



Bexhill
Academy

Year 9 Core
Information for Parents
English, Maths and Science

2019

Welcome from the Core

As I am sure that you are aware, access to higher education and most jobs are only available to those students who have achieved in English, Maths and Science; we, in the Core Team, are committed to ensuring that your child has the very best chance at succeeding at Bexhill Academy and will endeavour to support both you and your child throughout their academic career.

In this document we outline the courses that your child will be undertaking this year, highlight some key dates for your diary and offer some practical advice about how best to help your child be successful this year.

Please feel free to contact us if you wish to discuss any subject specific issues.

Andrew Hutchinson - Director of English

Andrew.hutchinson@bexhillacademy.org

Sarah Mendela – Director of Maths

Sarah.Mendela@bexhillacademy.org

Hannah Butcher – Director of Science

Hannah.butcher@bexhillacademy.org



Bexhill Academy

Overview of Yr.9-11 English Language and English Literature

English and English Literature have now reverted to 100% examinations. This means that students will be examined on subjects that they studied originally nearly 18 months before. This will require the students to be far more organised and independent in their learning and that good note-taking in their daily lessons will become essential to their eventual success.

Examination Board

Subject:	English Language	English Literature
Exam Board:	AQA	AQA
Specification:	8700	8702
Tiered?	Single Tier entry	Single Tier Entry

- 4 papers (2X English Lang and 2 X English Lit of between 1 hour 45mins – 2 hours 15 mins)

Overview of the course

Yr.9

Term	Topic	Resource
Autumn 1	Language paper 1	
Autumn 2	A Christmas Carol	
Spring 1	Poetry	
Spring 2	Romeo and Juliet	Romeo and Juliet - Shakespeare
Summer 1	Blood Brothers	Blood Brothers – Willy Russell
Summer 2	Reading and Language	Dystopian unit

Yr.10

Term	Topic	Resource
Autumn 1	An Inspector Calls Language 1	An Inspector Calls by J.B. Priestley
Autumn 2	An Inspector Calls and Language preparation for mock 1	
Spring 1	Unseen Language preparation The Merchant of Venice	The Merchant of Venice by William Shakespeare

Spring 2	The Merchant of Venice
Summer 1	Poetry, MOV and Literature Anthology
Summer 2	Unseen language presentation Literature Anthology

Yr.11

Term	Topic	Resource
Autumn 1	Jekyll and Hyde or A Christmas Carol	Jekyll and Hyde/ A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens Language 1&2
Autumn 2	Jekyll and Hyde or A Christmas Carol and pre 19th Century writers unseen prep	Language 1&2
Spring 1	Unseen poetry and unseen Language paper preparation	
Spring 2	General examination preparation	
Summer 1	EXAMS	

What can you do to help?

- Buy texts as outlined and encourage students to be using them in class
- Encourage students to read at home
- Buy revision and study guides
- Test students on their knowledge
- Expect students to be revising throughout the year (preparation for fortnightly timed essays)
- Check that students are doing their homework
- Twitter - [@BexhillEnglish](#)
- YouTube - [BexhillEnglishTV](#)

Resources

There are a number of other useful online sites you may wish to visit to support your child's learning at GCSE level including:

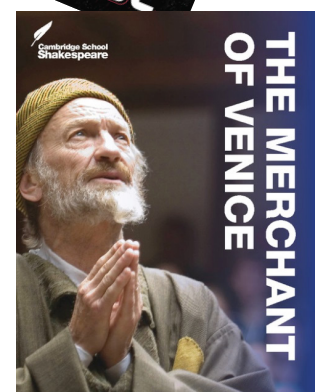
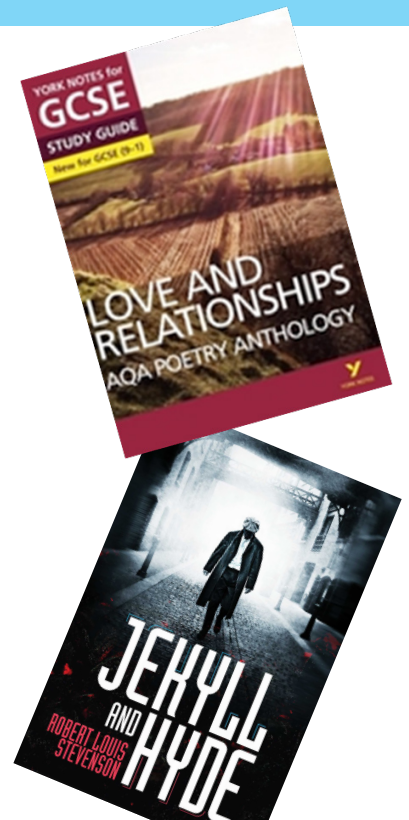
www.englishbiz.co.uk

