



The Kings of Wessex Academy

Getting the best out of everyone

9 April 2018

Dear Parent / Carer

Year 10 Exams 2018

I am writing to inform you of some important internal exams that are due to take place for Year 10 students at The Kings of Wessex Academy from 14 May – 13 June 2018.

These exams, as well as providing excellent preparation for GCSE examinations next year, can also give students and their teachers some really valuable information about their current level of performance, their strengths and those areas that still need to develop. I want to ensure that students have clear information and support to help them best prepare for these important assessments.

Please find overleaf a timetable which indicates when exams in specific subjects are taking place. Your son/daughter will shortly be issued with an Individual Candidate Exam Timetable, which indicates exactly which papers they are sitting with details given regarding starting times, venues and seat numbers.

I would be grateful if you could emphasise the importance of thorough preparation for these exams. These exams represent an invaluable opportunity for Year 10 students to practise the application of their knowledge under exam conditions. This is a fantastic opportunity to learn, improve and achieve.

To assist with the revision process, I have asked the relevant Subject Leaders to indicate in the table below, which topics Year 10 students will need to focus on in preparing for these examinations.

Business Studies	Students will be sitting a Paper 1 from the new specification which covers a selection of areas taught in Years 9 and 10. The focus will be on ownership, operations management, location, business planning, human resource management and some finance. The paper will have a combination of multiple choice, data response and case study questions which will be explained in more detail to students in lessons. Students will need to bring calculators to the exam. Further guidance will be given to students in lessons in terms of topics.
Computer Science	To prepare effectively, students should revise the key topics of study from both Year 9 and Year 10. This includes: Data Representation & Binary, Hardware, Software, Problem Solving and Programming skills such as Pseudo Code, Testing and Trace Tables. 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 written exam testing their theoretical knowledge of food preparation and nutrition. There will be a variety of long and short questions including multiple choice. Students will be able to access revision materials available on Firefly. Students are also advised to buy the two AQA revision guides that can be purchased from the Kings at £3 each.
DT Product Design	Students will sit a one hour exam. The paper will contain a mixture of design and short/long answer questions relating to modelling, orthographic drawing, isometric drawing, repeating patterns and calculating an area of a shape. Students will be taught how to prepare for the examination in lessons and will be able to access support material to help revise via the www.technologystudent.com website
English Language	Students will be sitting a sample AQA English Language GCSE Paper 1 'Explorations in creative reading and writing' exam (this paper will be worth 50% of their total English Language mark when sat in 2019). The paper is 1 hour and 45 minutes long and consists of two sections: Section A – students will read one extract from a work of fiction and answer questions on this extract. As this is a test of their reading, students are required to show understanding of the content, language and structure of the text. Section B – assesses students' writing. There will be a choice of two short tasks, requiring very tightly crafted and accurate writing for a narrative or descriptive purpose. Students will answer one of two tasks; their piece should be written for the specific purpose in the task and use language appropriate to the given audience. In preparation, students will need to revise how to read fiction texts and comment on the language and structure of these texts. Students should use their English books and the resources on Firefly to aid revision.

