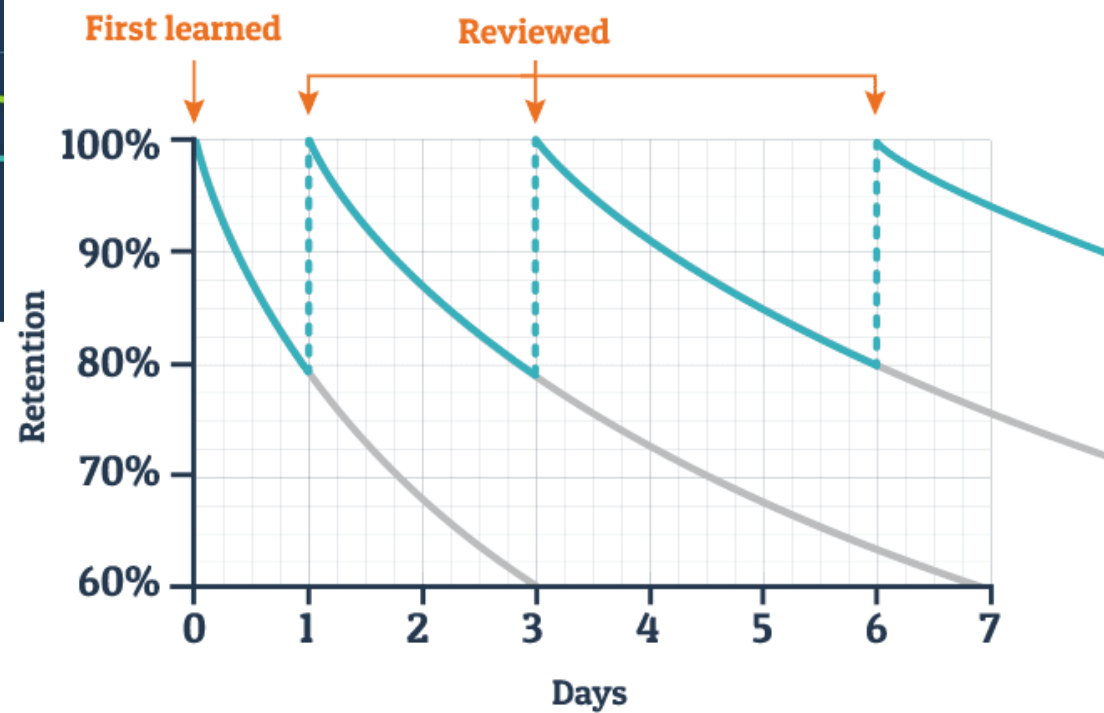
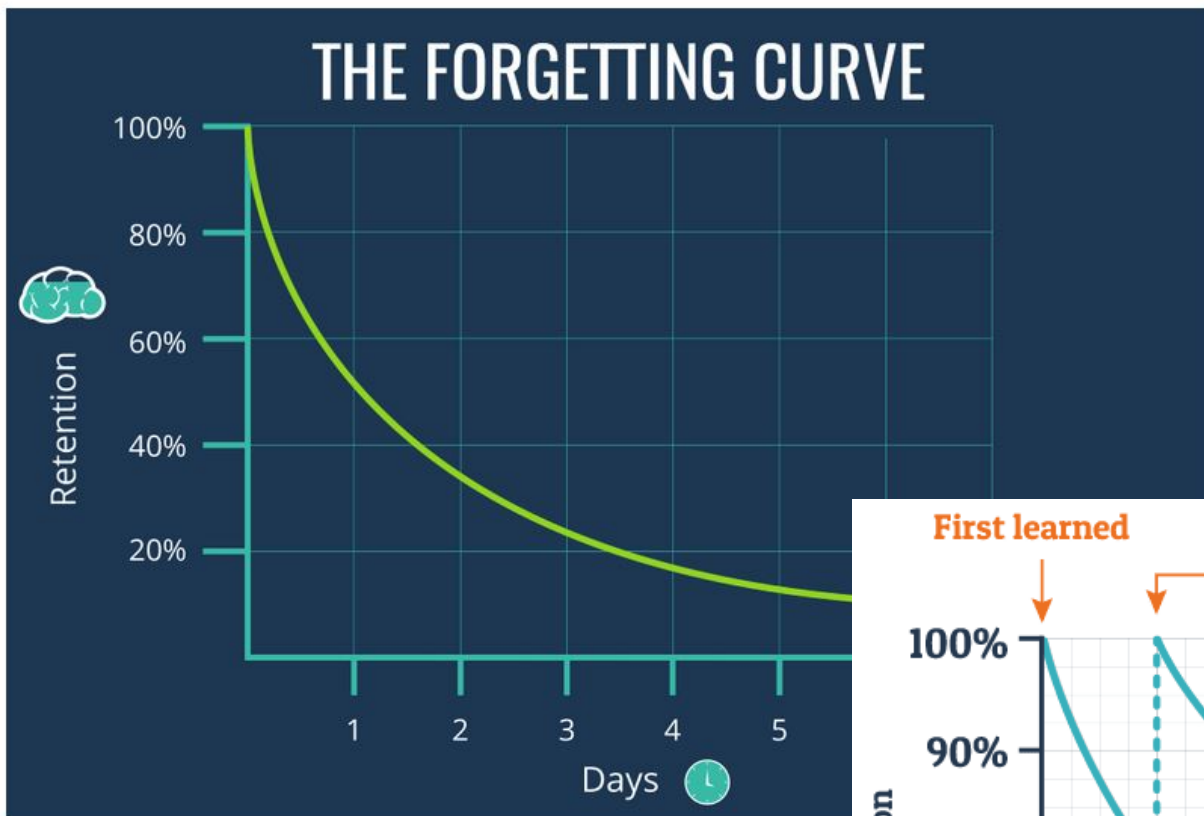
Learning to Drive





