

Dear Parent/Carer,

I thought it would be useful to give you an update on our plans to ensure students are well prepared for their GCSEs and the latest exam announcements from the DfE.

### **Revision and Intervention**

There is a video available on the school website which outlines the plans for students in the core subjects. If you haven't yet watched this, I'm sure you will find some of the information useful in supporting your child.

We are using Microsoft TEAMS and Satchel:One (from 1<sup>st</sup> November) as the platforms for much of our revision materials. These resources also have the added bonus of allowing us to share purchased materials with the year group and their families that we couldn't publish on the school website. Your child will be given revision materials in each of their individual subject class TEAMS and there will also be general revision materials available for all subjects on the whole Year 11 team. These resources can be found under the files tab.

School also provides all Year 11 students with access to GCSE Pod. This can be used for all their subjects. Once downloaded pods can be stored on their phones and listened to multiple times. Many of these podcasts are less than five minutes long, so are well-suited to the attention span of the average 16 year old!

We also use mathswatch, educake and SENECA learning in school. All students have access to these resources, and are directed to them by their teachers.

Targeted intervention will begin after our November mocks. This is different from revision. Intervention takes many forms and much of our intervention takes place before students even arrive in the classroom. Changes to sequencing of topics, emphasis on question level analysis and formative assessment are all key intervention strategies. However, some students will be asked to attend extra sessions in some subjects. These cohorts will be directed on a very clear focus. Do not feel your child is "missing out" if they are not asked to attend one of these sessions; it simply means they don't need the intervention taking place.

Please find accompanying this pack copies on an example revision timetable and a blank one to use.

## **Mock Exams and Parental Meetings**

Our first set of mock examinations will take place from the week beginning 1<sup>st</sup> November. Following this you will receive their Year 11 report with details of the grades these mock papers would have contributed to overall in the completed qualification. Before the second set of mocks, we will have our academic parents' evening. We are confident this sequencing gives us the best opportunity to continue to work together to support your child and achieve the best results for them.

We will be holding a series of meetings with identified Year 11 students and their parents/carers in December over the three weeks before Christmas. These meetings will be by invitation. However, I am aware that there will be other parents/carers who would welcome the opportunity to discuss their child's next steps with Mrs Mallalieu or a member of the Senior Leadership Team. We will be offering further virtual meetings for parents in early January (dates to be confirmed). If you would like to be included in the mailing list to make an appointment I would appreciate it if you could let the Year 11 office know before Christmas.

## **Wellbeing**

I am sure you would agree that our Year 11 students have shown an incredible degree of resilience over the past couple of years. It is important for their mental, physical and emotional well-being that they have time to switch off and relax. It is equally important, however, that they don't forget school completely when they get home. Little and often is our advice. Please find further details about supporting your child through exams [here](#).

## **Ofqual Exam Announcements**

On the following pages I have put together an overview of our Y11 courses and assessments following the recent exam announcements. There is to be another announcement including further arrangements for examinations in February 2022.

Can I take this opportunity, finally, to thank you for all of your support so far and your anticipated support over the next few months.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs M Croft

Lead Practitioner

## **2022 GCSE Exams**

### **Maths GCSE (OCR)**

[GCSE Maths \(9-1\) - J560 \(from 2015\) - OCR](#)

Both higher and foundation students will sit three 1 and a half hour exam papers

Paper 1 – Calculator

Paper 2 – Non-calculator

Paper 3 – Calculator

All students will be provided with a formula sheet – more details in February 2022

Revision is through [MathsWatch and MS Teams](#)

### **Further Maths Level 2 GCSE (AQA)**

[AQA | Mathematics | AQA Certificate | Level 2 Further Mathematics](#)

A small number of students will be studying for this further qualification. Students will be assessed by completing 2 papers in May/June 2022:

Paper 1 Non Calculator

Paper 2 Calculator

All students will be provided with a formula sheet – more details in February 2022

Revision is through MS Teams.