www.educationquizzes.com/gcse/english/

http://geoffbarton.co.uk/student-resources.php

www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/

www.bexhillacademy/about/English



Essential English Apps

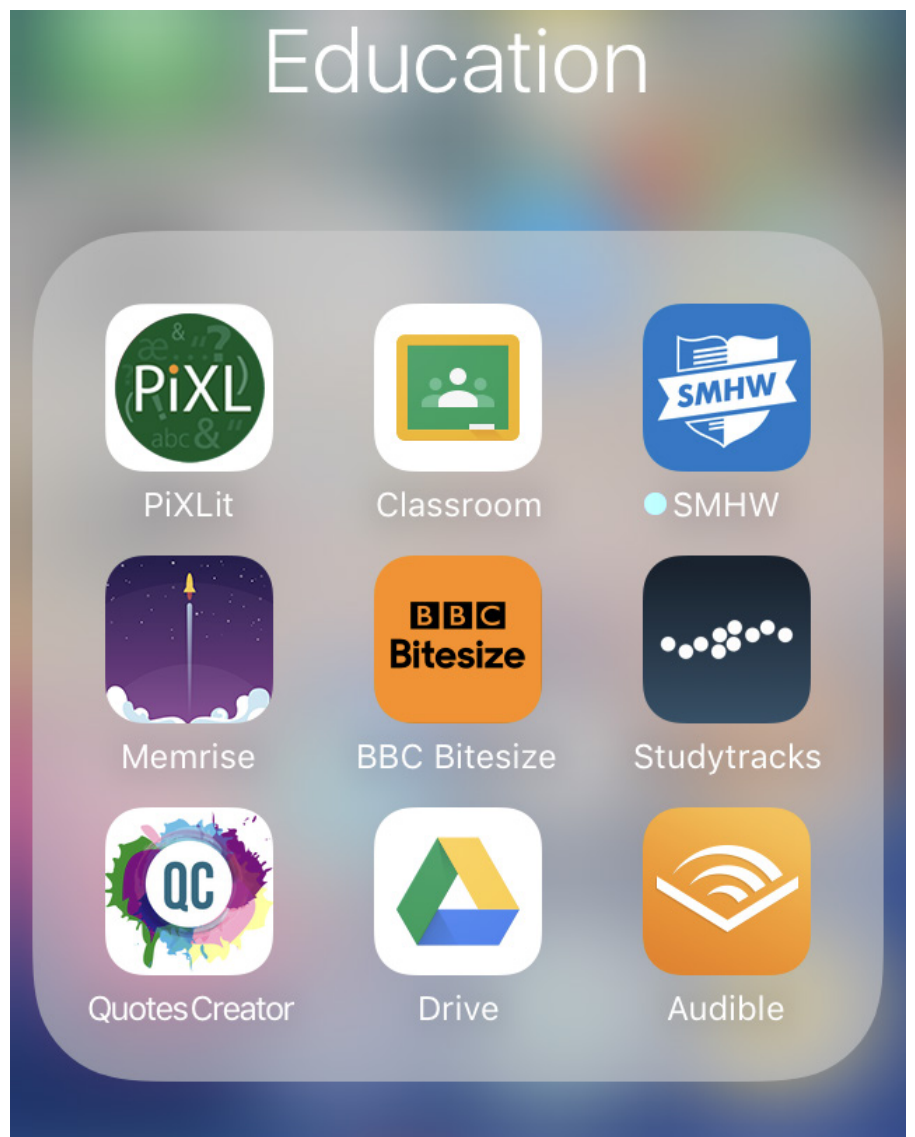
PiXLit app:

Download the new PiXLit app to help you with memorising key quotations!