English Literature	<p>Students will be sitting a sample AQA English Literature GCSE 'Paper 2 Modern texts and poetry' exam (this paper will be worth 60% of their total English Literature mark when sat in 2019). The paper is 2 hours and 15 minutes long and consists of three sections:</p> <p>Section A – students will answer one of a choice of two essay questions on 'Animal Farm' by George Orwell. In preparation, candidates will need to revise key themes, characters and quotes from 'Animal Farm' as well as the contextual influences on the book. Students should use their English books and the resources on Firefly to aid revision.</p> <p>Section B – students will answer a question comparing two poems from the 'Power and Conflict' section in the AQA Anthology: Poems Past and Present. In preparation, candidates will need to revise the poems in their anthology and make links between them. Students should use their English books and the resources on Firefly to aid revision.</p> <p>Section C – students will answer one question on an unseen poem and a second question comparing two unseen poems. In preparation, candidates will need to revise how to read poetry and analyse meaning.</p>
French and German	<p>Students should prepare for the 3 exam papers which assess their reading, listening and writing skills (at Foundation Level), by learning topic specific vocabulary and practising the reading and listening tasks, all of which, can all be found on Firefly in the "Revise" section and by using the "Memrise" links. Students can also purchase the CGP Revision Guides through school or practise the exam style tasks in the challenge section of their work booklets.</p> <p>The topics in the reading and listening papers for both French and German will range from Healthy and Unhealthy Lifestyles, Relationships with Family and Friends, Free Time & the Media, Holidays and Travel, Home and Environment Work and Education and extracts from a literary text.</p> <p>For the French written paper questions will include tasks on the topics of School, Family & Friends and Home and Local Environment.</p> <p>For the German written paper questions will include tasks on the topics of School, Lifestyles, Family & Friends and Attitudes to Marriage.</p> <p>Reading Paper – 45 minutes Section A - questions in English, to be answered in English Section B – questions in French/German to be answered in French/German. Section C – translation from French/German into English</p> <p>Listening Paper – 35 minutes Section A – answer all questions in English. Section B – answer all questions in French/German</p> <p>Writing Paper – 1 hour Question 1 – describe a photo in 4 short sentences in French/German Question 2 – write a short passage in French/German in response to 4 brief bullet points - approx. 40 words. Question 3 – translate 5 English sentences into French/German. Question 4 – a structured writing task. Students must respond to 4 detailed bullet points, producing approximately 90 words in total.</p>
Geography	<p>Students should revise the following two topics for their Year 10 exam: 'The Living World' and 'Physical Landscapes of the UK'. Students should revise both the processes and case studies for each topic. Students can use their green AQA Revision Guide (pages 20-31 and 37-56) or their purple AQA Revision Guide (pages 28-46 and 54-80,) as well as the internet and their books to learn the content for each topic. Students should practise exam technique (especially for 6 to 9 mark questions), and familiarise themselves with the command words used in exam questions. Students must remember they will also 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. Students can refer to the topic overviews in the GCSE section on Firefly to see what content they need to revise in each topic. Students should also be using the pages on Firefly to support their revision, especially for Case Studies.</p>
History	<p>Year 10 should revise two units: Crime and Punishment and Whitechapel. The exam will last 1 hour 15 minutes and there will be a 4 mark comparison question, a 12 mark explain question and a 20 mark judgement question on Crime and Punishment. In the Whitechapel section students are tested on source analysis skills and will complete a 4 mark '2 features' question, an 8 mark usefulness question and a 4 mark 'source follow up' question. All of these questions have been taught and practised in lessons and for homework. Students can use their yellow assessment books to help revise the question structures for the examination. To revise the knowledge, students should use the material in their purple classbooks to support their revision but many also have revision booklets purchased through the department earlier this year. In addition, there is a revision guide available free to download on firefly, a booklet of practise questions and relevant revision lists.</p>
Maths	<p>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.</p>

Music	The exam will consist of 2 sections which follow the standard GCSE format: Section A will consist of listening to extracts from the set works studied to date (Bach 'Brandenburg Concerto', Beethoven 'Piano Sonata', Purcell 'Music for A While' and 'Killer Queen' by Queen), and related but unseen works. Section B will be an essay style question where students answer 1 of 2 questions based on the set works studied to date. There will also be a performance and composition element that will take place during lessons before the exam period.
PE	In preparation for the Year 10 examination the students will need to focus their revision on the two classwork booklets that have been taught this year. Booklet 1 is the Cardiovascular and Respiratory system, Booklet 2 is short and long Term effects of exercise on the different body systems. This also includes Planes Axis and Levers. The examination will be split into two sections; Section A will contain shorter answer questions and test student's knowledge. Section B will include longer answer questions where they will be asked to use and apply the knowledge that they have developed this year. Revision resources are available on firefly.
RE	In preparation for the one hour Year 10 exam it is advised that students revise the units: Component 2 Christianity and Component 3 Judaism . 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 10 exam will focus on the following topics: Cells, Organisation, Infection and Response, Bioenergetics and Homeostasis. The GCSE Biology Revision Guide you have been provided with covers these topics in detail.
Chemistry	For the Year 10 chemistry exam students should revise the following topics: Structure and Bonding, Polymers, Electrolysis and Water units from this year, together with the Atoms (including formula mass and percentage composition), Oil and Rates of Reaction units from Year 9. The GCSE Chemistry Revision Guide you have been provided with covers these topics in detail.
Physics	The Year 10 exam will cover the following topics: Forces, Energy, Particles, Current Electricity, Mains Electricity, and Magnetism, which have been built on since Year 9. The GCSE Physics Revision Guide you have been provided with covers these topics in detail.