‘Securing knowledge in long-term memory’







Group these 'revision' activities into two categories

A) Effective strategies (time well spent)

B) Ineffective strategies (time wasted)

Completing an on-line quiz/test which is automatically marked

Highlighting key words/phrases in colour from a revision guide/exercise book

Reading a revision guide, your exercise book or textbook

Self-testing or a friend/family member testing you using flashcards

Attempting past paper questions, then looking at answers (mark scheme)

On a blank sheet, writing out/drawing all you know about a topic then checking a revision guide for anything missed

Writing out notes or copying diagrams, from your revision guide/textbook/ exercise book

Talking out loud to yourself or someone else on how to answer a question or what you know about a given topic



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Ineffective revision strategies



Reading and re-reading notes in
your exercise book, a revision guide
or a website

Copying out your notes or copying
diagrams, from your exercise book,
a revision guide or a website

Highlighting key words or phrases
from your notes or revision guide
using colour highlighters

Attention



Thinking



Remembering



Effective revision strategies



Using flashcards to test yourself or getting a family member/friend to test you

Completing an on-line quiz/test which is automatically marked

On a blank sheet of paper, writing out/drawing all you know about a topic then checking for anything missed in a revision guide or your notes

Attempting practice questions then marking your answers

Attention



Thinking



Remembering



Top 3 Tips



1. **Self-test again and again** – Flashcards, on-line software/past exam questions using memory first



2. **Free recall** – choosing a topic and writing down/drawing/sketching out/mapping everything you can think of on that topic on a blank sheet of paper using memory first

3. **Practice questions** – applying your knowledge to example questions to practice recall and build exam technique over time.



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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

- 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

Functional Skills Levels 1 and 2

- Qualification equivalent to Grade 4 GCSE.
- Safety net for those 'wobbly' 3 / 4 grade students.
- Additional to GCSE, not instead of.
- Level 1 in November, Level 2 in March

English Literature Paper 1

Shakespeare and the 19th Century Novel

- One Shakespeare play ('Macbeth')
- One 19th Century novel ('Jekyll and Hyde')
- **Assessed through:**
 - Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
 - 64 marks
 - 40% of GCSE

English Literature Paper 2

Modern Texts and Poetry

- One post 1914 prose fiction - 'Animal Farm'
- One cluster of poetry – given by AQA.
- Unseen poetry

- Assessed through:
 - Written exam: 2 hours 15 minutes
 - 96 marks
 - 60% of GCSE