School ID: **BX1722**

User ID: surname and first initial (e.g. **hutchinsona**)

Password: surname and first initial (e.g. **hutchinsona**)



Text

(note you will study either A Christmas Carol OR Jekyll and Hyde but not both)

An Inspector Calls by J.B. Priestley ISBN 978-0-435232-82-5

An Inspector Calls – CGP Study Guide (ET 144) ISBN 978-1-84146-115-1

Merchant of Venice Made Easy - OUP ISBN - 13 978-0748703630

The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde York Study Guide ISBN - 978-1447982180

Merchant of Venice by William Shakespeare ISBN 978-0-19-832867-4

Merchant of Venice – York notes Martin J Walker ISBN 0-582-50616-6

AQA Poetry Guide – Love and Relationships (CGP) ISBN 978-1-78294-362-4

AQA Unseen Poetry Guide (CGP) ISBN 978-1-78294-364-8

A Christmas Carol ISBN-10: 1521903107

A Christmas Carol York Notes ISBN-10: 1447982126

Revise AQA English Language Workbook Targeting Grade 5 ISBN 978-0198359197

Revise AQA GCSE English Language Workbook Targeting Grades 6-9 ISBN 978-0198359180

If you want to help your child succeed in the English exams but aren't sure how, here are some suggestions:

To support questions on **READING** in the language exam and the literature exam:

Compete against each other in spotting language devices and word classes in newspapers or magazines; in words spoken on TV programmes or everyday conversations.

The best way to prepare for the literature exam is to read the texts together. Talk to your child about the characters, events and possible meanings and themes. You cannot lead them astray on this as justified opinions, supported with evidence from the words of the text, is right on target.

Read the set poems and discuss the word choice and how it is set out on the page – where the stops and starts are - what you liked about it and what you didn't. Ask your child why they think that might be. It is very useful to find ways in which the poems can be linked.

Because the exams do not allow the texts to be taken into examinations, quotations must be remembered. Encourage your child to learn a few quotations that they can use to write about the main characters and themes of the texts they are studying.

Questions on reading require students to locate and comment on moments where themes and character types are described and to analyse that language in detail. Students should be able to suggest how language manipulates the reader into feeling a particular way or anticipating certain events. Knowing the terminology and names of language devices and word classes makes this easier.

Overview of GCSE Maths

EXAM BOARD: EDEXCEL

GCSE Maths

GCSE Maths is a 3 year course that covers the following content:

1. **Number**
2. **Algebra**
3. **Ratio, Proportion and rates of change**
4. **Geometry and measures**
5. **Statistics**
6. **Probability**

This GCSE course covers a broad and deep mathematical content, with a focus on problem solving and providing clear mathematical arguments. There is now more 'higher' content appearing in the foundation paper as well as brand new topics added to both foundation and higher. Details of these topics can be obtained from the Maths department.

There are three written papers (one non-calculator and two calculator) which are 80 marks each and the final grade is calculated from a total of all 3. Each paper is 1 hour 30 minutes and each paper has an equal weighting. The students are entered into either the foundation tier, where grades 1-5 are available or the higher tier where grades 3 - 9 are available. The exam is sat at the end of the 3 year course - in Year 11

What you can do to help

The best way of supporting your child in Maths is to ensure they practice little and often, e.g. 30 minutes every day. They can do this by:

- Ensure they are completing their Maths homework (at least one is set each week)
- Ensure they are doing independent work extra to their homework – Method Maths is excellent for this as you can monitor what they are doing
- Watch video clips with them together on how to do different topics, to give them extra support and encouragement
- Help your child make revision flash cards and then test them on key formulae

and words every day - little and often will ensure that they remember them!

- Check www.showmyhomework.co.uk regularly as hints and tips will be given out (see Tracey Holden for your personal account information)

Revision Websites and Support

Bexhill Academy Website

Students can access useful Maths resources and links via the Academy Website Homepage, following the links to Maths resources.

Students
After School Clubs and Activities
Apprenticeships
BBC School Report
Be The Change Programme
Careers Advice
Curriculum
Exam Information
Maths Resources
National Collaborative Outreach Program

Maths Resources

<https://www.mathsgenie.co.uk/gcse.html>

No lumps required here, just GCSE revision in graded sets, so you can really focus in on your goals.

<https://www.mathsgenie.co.uk/papers.html>

Your second wish from 'The Genie': Practice papers, mark schemes and Walking Talking Mocks (for some of the papers)

<https://www.bbc.com/education/examspecs/z9p3mnb>

Having trouble breaking your revision down into 'bite size' chunks?



www.methodmaths.com

This is a website with all past papers on it. When the students complete questions it is marked so they can instantly see if they are correct and what grade they have achieved. It also gives hints and tips on how to answer the questions.

