

Key to Success Evening



Key Information:

Dates:

- Year 11 mock exams are scheduled to take place between the **9th-20th of November** (including on the two TD Days) and **1st-5th March**.
- Year 11 Subject Consultation Evening is **Wednesday 16th December 4-7pm**.
- Summer Public exam dates are now finalised and written exams will take place between the **10th of May and 18th of June 2026**. Parents should note there are the 23rd June is a contingency session in next year's timetable. Pupils must ensure they remain available on this date, in the event of national or significant local disruption to examinations in the UK during the exam season that may cause exams to be postponed.
- GCSE results are scheduled to be released to pupils on **Thursday 19th of August 2027**.

Staff:

- Mr Young – Headteacher youngj@deanerycofeacademy.org.uk
- Mr McDonald - Deputy Headteacher (Curriculum) mcdonaldd@deanerycofeacademy.org.uk
- Ms Parry - Assistant Headteacher (Pastoral) parrys@deanerycofeacademy.org.uk
- Mrs Mathews - Assistant Headteacher (Performing Arts) matthewsd@deanerycofeacademy.org.uk
- Mrs Scotford – Assistant Headteacher (English) scotforde@deanerycofeacademy.org.uk
- Miss McCaig - Associate Assistant Headteacher (Mathematics) mccaigt@deanerycofeacademy.org.uk
- Mrs Hockin – Associate Assistant Headteacher (Science) hockinc@deanerycofeacademy.org.uk
- Mrs Gallagher - Associate Assistant Headteacher (Humanities) gallaghers@deanerycofeacademy.org.uk

Maths

Revision:

- Sparx, in person revision sessions.
- Further Maths Enrichment on Wednesday
- Pearson Edexcel Grades 9-1 revision guides
- Past Paper Club (Jan-May)

Key Facts

Qualification Name: GCSE
Mathematics

Type: GCSE

Assessment: 100% Examination

Examination Board: Edexcel

Ebacc Subject: Yes

Further Information: Miss McCaig
mccaigt@deanerycofeacademy.org.uk

Foundation Tier 100% examination

Achievable grades: 1-5

Paper 1 - Non-calculator, 90 minutes, 80 marks

Paper 2 - Calculator, 90 minutes, 80 marks

Paper 3 - Calculator, 90 minutes, 80 marks

Higher Tier 100% examination

Achievable grades: 3-9

Paper 1 - Non-calculator, 90 minutes, 80 marks

Paper 2 - Calculator, 90 minutes, 80 marks

Paper 3 - Calculator. 90 minutes. 80 marks

Examination code	Title	Date	Time	Duration
1MA1 1F	Paper 1 (Non-Calculator) Foundation Tier	Friday 14 th May	AM	1h 30m
1MA1 1H	Paper 1 (Non-Calculator) Higher Tier	Friday 14 th May	AM	1h 30m
1MA1 2F	Paper 2 (Calculator) Foundation Tier	Thursday 27 th May	AM	1h 30m
1MA1 2H	Paper 2 (Calculator) Higher Tier	Thursday 27 th May	AM	1h 30m
1MA1 3F	Paper 3 (Calculator) Foundation Tier	Monday 14 th June	AM	1h 30m
1MA1 3H	Paper 3 (Calculator) Higher Tier	Monday 14 th June	AM	1h 30m

	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Week 8	Week 9	Week 10	Week 11	Week 12
Autumn	Graphs Gradients & lines FREE TRIAL VIEW	Graphs Non-linear graphs VIEW	Graphs Using graphs VIEW	Algebra Expanding & factorising VIEW	Algebra Changing the subject VIEW	Algebra Functions VIEW						
Spring	Reasoning Multiplicative reasoning VIEW	Reasoning Geometric reasoning VIEW	Reasoning Algebraic reasoning VIEW	Revision & communication Transforming & Constructing VIEW	Revision & communication Listing & describing VIEW	Revision & communication Show that... VIEW						
Summer	Revision and examinations VIEW											



English Language

Revision:

- Enrichment: Thursdays 3:20-4:20
- Homework: Tassomai & Pink Book Essay Prep
- Website: Knowledge Organizers, past papers & online links
<https://www.dcea.org.uk/parent-information/our-curriculum/subjects/english/>