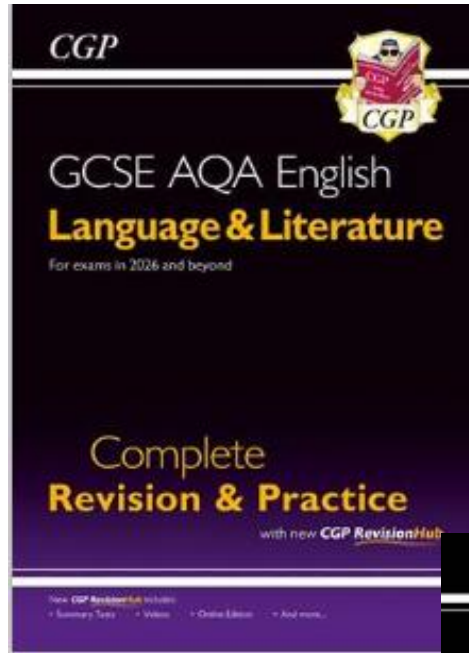
- Attendance to lessons
- Complimentary home learning – one Language (Sparx Reader) and one Literature.
- Ask your child the big question – What is the main message of the text they are studying?
- Read over your child's work for clarity and literacy.
- Encourage independent reading of fiction and non-fiction.
- Debate key issues – encourage your child to share their viewpoint on key issues. Discussions about current affairs and how they link to ideas and themes in set texts.
- Encouraging the development of own opinions through independent learning e.g. use of revision guides, websites (for example BBC Bitesize, OAK National Academy),



English Language Revision Bingo - Knowledge & Application

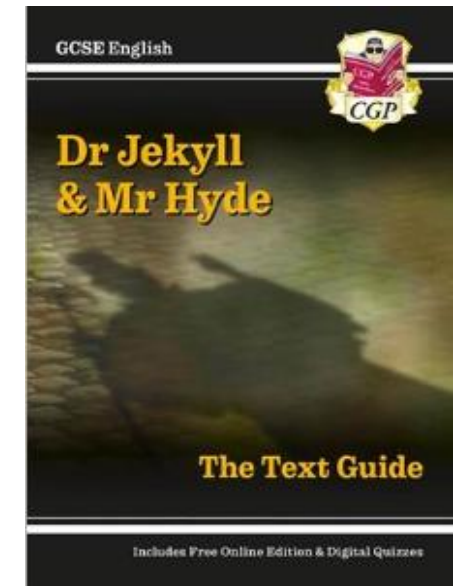
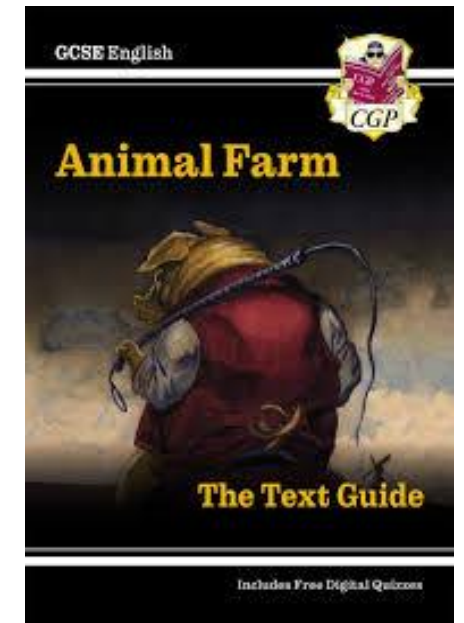
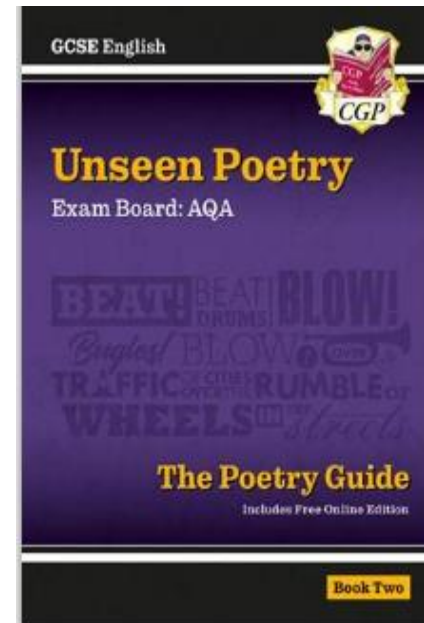
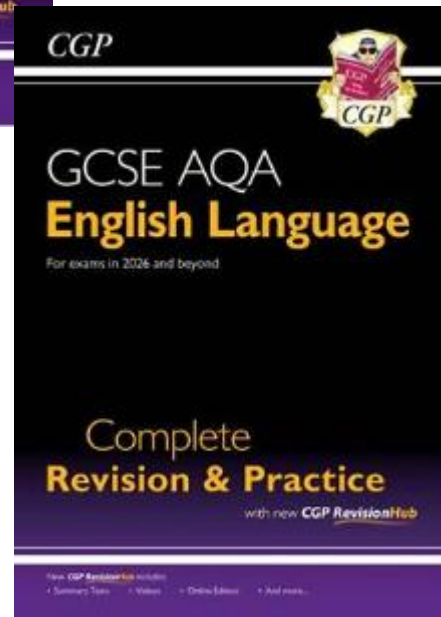
Watch a <u>youtube</u> clip of an English teacher focusing on a specific question and make a list of the top 5 pieces of advice given.	EMC Language revision booklet pg6 & 7– complete a <u>paper 1 Q2</u> under timed conditions (10 mins)	Write down the timings for each question for each paper on a flashcard.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