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**English Language (AQA)**

[AQA | English | GCSE | English Language](#)

All students will sit 2 papers

Paper 1 (50%) - Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing

- Section A - reading 1 literature fiction text and answering 4 questions
- Section B – descriptive or narrative writing

Paper 2 (50%) – Writer’s Viewpoints and Perspectives

- Section A – Reading one non fiction text and one literary non-fiction and answering four questions
- Section B – Writing to present a view point

**Revision – Completing past papers on MS Teams**

- Reading as much as possible
- Watching documentaries and discussing view points

**English Literature (AQA)**

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-literature-8702>

All students will sit 2 papers

Paper 1 (50%)

- Inspector Calls
- Poetry Anthology

Paper 2 (50%)

- Romeo and Juliet
- Unseen Poetry

**Revision – Past papers available on MS Teams**

- Re-read texts
- Watch online adaptations
- Purchase revision guides available through Parentmail
- [FlipsCo Cards – GCSE English literature revision](#)

## **Combined Science**

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/combined-science-trilogy-8464>

This qualification is worth 2 GCSEs.

Students will sit 6 1 hour 15 minute papers – Biology x2, Chemistry x2 and Physics x2.

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

Biology paper 2 topics 5–7: Homeostasis and response; Inheritance, variation and evolution; and Ecology.

Chemistry paper 1 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 topics 13–17: The rate and extent of chemical change; Organic chemistry; Chemical analysis; Chemistry of the atmosphere; and Using resources.

Physics paper 1 topics 18–21: Energy; Electricity; Particle model of matter; and Atomic structure.

Physics paper 2 topics 22–24: Forces; Waves; and Magnetism and electromagnetism

Students will be provided with useful Physics formulae.

To help students focus their exam preparation, there will be advance information on what exams will cover. This advance information will be available by 7 February 2022, or sooner if the pandemic worsens.

Revision – MS Teams, past papers, GCSE Pod, revision guides from Parentmail and Educake

## **GCSE Biology**

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/biology-8461/specification-at-a-glance>

Students will sit 2 papers

Paper 1 (50%) Topics 1–4: Cell biology; Organisation; Infection and response; and Bioenergetics.

Paper 2 (50%) Topics 5–7: Homeostasis and response; Inheritance, variation and evolution; and Ecology.

To help students focus their exam preparation, there will be advance information on what exams will cover. This advance information will be available by 7 February 2022, or sooner if the pandemic worsens.

Revision – MS Teams, past papers, GCSE Pod, revision guides from Parentmail and Educake

## **GCSE Chemistry**

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/chemistry-8462>

Students will sit 2 papers

Paper 1 (50%) 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 (50%) Topics 6–10: The rate and extent of chemical change; Organic chemistry; Chemical analysis, Chemistry of the atmosphere; and Using resources.

To help students focus their exam preparation, there will be advance information on what exams will cover. This advance information will be available by 7 February 2022, or sooner if the pandemic worsens.

Revision – MS Teams, past papers, GCSE Pod, revision guides from Parentmail and Educake

## **GCSE Physics**

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/physics-8463/specification-at-a-glance>

Students will sit 2 papers

Paper 1 (50%) Topics 1-4: Energy; Electricity; Particle model of matter; and Atomic structure.

Paper 2 (50%) Topics 5-8: Forces; Waves; Magnetism and electromagnetism; and Space physics.

Questions in paper 2 may draw on an understanding of energy changes and transfers due to heating, mechanical and electrical work and the concept of energy conservation from Energy and Electricity.

There will be a revised equation sheet for the GCSE Physics exam in Summer 2022 which will cover all the equations required in the subject content.

To help students focus their exam preparation, there will be advance information on what exams will cover. This advance information will be available by 7 February 2022, or sooner if the pandemic worsens.