Spoken Word

Separate compulsory element
Individual presentation to the class

Key Facts

Qualification Name: GCSE English Language

Type: GCSE

Assessment: 100% Examination – 2 exam papers

Tiered: No – all students sit the same papers

Examination Board: AQA

Ebacc Subject: Yes

Further Information: Mrs. Scotford
(scotforde@deanerycofeacademy.org.uk)

Exam Paper	Length of Exam	Topic	Questions	Marks	/160
Language Paper 1 50% of Language GCSE	1hr 45mins	Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing: 1x Fiction extract	Reading: 4 multiple choice questions 2 longer form questions 1 extended question	/4 2x /8 /20	/80
			Writing: 1 extended writing question	/24 content & organisation /16 SPAG	
Language Paper 2 50% of Language GCSE	1hr45mins	Writer's viewpoints and perspectives: 2x Non Fiction extracts	Reading: 1 short form question 2 longer form questions 1 extended comparison question	/4 1x /8 1x /12 /24	/80
			Writing: 1 extended writing question	/24 content & organisation /16 SPAG /	

English Literature



Revision:

-Enrichment: Thursdays 3:20-4:20
 -Homework: Tassomai & Pink Book Essay Prep
 - Website: Knowledge Organizers, key quotations, past papers & online links
<https://www.dcea.org.uk/parent-information/our-curriculum/subjects/english/>

Key Facts

Qualification Name: GCSE English Literature
Type: GCSE
Assessment: 100% Examination – 2 exam papers
Tiered: No – all students sit the same papers
Examination Board: AQA
Ebacc Subject: Yes
Further Information: Mrs. Scotford
 (scotforde@deanerycofeacademy.org.uk)

Exam Paper	Length of Exam	Questions	Marks	/160
Literature Paper 1 40% of Literature GCSE	1hr45mins	Macbeth	30 + 4 SPAG	/64
		A Christmas Carol	30	
Literature Paper 2 60% of Literature GCSE	2hr15mins	An Inspector Calls	30 + 4 SPAG	/96
		Power and Conflict Poetry	30	
		<i>Unseen Poetry (1 poem)</i>	24	
		<i>Compare unseen poems</i>	8	

Exam Dates:

English Literature Paper 1: 12th May 2026
English Literature Paper 2: 19th May 2026
English Language Paper 1: 24th May 2026
English Language Paper 2: 8th June 2026

Biology

Key Facts

Qualification Name: GCSE Biology

Assessment: 100% Examination

Examination Board: AQA

Further Information: Mrs Hockin

hockinc@deanerycofeacademy.org.uk

How Assessed?

Examination code	Title	Date	Time	Duration
8461/1F	Paper 1 Foundation Tier - Biology	11 th May 2027	Afternoon	1h 45m
8461/1H	Paper 1 Higher Tier - Biology	11 th May 2027	Afternoon	1h 45m
8461/2F	Paper 2 Foundation Tier - Biology	10 th June 2027	Morning	1h 45m
8461/2H	Paper 2 Higher Tier - Biology	10 th June 2027	Morning	1h 45m

- Multiple choice, structured, closed short answer and open response
- Each paper worth 100 marks

Foundation Tier- 100% examination

Achievable grades: 1-5

Paper 1 – Topics 1-4

Paper 2 – Topics 5-7

Plus Key Ideas

Higher Tier- 100% examination

Achievable grades: 5-9

Paper 1 – Topics 1-4

Paper 2 – Topics 5-7

Plus Key Ideas

Subject Content

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

Revision:

Tuesday Afternoon – 3.20 – 4.20 - Science Corridor

CGP Biology Revision Guide – Foundation or Higher

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

<https://www.physicsandmathstutor.com/biology-revision/gcse-aqa/>

Chemistry

Key Facts

Qualification Name: GCSE Chemistry

Assessment: 100% Examination

Examination Board: AQA

Further Information: Mrs Hockin

hockinc@deanerycofeacademy.org.uk

How Assessed?