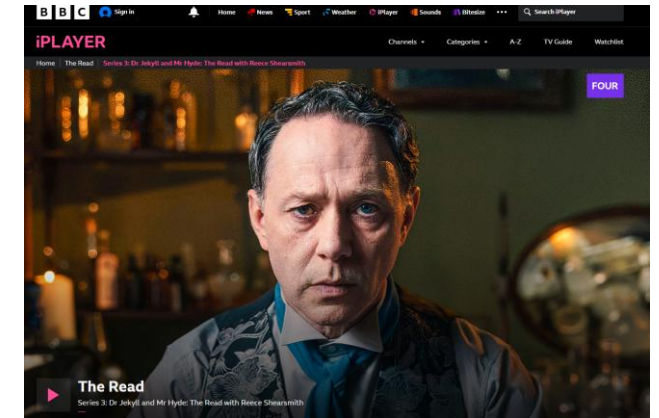
Length
1 hour 50 minutes inc. Interval

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>





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KS4

Supporting Success Maths



KS4 Maths – Key Contacts



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	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

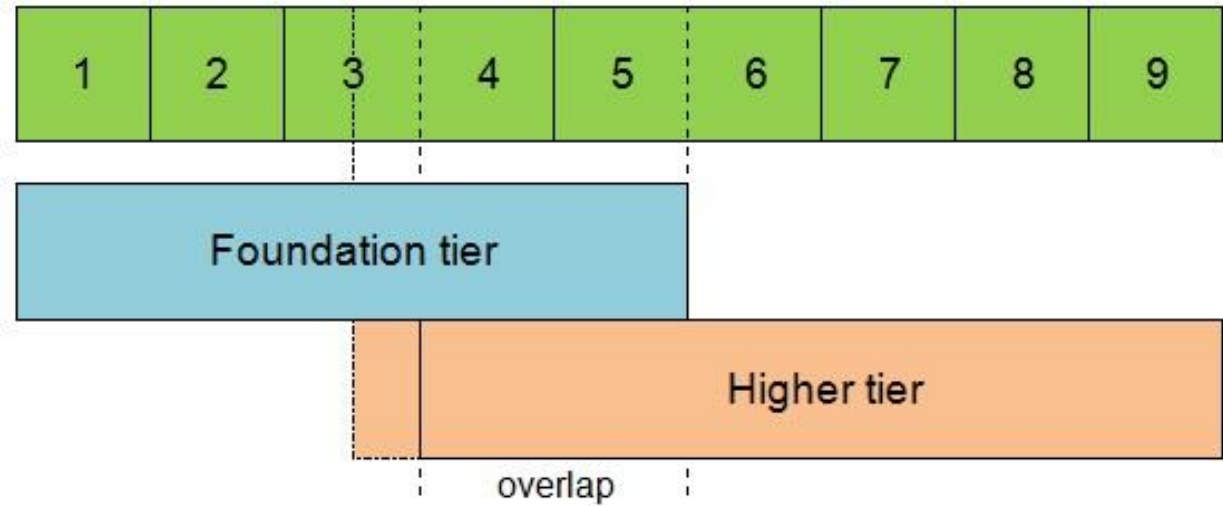
In Year 12, around 200 students
have selected a Maths course.