Centre: bexhill

Username: jbloggs

Password: method123



Corbettmaths

www.corbettmaths.com

This is a website that has help videos on all Maths topics. It explains how to do each topic and then provides worksheets, questions and past exam questions on these topics to do. It also does "5 quick questions", which is an excellent way of practising Maths every day.



www.mymaths.co.uk

This is a well-known Maths website that goes through how to do topics and has practice questions which are instantly marked.

Login: bexhill

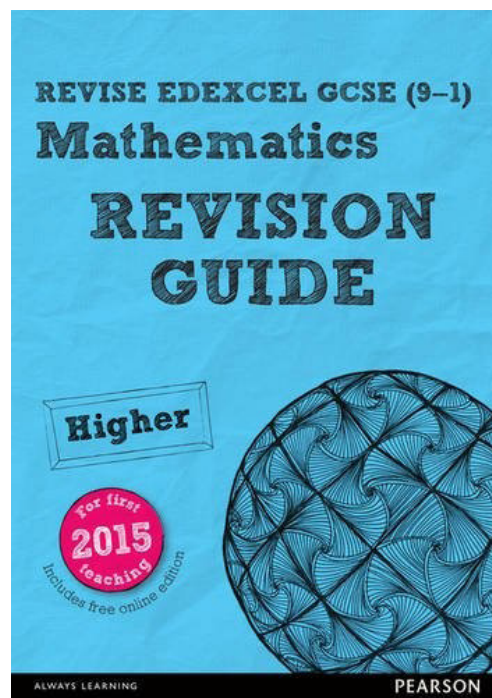
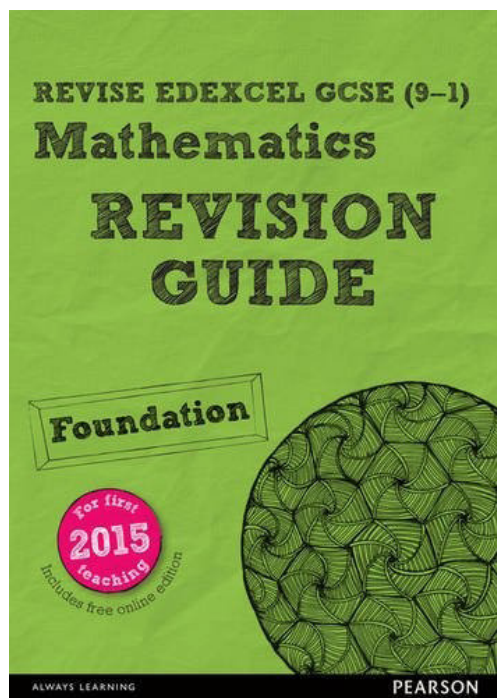
Password: square

www.youtube.com/watch?v=14ErEpJPAEg

These are videos which go through past paper exams and explain how to do each question.

Revision Guide

There is a revision guide that covers all topics and a corresponding work book with practice questions. Both of these are available from the school library for £2.50 each.



Examination Board - EDEXCEL
Specifications - 1MA1
Tiered - Higher/Foundation

Overview of GCSE Sciences

Combined Science (formerly known as Double Science)

Students who sit this course will achieve 2 GCSE grades in Combined Science.

There is no longer any coursework for Science; however throughout the course there are required practical experiments the students need to complete (21 in total) that will feature in the written exams.

The course comprises of units in Biology, Chemistry and Physics as follows:

Biology

- 1 Cell biology
- 2 Organisation
- 3 Infection and response
- 4 Bioenergetics
- 5 Homeostasis and response
- 6 Inheritance, variation and evolution
- 7 Ecology

Chemistry

- 8 Atomic structure and the periodic table
- 9 Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter
- 10 Quantitative chemistry
- 11 Chemical changes
- 12 Energy changes
- 13 The rate and extent of chemical change
- 14 Organic chemistry
- 15 Chemical analysis
- 16 Chemistry of the atmosphere
- 17 Using resources

Physics

- 18 Energy
- 19 Electricity
- 20 Particle model of matter
- 21 Atomic structure
- 22 Forces
- 23 Waves
- 24 Magnetism and electromagnetism

There are six exam papers: two biology, two chemistry and two physics. Each of the papers will assess knowledge and understanding from distinct topic areas (shown below).

Each exam is 1hr and 15mins long and worth 16.7% of the overall grade.

The questions in each paper range from multiple choice, structured questions, closed short answer and open response.

