



The Kings of Wessex Academy

Getting the best out of everyone

March 2017

Dear Parent/Guardian

Year 9 Internal Exams – Summer 2017

I am writing to inform you of some very important exams that are due to take place for Year 9 students at The Kings of Wessex Academy between 15 May and 8 June 2017.

Please find overleaf a timetable which indicates when exams in specific subjects are taking place. Your son/daughter will be issued with an Individual Candidate Exam Timetable by their tutor which indicates exactly which papers they are sitting with details given regarding starting times, venues and seat numbers. The release of this timetable will coincide with the Year 9 Exam Briefing on Tuesday 9th May 2017.

I would be grateful if you could emphasise the importance of thorough preparation for these imminent exams. Although these exams are not GCSE modular exams, it is vitally important that Year 9 students prepare themselves conscientiously for these assessments, which will give them an essential opportunity to practise the application of their knowledge, under exam conditions on the work they have covered to date.

To assist with the revision process, I have asked relevant Subject Leaders to indicate in the table below, which topics Year 9 students will need to focus on in preparing for these important internal examinations.

Business	Students will be sitting a Unit 1 paper which covers areas taught this year to include ownership; marketing; costs revenues and profit; cash flow forecasting. The focus of each area is in relation to start-up businesses and will have a combination of short answer questions based on knowledge only and longer 9 mark questions where students are expected to apply their knowledge to the given case study. There will be 3 case studies in total and the paper will be marked out of 60. Students will have one hour to complete the paper and should bring a calculator to the exam.
Computer Science	To prepare effectively, students should revise the key topics of study from this year. This includes; Computer Systems, Hardware, Software and Data Representation. For more information students should refer to the revision resources section of Firefly. There they will find an overview of what should be revised, revision materials and more information.
Food Preparation & Nutrition	Students will sit a one hour exam based on healthy eating and wise food choice, diet, nutrition, recipe adaption and ethical use of food ingredients. Using revision documents available on Firefly (Y9 revision section) and reading through class/homework will help prepare students for the exam.
Design & Technology	Students will sit a one hour exam. The paper will contain a mixture of short/long answer questions relating to the following topics: renewable energy, metals, woods, plastics, anthropometrics, ergonomics and smart technology. Students will be taught how to research and prepare for the examination in lessons and will be able to access support material to help revise either via the www.technologystudent.com website.
English Language	Year 9 students will sit a Key Stage 3 assessment paper in the style of the AQA GCSE English Language Paper 2, 'Writer's Viewpoints and Perspectives'. The paper is 1 hour 45 minutes long and consists of two sections: Section A Reading - students will read two texts, one non-fiction and one literary non-fiction (likely to be an extract from the 19th Century and an article from a current broadsheet newspaper) and answer questions on them. As this is a test of their reading, students are required to show understanding of the key points in the text; and how the texts are written. Section B Writing - there will be one extended writing task set, requiring very tightly crafted and accurate writing in a formal style. The task will state the type of writing required, the audience and the purpose of the writing. The writing task will be marked separately for content and organisation (24 marks) and technical accuracy (16 marks).

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	In preparation, students will need to revise how to read a variety of C19 fiction texts and broadsheet articles (of any type) and show their understanding of content and the stylistic choices made by the writers. Teachers will provide further guidance for revision in class, including where to find useful revision material on Firefly.
French and German	Students should prepare for the Year 9 reading, listening and writing exams by learning topic specific vocabulary which can be found at the front of their work-booklets and in the relevant topic areas on Firefly. The topics will range from Food and Drink, Leisure Activities and Healthy and Unhealthy Lifestyles. Students can find exam style reading tasks in the challenge section of their topic work booklets and can also refer to their <u>grammar notes</u> to revise the past, present and future verb tenses.
Geography	Students should revise the following three topics for their Year 9 exam: 'The Living World', 'The Changing Economic World' and 'Physical Landscapes in the UK'. Students need to revise the 'processes' for each topic and they can refer to the topic overviews in the GCSE section on Firefly to see what content they need to look at. To learn the content, students can use some of the pages from their AQA Revision Guide as well as the internet and their books. In the green AQA revision guide , the pages that will be useful to students for revision are: 20-23 and 28-29 for 'The Living World' topic; pages 77-83 for the 'The Changing Economic World' topic; and pages 37-42, 47-50 and page 52 for the 'Physical Landscapes in the UK' topic. In the purple AQA revision guide , the pages that will be useful to students for revision are: 28-32 and 39-41 for 'The Living World' topic; pages 107-114 and page 71 for the 'The Changing Economic World' topic; and pages 54-59, 66-69 and page 71 for the 'Physical Landscapes in the UK' topic. Students should also practise exam technique and familiarise themselves with the command words used in exam questions. Students must remember they will be assessed on map skills in this exam and therefore should practise how to read 4 and 6 figure grid references and how to measure scale.
History	Year 9 should revise Crime and Punishment in middle ages, early modern and Industrial Britain. This covered the period 1000AD-1900AD. The one hour exam will include a 4, 12 and 20 mark question.
Maths	Students will be sitting a calculator exam paper based on the mathematics they have learnt to date. Students should revise all of the topics that they have covered this year. Revision resources are available on Firefly.
Music	The exam will consist of questions based on listening extracts from the areas of study covered this year: Mozart 'Eine Kleine Nacht Musik', Serialism & Minimalism, Nocturnes. There will also be a performance element that will take place during lessons before the exam period.
P.E.	The summer term P.E. exam will be sat by all Year 9 GCSE PE students; they should focus on the 2 units that have studied so far this year. These are The Skeletal and Muscular System, Components of Fitness and Fitness Testing and Methods of Training. Students will be given their class booklets to revise from and additional support from their individual class teachers in preparation for the exam. There are also class power points on Firefly to help them.
R.E.	Eduqas Examination board: Component 2 Christianity : In preparation for the one hour Year 9 Examination it is advised that students revise the unit: Component 2 Christianity . Students will be required to answer two full questions, each having parts a, b, c and d. It is recommended that students spend 30 minutes on each complete question; a one hour assessment in total. It is important that students use the writing frame guidance and support material given out in class. The resource booklets are housed on the New GCSE Course Outline page on Firefly and all students have been directed to this page by their teacher.
Biology	The year 9 Biology exam will focus on the topics covered so far this year, namely: Infection and Response, Cell Biology and Organisation. The GCSE Biology Revision Guide you have been provided with covers these topics in detail.
Chemistry	For the Year 9 Chemistry exam students should revise the following units: Metals (Reactivity Series, extraction and alloys), Acids, Atoms, Oil and Rates of Reaction. The GCSE Chemistry Revision Guide you have been provided with covers these topics in detail.
Physics	The year 9 Physics exam will focus on kinetic theory; density; forces; weight, mass & gravity; energy types & transfers; Hooke's law; magnets & electromagnets; wave properties and electromagnetic waves; electrical circuits. The GCSE Physics Revision Guide you have been provided with covers these topics in detail.