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 10

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

10L1	10R1
10L2	10R2
10L3	10R3
10L4	10R4
10L5	10R5

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

Tiering is not currently fixed. Final tier decisions will be made in Year 11.

Weighting

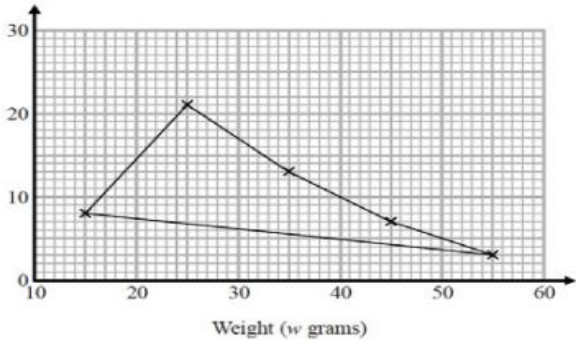
	Foundation Tier	Higher Tier
Number	25%	15%
Algebra	20%	30%
Ratio, proportion and rates of change	25%	20%
Geometry and Measures	15%	20%
Statistics	15%	15%
Probability		

GCSE 9-1

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)

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

What we know works

- Being ready for every lesson
- Attempting all classwork and homework
- Taking responsibility for their own learning
- Creating a workspace free from distractions
- Students bringing all their own equipment (especially a calculator NOT an iPad)
- Regular assessments and mock exams, resources for revision including past papers



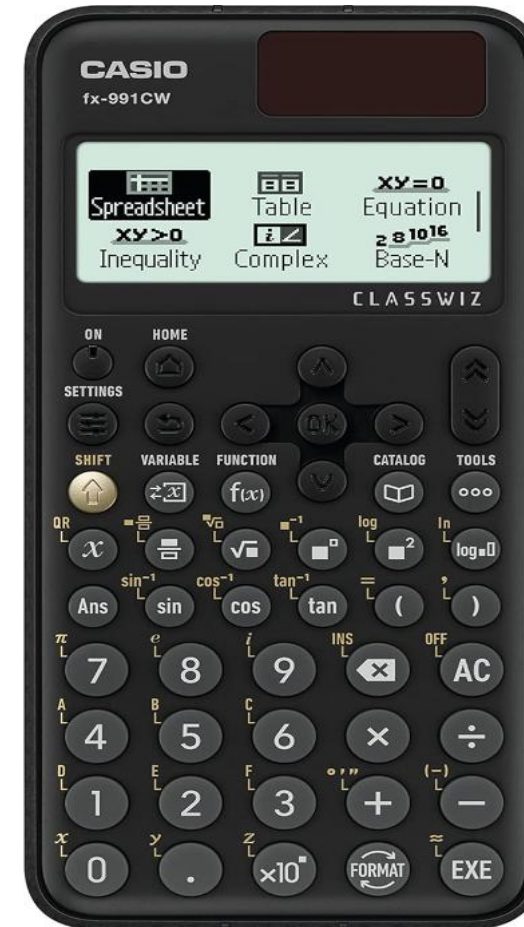
Which calculator?



Casio fx-
83GT CW

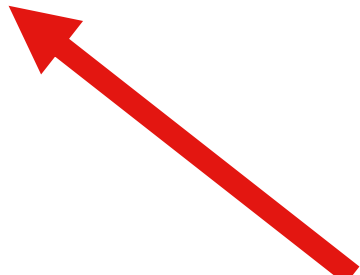
 This calculator can be purchased via [Arbor School Shop](#) for a discounted price of £9.65. If you would like to purchase, please select this product from Arbor Shop (via Arbor Parent app).