Each paper is broken down as follows:

Biology Paper 1

Biology topics 1 – 4: Cell Biology; Organisation; Infection and response; and Bioenergetics.

Biology Paper 2

Biology topics 5 – 7: Homeostasis and response; Inheritance, variation and evolution; and Ecology.

Chemistry Paper 1

Chemistry topics 8 – 12: Atomic structure and the periodic table; Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter; Quantitative chemistry; Chemical changes; and Energy changes.

Chemistry Paper 2

Chemistry topics 13 – 17: The rate and extent of chemical change; Organic chemistry; Chemical analysis; Chemistry of the atmosphere; and Using resources.

Physics Paper 1

Physics topics 18 – 21: Energy; Electricity; Particle model of matter; and Atomic structure.

Physics Paper 2

Physics topics 22 – 24: Forces; Waves; and Magnetism and electromagnetism.

Triple Science

Students who show outstanding scientific potential will be chosen for Triple Science. Students taking Triple Science will receive 3 GCSE grades: one for Biology; one for Chemistry; one for Physics.

There is no longer any coursework for Science, however throughout the course there are required practical experiments the students need to complete (28 in total) that will feature in the written exams. Students will sit 6 exams in total (2 in each subject) as detailed below:

Biology Topics And Exam Information (2 Exam Papers)

- 1 Cell biology
- 2 Organisation
- 3 Infection and response
- 4 Bioenergetics
- 5 Homeostasis and response
- 6 Inheritance, variation and evolution
- 7 Ecology

Paper 1:

Topics 1 – 4: Cell biology; Organisation; Infection and response; and Bioenergetics.

Paper 2:

Topics 5 – 7: Homeostasis and response; Inheritance, variation and evolution; and Ecology.

Both exams are 1hr and 45mins long and each worth 50% of the overall grade in Biology. The questions in each paper range from multiple choice, structured questions, closed short answer and open response.

Chemistry Topics And Exam Information (2 Exam Papers)

- 1 Atomic structure and the periodic table
- 2 Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter
- 3 Quantitative chemistry

- 4 Chemical changes
- 5 Energy changes
- 6 The rate and extent of chemical change
- 7 Organic chemistry
- 8 Chemical analysis
- 9 Chemistry of the atmosphere
- 10 Using resources

Paper 1:

Topics 1 – 5: Atomic structure and the periodic table; Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter; Quantitative chemistry, Chemical changes; and Energy changes.

Paper 2:

Topics 6 – 10: The rate and extent of chemical change; Organic chemistry; Chemical analysis, Chemistry of the atmosphere; and Using resources.

Both exams are 1hr and 45mins long and each worth 50% of the overall grade in Chemistry. The questions in each paper range from multiple choice, structured questions, closed short answer and open response.

Physics Topics And Exam Information (2 Exam Papers)

- 1 Energy
- 2 Electricity
- 3 Particle model of matter
- 4 Atomic structure
- 5 Forces
- 6 Waves
- 7 Magnetism and electromagnetism
- 8 Space physics (physics only)

Paper 1:

Topics 1 – 4: Energy; Electricity; Particle model of matter; and Atomic structure.

Paper 2:

Topics 5 – 8: Forces; Waves; Magnetism and electromagnetism; and Space physics.

Both exams are 1hr and 45mins long and each worth 50% of the overall grade in Physics. The questions in each paper range from multiple choice, structured questions, closed short answer and open response.

What you can do to help

- Ensure they are completing their Science homework (check on www.showmyhomework.co.uk)
- Ensure they are doing independent work extra to their homework – key websites are shown below
- Help your child make revision flash cards and then test them on key facts and words every day - little and often will ensure that they remember them!
- Students need to memorise physics formulae. They are no longer given a data sheet in the exam. The Science Department have made an easy to use booklet with all of the formulae in. They should use this regularly as a memory test.
- Students will be assessed in the exam on practical knowledge and skills. Students will be regularly given required practical assessments in class and as home work. These should be treated as exam practice so please encourage students to take them very seriously.

Revision Websites and Support

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/examspecs/28r997h>

BBC bitesize is a great revision website. It has content plus quizzes and videos.

<https://www.youtube.com>

Subscribe to Freesciencelessons for expert teaching on GCSE topics.

Revision Guide

Revision guides specific to the new Science GCSE's will be available to buy at a discounted price from the school library. Students should ask at the library or their Science teacher for details.