Revision – MS Teams, past papers, GCSE Pod, revision guides from Parentmail and Educak

### **RE GCSE (Edexcel)**

[Edexcel GCSE Religious Studies A \(2016\) | Pearson qualifications](#)

**Students will sit 3 separate papers in May / June 2022:**

#### **Paper 1: Area of Study 1 – Roman Catholic Christianity**

*Written examination: 1 hour and 45 minutes*

*50% of the qualification 102 marks*

#### **Paper 2: Area of Study 2 – Judaism**

*Written examination: 50 minutes*

*25% of the qualification 51 marks*

#### **Paper 3: Area of Study 3 – Philosophy and Ethics Roman Catholic**

*Written examination: 50 minutes*

*25% of the qualification 51 marks*

More details about content to be released from DfE in February 2022.

Revision resources available through

Learning key words

Revision on MS Teams

Seneca Learning

Blooket

Revision guides on Parentmail

## GCSE History (AQA)

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

Students will sit 3 separate papers:

Paper 1 - America 1920-1973 (1 hour)

Paper 2 - Conflict in Asia 1950-1975 (1 hour)

Paper 3 - Health and the people 1000-present day (1 hour)

It is important to note that students will not be told specific topics to focus on, so must revise the three modules above in detail.

Revision through MS Teams and revision guide on Parentmail

## GCSE Geography (AQA)

[AQA | GCSE | Geography | Specification at a glance](#)

Students will sit 3 separate papers:

Paper 1 (35% of total GCSE)– Living with the physical environment

Section A The Challenge of natural hazards

Section B The Living World

Section C UK Physical Environments

Paper 2 (35% of total GCSE) - Challenges in the human environment

Paper 3 (30% of total GCSE) – Geographical applications

Geography support materials include:

- CGP - Geography Revision guide AQA 9-1
- CGP - Complete revision and practice book
- CGP - GCSE Geography Revision Question Cards
  
- Revision materials available on Teams.
- Geography Revision timetable to follow.
- Thursday lunchtime catch up in F1 with Mrs Rooney.
- Teams homework sessions with class teachers

## GCSE Spanish (AQA)

<b>Exam board</b>	AQA <a href="https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/languages/gcse/spanish-8698">https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/languages/gcse/spanish-8698</a>
<b>Subject</b>	Spanish
<b>Number of Papers/Duration</b>	<p><b>Paper 1: Listening</b> 25% of GCSE Written exam: 35 minutes (Foundation Tier), 45 minutes (Higher Tier) 40 marks (Foundation Tier), 50 marks (Higher Tier) (Each exam includes 5 minutes' reading time of the question paper before the listening stimulus is played.)</p> <p><b>Paper 2: Speaking</b> 25% of GCSE 7–9 minutes (Foundation Tier) + preparation time 10–12 minutes (Higher Tier) + preparation time 60 marks (for each of Foundation Tier and Higher Tier)</p> <p><b>Paper 3: Reading</b> 25% of GCSE Written exam: 45 minutes (Foundation Tier), 1 hour (Higher Tier) 60 marks (for each of Foundation Tier and Higher Tier)</p> <p><b>Paper 4: Writing</b> 25% of GCSE Written exam: 1 hour (Foundation Tier), 1 hour 15 minutes (Higher Tier) 50 marks at Foundation Tier and 60 marks at Higher Tier</p>

Students study all of the following themes on which the examinations are based.

Theme 1: Identity and culture

Theme 2: Local, national, international and global areas of interest

Theme 3: Current and future study and employment

Revision on Activelearn and MS Teams

## **GCSE Computer Science**

Students will sit 2 papers

Paper 1 – Units 1.1-1.8

Paper 2 – Units 2.1 – 2.6

Revision through MS Teams

Targeted intervention has begun

## **GCSE ICT**

There are 2 parts to the assessment

Part 1 – Coursework (50%). Deadline is 5<sup>th</sup> December 2022.