I hope you have found this information useful in providing specific details of what your son or daughter should be revising between now and the start of the exams. It is important that Year 9 students now plan and begin their revision of time (making use of time in the evenings, on the weekends and over the Easter and half-term holiday) to prepare for these exams.

Formal feedback on performance in these exams will be given in the Year 9 Grade Reports which will be available online in July.

Finally, please note that **SMARTWATCHES** have now joined mobile phones, iPods and MP3/4 players on the list of 'potential technological/web enabled sources of information' that are classified as 'unauthorised items' and must therefore not be brought into any exam. Possession of such items in a public exam is deemed as a 'serious offence' by all exam boards and will typically result in disqualification if found in the student's possession during an exam. We apply the same rules to our Year 9 examinations and ask for your support in conveying the importance of this message to your son/daughter.

Should you have any further questions regarding these exams, please do not hesitate to contact the relevant Subject Leader(s) in the first instance.

Yours sincerely

CHRISTIAN HUGHES
Assistant Headteacher

Date	Periods 1 and 2 (8.55-11.05)		Period 4 (11.45-12.45)		Periods 5 and 6 (1.40-3.45)	
Mon (A) 15 MAY	GERMAN – Writing	9.00-10.00	COMPUTER SCIENCE	11.45-12.45	RELIGIOUS EDUCATION	1.40-2.40
TUE 16 MAY	<i>Normal lessons</i>	<i>8.55-11.05</i>	FRENCH – Listening	11.45-12.20	<i>Normal lessons</i>	<i>1.40-3.45</i>
WED 17 MAY	ENGLISH	9.00-10.45	<i>Normal lessons</i>	<i>11.45-12.45</i>	HISTORY	1.40-2.40
THUR 18 MAY	<i>Normal lessons</i>	<i>8.55-11.05</i>	BIOLOGY	11.45-12.30	CHEMISTRY	1.40-2.25
FRI 19 MAY	MATHS	9.00-10.45	<i>Normal lessons</i>	<i>11.45-12.45</i>	<i>Normal lessons</i>	<i>1.40-3.45</i>
MON (B) 22 MAY	<i>Normal lessons</i>	<i>8.55-11.05</i>	<i>Normal lessons</i>	<i>11.45-12.45</i>	<i>Normal lessons</i>	<i>1.40-3.45</i>
TUE 23 MAY	FRENCH – Writing	9.00-10.00	GERMAN – Listening	11.45-12.20	BUSINESS	1.40-2.40
WED 24 MAY	<i>Normal lessons</i>	<i>8.55-11.05</i>	PHYSICS	11.45-12.30	<i>Normal lessons</i>	<i>1.40-3.45</i>
THUR 25 MAY	<i>Normal lessons</i>	<i>8.55-11.05</i>	FRENCH – Reading	11.45-12.30	<i>Normal lessons</i>	<i>1.40-3.45</i>
FRI 26 MAY	<i>Normal lessons</i>	<i>8.55-11.05</i>	<i>Normal lessons</i>	<i>11.45-12.45</i>	GEOGRAPHY	1.40-2.40
HALF TERM WEEK						
MON (A) 5 JUNE	<i>Normal lessons</i>	<i>8.55-11.05</i>	<i>Normal lessons</i>	<i>11.45-12.45</i>	<i>Normal lessons</i>	<i>1.40-3.45</i>
TUES 6 JUNE	FOOD PREPARATION & NUTRITION	9.00-10.00	P.E.	11.45-12.30	<i>Normal lessons</i>	<i>1.40-3.45</i>
WED 7 JUNE	<i>Normal lessons</i>	<i>8.55-11.05</i>	<i>Normal lessons</i>	<i>11.45-12.45</i>	<i>Normal lessons</i>	<i>1.40-3.45</i>
THUR 8 JUNE	MUSIC	9.00-10.00	GERMAN – Reading	11.45-12.30	DESIGN TECHNOLOGY	1.40-2.40