Examination code	Title	Date	Time	Duration
8462/1F	Paper 1 Foundation Tier - Chemistry	17 th May 2027	Morning	1h 45m
8462/1H	Paper 1 Higher Tier - Chemistry	17 th May 2027	Morning	1h 45m
8462/2F	Paper 2 Foundation Tier - Chemistry	15 th June 2027	Morning	1h 45m
8462/2H	Paper 2 Higher Tier - Chemistry	15 th June 2027	Morning	1h 45m

- Multiple choice, structured, closed short answer and open response
- Each paper worth 100 marks

Foundation Tier- 100% examination
Achievable grades: 1-5
Paper 1 – Topics 1-5
Paper 2 – Topics 6-10

Higher Tier- 100% examination
Achievable grades: 5-9
Paper 1 – Topics 1-5
Paper 2 – Topics 6-10

Subject Content

- 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

Revision:

Tuesday Afternoon – 3.20 – 4.20 - Science Corridor

CGP Chemistry Revision Guide – Foundation or Higher

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

<https://www.physicsandmathstutor.com/chemistry-revision/gcse-aqa/>

Physics

Key Facts

Qualification Name: GCSE Physics

Assessment: 100% Examination

Examination Board: AQA

Further Information: Mrs Hockin

hockinc@deanerycofeacademy.org.uk

How Assessed?

Examination code	Title	Date	Time	Duration
8463/1F	Paper 1 Foundation Tier – Physics	25 th May 2027	Morning	1h 45m
8463/1H	Paper 1 Higher Tier - Physics	25 th May 2027	Morning	1h 45m
8463/2F	Paper 2 Foundation Tier - Physics	18 th June 2027	Morning	1h 45m
8463/2H	Paper 2 Higher Tier - Physics	18 th June 2027	Morning	1h 45m

- Multiple choice, structured, closed short answer and open response
- Each paper worth 100 marks

Foundation Tier- 100% examination

Achievable grades: 1-5

Paper 1 – Topics 1-4

Paper 2 – Topics 5-8

Higher Tier- 100% examination

Achievable grades: 5-9

Paper 1 – Topics 1-4

Paper 2 – Topics 5-8

Subject Content

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

Revision:

Tuesday Afternoon – 3.20 – 4.20 - Science Corridor

CGP Physics Revision Guide – Foundation or Higher

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

<https://www.physicsandmathstutor.com/physics-revision/gcse-aqa/>

Science

Key Facts

Qualification Name: GCSE Combined Science - Trilogy

Assessment: 100% Examination

Examination Board: AQA

Further Information: Mrs Hockin

hockinc@deanerycofeacademy.org.uk

How Assessed?

There are six papers: two biology, two chemistry and two physics. Each of the papers will assess knowledge and understanding from distinct topic areas. **This examination is worth two Grades.**

Examination code	Title	Date	Time	Duration
8464/B/1F	Paper 1 Foundation Tier - Biology	11 th May 2027	Afternoon	1h 15m
8464/B/1H	Paper 1 Higher Tier - Biology	11 th May 2027	Afternoon	1h 15m
8464/B/2F	Paper 2 Foundation Tier - Biology	10 th June 2027	Morning	1h 15m
8464/B/2H	Paper 2 Higher Tier - Biology	10 th June 2027	Morning	1h 15m
8464/C/1F	Paper 1 Foundation Tier - Chemistry	17 th May 2027	Morning	1h 15m
8464/C/1H	Paper 1 Higher Tier - Chemistry	17 th May 2027	Morning	1h 15m
8464/C/2F	Paper 2 Foundation Tier - Chemistry	15 th June 2027	Morning	1h 15m
8464/C/2H	Paper 2 Higher Tier - Chemistry	15 th June 2027	Morning	1h 15m
8464/P/1F	Paper 1 Foundation Tier - Physics	25 th May 2027	Morning	1h 15m
8464/P/1H	Paper 1 Higher Tier - Physics	25 th May 2027	Morning	1h 15m
8464/P/2F	Paper 2 Foundation Tier - Physics	18 th June 2027	Morning	1h 15m
8464/P/2H	Paper 2 Higher Tier - Physics	18 th June 2027	Morning	1h 15m