Part 2 – Exam (50%)

Revision through MS Teams

Drop in for coursework completion Tuesday after school and Thursday lunch time

## **GCSE PE (OCR)**

### **GCSE - Physical Education (9-1) - J587 (from 2016) - OCR**

Students must complete all components to be awarded OCR's GCSE (9-1) in Physical Education in 2022.

#### **Physical factors affecting performance (01)**

60 marks  
1 hour written paper  
30% of total GCSE

This component will assess:

- 1.1 Applied anatomy and physiology
- 1.2 Physical training

#### **Socio-cultural issues and sports psychology (02)**

60 marks  
1 hour written exam  
30% of total GCSE

This component will assess:

- 2.1 Socio-cultural influences
- 2.2 Sports psychology
- 2.3 Health, fitness and well-being

#### **Practical performance (04)**

40 marks, weighted up to 60  
non-exam assessment  
(NEA)  
30% of total GCSE

This component will assess:

Performance of two activities taken from the approved lists

#### **Analysing and evaluating performance (05)**

This component draws upon the knowledge, understanding and skills a student has learnt and enables them to analyse and evaluate their own or a peer's performance in one activity

## **Revision Resources**

**OCR GCSE PE Revision Guide ; Podcasts; Revision resources in Classworks>PE Folder.**

### **Sports Studies (Cambridge Nationals)**

**Cambridge Nationals - Sport Studies Level 1/2 Award/Certificate - J803, J813 - OCR**

Made up of 4 components

**RO51 Exam Content (25%) LO1,2,3,4.**

**RO54 Sport & Media Written Coursework (25%) LO1,2,3,4,5.**

**RO52 Practical (25%). 2 Sports**

**RO53 Leadership (25%)**

**Resources Available - Bespoke DLS Revision Guide – students have these sent electronically. DLS Podcasts.**

## **Art and Design GCSE (AQA)**

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/art-and-design/gcse/art-and-design-8201-8206>

GCSE Art students will not sit an examination in Art and Design. Students will be assessed on their Art Portfolio only.

### **What students need to do in order to achieve their full potential in their Art GCSE this year?**

- Complete homework assignments and plan their ideas at home. There are video demonstrations in FILES on Teams to support students with home studies. Those students who reach the higher-grade boundaries are those who arrive to each lesson with a plan/idea of what they need to do.
- Attend afterschool sessions. Not only are students able to use the facilities, but those extra talks and that extra guidance from their teachers and other peers are invaluable; ideas are often consolidated. We have enjoyed the buzz and the atmosphere in the last few weeks, as we have had many students attending already.
- Work with us, be open minded and act on feedback provided. We are passionate about art education and want the very best for each and every one of our students.
- Try to enjoy every minute as their time at De La Salle is sadly coming to a close; take full advantage of anything offered by the school to support the learning experience.

### **BTech Engineering (Level 1 and Level 2)**

There will be no exams for this qualification. Awarded grades will be based on coursework.

There will be an opportunity for selected students to resit their y10 exam in June – more details to follow.

Students must adhere to coursework deadlines – see MS Teams for further information.

### **GCSE Graphics (AQA)**

There will be no exams for this qualification. Awarded grades will be based on coursework.

Students must adhere to coursework deadlines – see MS Teams for further information.

### **Hospitality and Catering Level 1 and Level 2 (WJEC)**

[https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/hospitality-and-catering-level-1-2#tab\\_overview](https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/hospitality-and-catering-level-1-2#tab_overview)

There will be no exams for this qualification. Awarded grades will be based on coursework.

Students must adhere to coursework deadlines – see MS Teams for further information.

## **GCSE Drama (OCR)**

### **GCSE - Drama (9-1) - J316 (from 2016) - OCR**

#### **Component 1 (30% of GCSE ) – Devising Drama (December 2021)**

- Students will create their own devised performance based on a chosen stimulus from the exam board stimulus paper.
- In addition to the performance, students will be marked on an accompanying portfolio with evidence of the process and decisions made whilst creating and developing their performance.