I hope that you have found this information useful in providing specific details on what your son or daughter should be revising between now and the exams. It is important that Year 10 students are now setting aside time (in the evenings and on the weekends) to prepare for these exams. This will not necessarily be easy but if students put the hard work in now they can be confident about receiving their exam results in the Summer Term.

Formal feedback on performance in these exams will be given in the Year 10 Grade Reports which will be available online from 4 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 10 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

Jason Edwards

Deputy Headteacher

Timetable: Year 10 Internal Exams, 14 May-13 June 2018

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) 14 MAY	HISTORY	9.00-10.15	<i>Normal lessons</i>	11.45-12.45	<i>Normal lessons</i>	1.40-3.45
Tue 15 MAY	KEY SKILLS DAY	8.55-11.05	KEY SKILLS DAY	11.45-12.45	KEY SKILLS DAY	1.40-3.45
WED 16 MAY	<i>Normal lessons</i>	8.55-11.05	GERMAN - Writing	11.45-12.45	COMPUTER SCIENCE	1.40-3.10
THUR 17 MAY	<i>Normal lessons</i>	8.55-11.05	FRENCH – Listening	11.45-12.20	ENGLISH LANGUAGE	1.40-3.25
FRI 18 MAY	MUSIC	9.00-10.30	DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY	11.45-12.45	FOOD PREPARATION & NUTRITION	1.40-2.40
MON (B) 21 MAY	MATHS	9.00-10.45	FRENCH – Writing	11.45-12.45	PHYSICS	1.40-2.55
TUE 22 MAY	<i>Normal lessons</i>	8.55-11.05	GEOGRAPHY	11.45-12.45	GERMAN - Reading	1.40-2.25
WED 23 MAY	FRENCH – Reading	9.00-9.45	<i>Normal lessons</i>	11.45-12.45	GERMAN - Listening	1.40-2.15
THUR 24 MAY	<i>Normal lessons</i>	8.55-11.05	P.E.	11.45-12.45	<i>Normal lessons</i>	1.40-3.45
FRI 25 MAY	<i>Normal lessons</i>	8.55-11.05	<i>Normal lessons</i>	11.45-12.45	CHEMISTRY	1.40-2.55
HALF TERM WEEK						
MON (A) 4 JUNE	<i>Normal lessons</i>	8.55-11.05	<i>Normal lessons</i>	11.45-12.45	RELIGIOUS STUDIES	1.40-2.40
TUES 5 JUNE	<i>Normal lessons</i>	8.55-11.05	<i>Normal lessons</i>	11.45-12.45	<i>Normal lessons</i>	1.40-3.45
WED 6 JUNE	ENGLISH LITERATURE	9.00-11.15	<i>Normal lessons</i>	11.45-12.45	<i>Normal lessons</i>	1.40-3.45
THUR 7 JUNE	<i>Normal lessons</i>	8.55-11.05	<i>Normal lessons</i>	11.45-12.45	BIOLOGY	1.40-2.55
Fri 8 JUNE	<i>Normal lessons</i>	8.55-11.05	<i>Normal lessons</i>	11.45-12.45	<i>Normal lessons</i>	1.40-3.45
Mon (B) 11 June	<i>Normal lessons</i>	8.55-11.05	<i>Normal lessons</i>	11.45-12.45	<i>Normal lessons</i>	1.40-3.45
Tue 12 JUNE	<i>Normal lessons</i>	8.55-11.05	<i>Normal lessons</i>	11.45-12.45	<i>Normal lessons</i>	1.40-3.45
Wed 13 JUNE	<i>Normal lessons</i>	8.55-11.05	<i>Normal lessons</i>	11.45-12.45	BUSINESS	1.40-3.25