- Multiple choice, structured, closed short answer and open response

Foundation Tier- 100% examination

Achievable grades: 1-5

Each paper worth 70 marks

Higher Tier- 100% examination

Achievable grades: 5-9

Each Paper worth 70 marks

Examination code	Title	Subject Content
8464/B/1F	Paper 1 Foundation Tier - Biology	Topics 1 - 4
8464/B/1H	Paper 1 Higher Tier - Biology	Topics 1 - 4
8464/B/2F	Paper 2 Foundation Tier - Biology	Topics 5 – 7
8464/B/2H	Paper 2 Higher Tier - Biology	Topics 5 – 7
8464/C/1F	Paper 1 Foundation Tier - Chemistry	Topics 8 - 12
8464/C/1H	Paper 1 Higher Tier - Chemistry	Topics 8 - 12
8464/C/2F	Paper 2 Foundation Tier - Chemistry	Topics 13 - 17
8464/C/2H	Paper 2 Higher Tier - Chemistry	Topics 13 – 17
8464/P/1F	Paper 1 Foundation Tier - Physics	Topics 18 – 21
8464/P/1H	Paper 1 Higher Tier - Physics	Topics 18 – 21
8464/P/2F	Paper 2 Foundation Tier - Physics	Topics 22 – 24
8464/P/2H	Paper 2 Higher Tier - Physics	Topics 22 – 24

Subject Content

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

Revision:

Wednesday Afternoon – 3.20 – 4.20 - Science Corridor

CGP Combined Science Revision Guide – Foundation or Higher

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

<https://dev.physicsandmathstutor.com/biology-revision/gcse-aqa/>

<https://dev.physicsandmathstutor.com/chemistry-revision/gcse-aqa/>

<https://dev.physicsandmathstutor.com/physics-revision/gcse-aqa/>

Religious Studies

Paper 1 = Study of two religions:
Christianity & Islam
(1hr 45mins exam)

Paper 2 = Study of 4 themes:
1. *Religion & life*
2. *Religion, peace & conflict*
3. *Religion, crime & punishment*
4. *Religion, human rights & social justice*
(1hr 45mins exam)

The full specification can be found here:
<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/religious-studies/gcse/religious-studies-a-8062/subject-content/component-1-the-study-of-religions-beliefs,-teachings-and-practices>

Key facts

Qualification Name: GCSE
Religious Studies A

Type: GCSE

Assessment: 100% Exam

Examination Board: AQA

EBacc Subject: No

gallaghers@deanerycofeacademy.org.uk

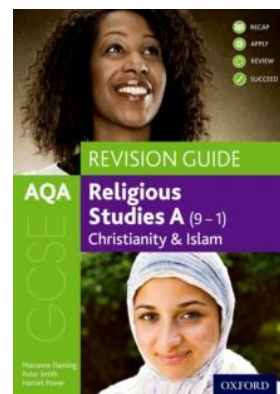
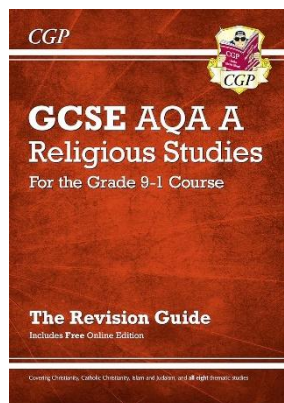
Religious Studies allows learners to develop and grow their skills of enquiry and evaluation, and allows us to ask those big questions in the context of our lives and the lives of our worldly neighbours. Religious Studies enables learners to engage with the beliefs and cultures of others and will develop those skills needed to work well with others. This is a subject which helps us to make sense of how the world works and helps learners to engage with others in a positive and understanding way.

The Oak Academy has some brilliant lessons, which cover what we need to know and will be a good revision tool:

<https://classroom.thenational.academy/subjects-by-key-stage/key-stage-4/subjects/religious-education>

Additionally, BBC Bitesize also has some useful revision and quizzes to test your knowledge: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zjgx47h>

All knowledge organisers are also available on the school website: <https://www.dcea.org.uk/parent-information/our-curriculum/subjects/religious-education/>



Should you wish to purchase a revision guide to assist your revision, we recommend these.

GCSE RS revision top tips!

1. **Learn key quotes:** and how to use them! Make a bank of top quotes and read, cover, recall and repeat
2. **Make a revision timetable:** don't just revise what you're already confident in. Make sure you focus on your weaker areas! Little and often is more productive than in big chunks.
3. **Practice answering exam questions:** in timed conditions. Your RE teacher will happily mark these for you and provide feedback.