#### **Component 2 (30% of GCSE)– Presenting and Performing Text (March 2022) -**

Perform ONE scene from a well-known play

#### **Component 3 (40% of GCSE) – Performance and Response (May 2022)**

- Section A: Study Blood Brothers. Answer questions of Character's from the play, demonstrate you knowledge of the play.
- Section B: Analyse and evaluate a live theatre performance

### **Revision**

<b>Tuesday after school</b>	<b>Every Lunch time From 1<sup>st</sup> November</b>	<b>Rehearsal and revision weekends</b>	<b>Easter Sessions and additional times TBC</b>
Intervention for selected students requiring support	All students to use as rehearsal time in preparation for devising drama.	W/C 14 <sup>th</sup> February Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup> May Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	

## Music GCSE (AQA)

[AQA | Music | GCSE | Music](#)

### **Component 1(40% of GCSE) - Understanding (July 2022)**

- Students will sit a written exam.
  - Section A is a listening exam, where they will be asked to appraise unfamiliar music.
  - Section B explores the study pieces that they will have been taught throughout the year Paul Simon's Graceland Album
- The exam is 1 hour and 30 minutes and is worth 40% of GCSE marks.

### **Component 2 (30% of GCSE)– Performing (Sept 21 – May 22)**

- Students will have to perform as either a soloist for at least a minute and a half **or** as part of an ensemble for a duration of 2 minutes.
- Students may choose the pieces that they perform and it is encouraged that they play to a Grade 5 standard.

### **Component 3 (30% of GCSE) – Composing**

- Students will compose **one** piece of music with a duration of at least two minutes.
- Their compositions may be based around the brief set by the exam board, or it can be a free composition.
- Students will be required to appropriately notate their performance (i.e. Tab, traditional notation, lead sheet)
- A recording of the composition must be completed, however students do not have to perform their own composition as it can be computer generated.

### **Revision**

<b>Tuesday after school</b>	<b>Lunch / After school sessions</b>	<b>Break time rehearsals</b>	<b>Early Morning Music Club</b>
Two members of staff co-teach this class so there are opportunities for 1-on-1 support throughout the year	Every Tuesday Lunch and After School.	Students should use their break times to practise their performances and/or develop compositions	Early morning music club so pupils can take the opportunity to rehearse, compose and/or work with a teacher to revise for the exam

### Vocational Music (RSL)

<https://cloud.rslawards.com/#:~:text=RSL%20Graded%20Music%20Exams%2C%20Performance%20Arts%20Awards%20and,is%20recognised%20the%20world%20over.%2045%20Operating%20Countries>

<b>Unit 201ta – Musical Knowledge Learning Aim 1</b>	<b>Unit 201ta – Musical Knowledge Learning Aim 2</b>
Assessment date: 01/11/21 Internal verification: 08/11/21 Planned resubmission: 15/11/21 Internal verification of resubmission: 06/12/21	Assessment date: 07/02/22 Internal verification: 14/02/22 Planned resubmission: 21/02/22 Internal verification of resubmission: 07/03/21

### Revision

<b>Every Lunch time From September</b>	<b>Extra-curricular</b>	<b>Peripatetic lessons</b>	<b>Easter Sessions and additional times  TBC</b>
All students to use as rehearsal time / instrumental practise	All students encouraged to partake in school musical of We Will Rock You to develop musicianship	Each learner given a free weekly lesson with professional instrument specialist	

### Travel and Tourism (BTEC)

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-nationals/health-and-social-care-2016.html>

There will be no exams for this qualification. Awarded grades will be based on coursework.

Students must adhere to coursework deadlines – see MS Teams for further information.

### Health and Social (BTEC)

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/subjects/travel-and-tourism/btec-travel-and-tourism.html>

There will be no exams for this qualification. Awarded grades will be based on coursework.

Students must adhere to coursework deadlines – see MS Teams for further information.