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



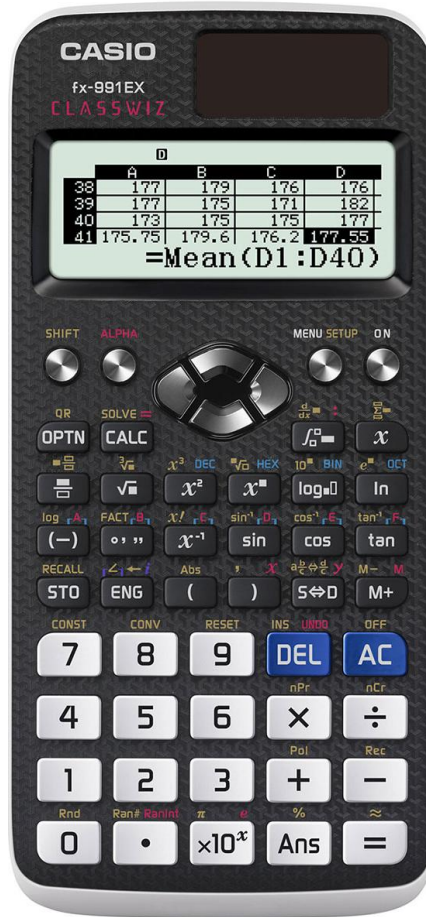
Casio fx-
991 CW

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).

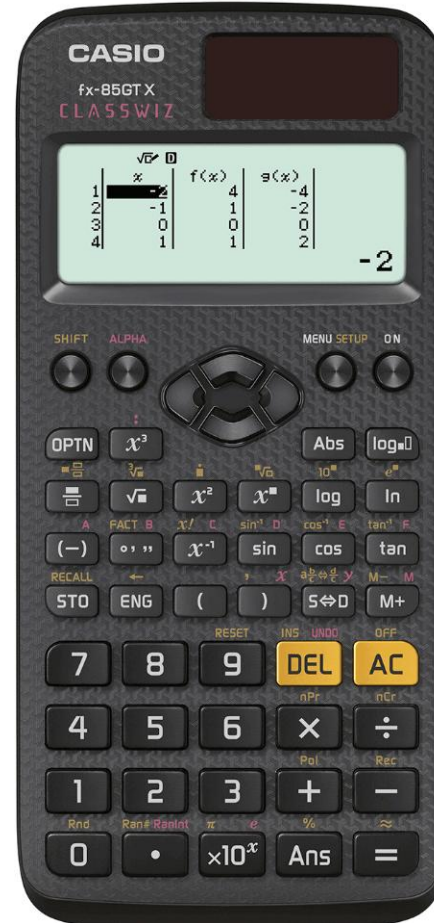


This is ideal if you plan to study GCSE Further Maths, or any Maths course in 6th Form.

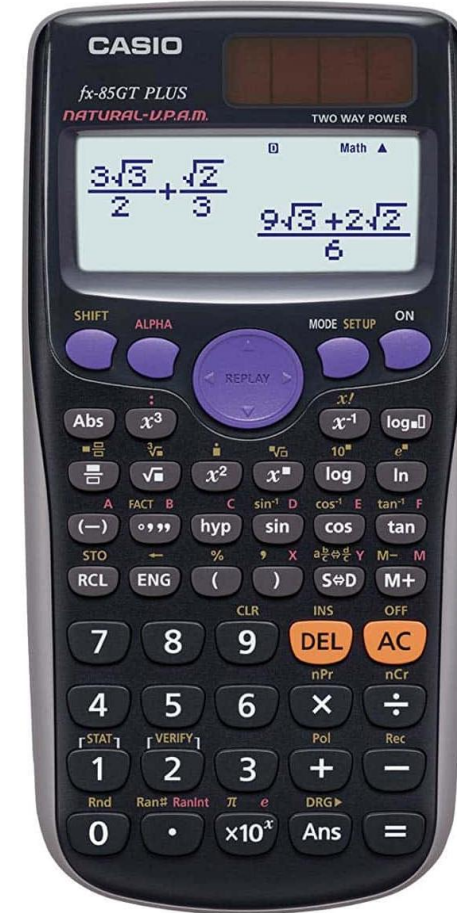
These are the previous models



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



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



Jason Hill
Assistant Headteacher
Maths

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