Revision

The 3 Steps to Effective Revision

Successful revision has **three key ingredients**:

1. MOTIVATION: Getting yourself ready to learn

Before you start revising, make sure you have a plan and the right environment.

✓ Do

- Revise little and often (30-60 minutes at a time).
- Create a simple revision timetable.
- Balance revision with hobbies, sports and relaxation.
- Work in a quiet space free from distractions.
- Be realistic about how much you can achieve.

✗ Don't

- Leave revision until the last minute.
- Revise for hours without breaks.
- Work when you're exhausted or hungry.
- Have distractions around you.
- Revise with friends unless you're actually working.

Top Tip

Year 11 is a marathon, not a sprint. Small amounts of regular revision are far more effective than cramming.



2. COGNITION: Learning and remembering information

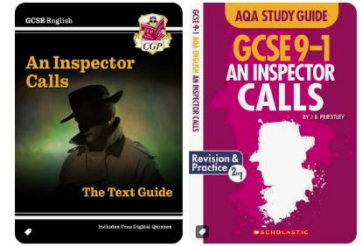
Most exam questions test three different skills:

Assessment Objective	What it means	Examples
AO1	Recall knowledge and facts	Definitions, key quotations, facts
AO2	Apply your knowledge	Explain, describe, give reasons
AO3	Analyse and evaluate	Compare, justify, evaluate, discuss



AO1: Remember It

- Flashcards
- Knowledge organisers
- Revision guides
- Educational videos
- Quizzes



A02: Use It

- Summary questions
- Practice exam questions
- Online quizzes
- Explain topics to someone else
- Ask teachers for help



A03: Master It

- Complete full past papers
- Practise under timed conditions
- Use mark schemes
- Review examiner language
- Create your own exam questions

[illegible]

Golden Rule

Start with remembering the knowledge, then move on to applying and analysing it through exam practice.

3. METACOGNITION: Checking if your revision is actually working

The best students don't just revise. They regularly check whether their revision is effective.

Ask Yourself:

- ✓ What do I know well?
- ✓ What do I still need to learn?
- ✓ Is this revision method helping me remember?
- ✓ Am I spending my time wisely?



Ways to Check Your Learning

- Use a specification checklist.
- Complete quizzes.



- Answer past paper questions.
- Mark your work using mark schemes.
- Identify strengths and weaknesses.
- Adapt your revision methods if they aren't working.

Growth Mindset

If a past paper doesn't go well:

✗ Don't think: *"I'm not good at this."*

✓ Think: *"What can I do differently next time?"*

Every mistake is feedback that helps you improve.

Plan it. Learn it. Check it. Improve it.

This cycle is the key to successful revision.



Top 10 Ultimate Revision Tips

Here are the absolute must-know, save-your-life-in-a-fight-with-a-zombie-exam-paper, ultimate revision tips.

- Start revising **as soon as possible**.
- Plan your revision using a timetable.
- Set up a **tidy study space**.
- **Revisit topics** several times with a gap in between.
- Vary your revision with different activities.
- Do lots of **practice papers** and questions.
- Set aside time to do fun things.
- Keep your ~~phone~~ and other ~~distractions~~ away.
- ^{zzz} **Sleep and eat properly.**
mmmmm
- Don't panic! **Plan your work and work your plan** and you'll be eating your eggs-ams for breakfast!

○ ● ○ ● ○ ● ○

Weekly GCSE Revision Timetable - From __/__/____ To __/__/____

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
8:00 - 8:30							
8:30 - 9:30							
9:30 - 9:45							
9:45 - 10:45							
10:45 - 11:00							
11:00 - 12:00							
12:00 - 12:30							
12:30 - 1:30							
1:30 - 1:45							
1:45 - 2:45							
2:45 - 3:00							
3:00 - 4:00							
4:00 - 5:00							
5:00 - 6:00							
6:00 - 7:00							
7:00 - 8:00							
8:00 - 8:15							
8:15 - 9:15							
9:15 - 9:30							
9:30 - 10:00							
10:00							

Useful Revision Tools



Sparx Maths



The UK's Favourite Educational Books

Bestselling revision and practice for SATs, GCSE, A-Level and lots more!