



Kings
Academy

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October 2025

Dear Parent/Carer/Student

Year 13 Pre-Public Exams – November 2025

I am writing to inform you of the important Pre-Public Exams (PPEs) that are due to take place for Year 13 students at The Kings Academy from Monday 17 November to Friday 21 November 2025.

PPEs are internal exams set by subject teachers. The results do not count towards the final grading of qualifications if all exams are undertaken in the Summer series. These exams use exam board assessment materials and mark-schemes and give students a very authentic experience of sitting exams, an excellent preparation for the public exams in the Summer. These exams also give students and their teachers some valuable information regarding their current level of performance, their strengths and those areas which they still need to develop. Our Sixth Form students, in previous years, have told us receiving feedback from their PPEs was one of the most valuable learning experiences in Year 13. Students in Year 13 will sit their PPEs in November 2025 and in March 2026 to support them in being fully prepared for their public exams next Summer.

Please find overleaf a timetable indicating when exams in specific subjects will take place. Students will, in due course, be issued with an Individual Candidate Exam Timetable by their tutor. A copy will be available in My Child at School for both parents and students. This will indicate exactly which papers they are sitting with details of their start times, venues and seat numbers.

To assist with the revision process, I have asked the relevant Subject Leaders to indicate in the table below which topics Year 13 students will need to focus on in preparing for these important exams.

Biology	The exam will be two hours long. The exam will consist of short answer questions and some extended response questions. The focus for these exams will be all the topics 1 – 4 studied in Year 12: Biological molecules, Cells, Organisms exchange substances with their environment, Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms. This will include relevant practical skills covered in these topics.
BTEC Law	Students will be sitting a paper worth two hours on Unit 3. Students will complete two tasks based on learning aims A-D and are able to take into the exam two sides of A4 notes which will be agreed by their teacher. Students will be issued with the prerelease material one week before and will have class time to work on their notes.
BTEC Sport Cert	Unit 2 - Two and a 1/2 hour exam - Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Wellbeing. Covering Lifestyle factors, Screening for programming, Programme Related nutritional needs, Training methods and Training Programme Design Students will be given the topic prior to the exam and will have time to plan their work. They can take up to four sides of A4 paper into the exam with bulleted notes. In the exam they will be given a scenario and they will answer six questions on the areas stated above in relation to the scenario.

A: Kings Academy, Station Road, Cheddar, Somerset, BS27 3AQ
E: office@kowessex.co.uk | W: www.kowessex.co.uk | T: 01934 742608



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BTEC Sport Diploma	Unit 2 - As above for BTEC Sport Certificate Unit 22 – Three hour exam - Investigating Business in Sport and the active leisure industry. Covering Business operations, Business models, Human resources, Marketing and Trends in the Sport and Active Leisure Industry. Students will be issued with instructions to research three businesses prior to the exam. This research can be taken into the exam on up to four sides of A4 as bulleted notes. Students will answer four questions based on a fictitious company which will be given to them in the exam and compare this business with the ones which they have researched.
Business Studies	Students will be sitting a two hour paper comprising of three separate case studies. Each case study will be followed by a range of questions, some numerical, ranging from 3 to 16 mark questions. The content will cover any topic covered in Year 12 and term one of the Year 13 course. Topic lists will be shared with students to enable them to focus their revision on particular elements of the specification.
Chemistry	Students need to revise AS content from Year 12 for their PPE. Topics which should be covered: Unit 1 – Atomic Structure, Amount of Substance, Bonding, Energetics, Kinetics, Equilibria and Redox Reactions; Unit 2 – Periodicity, group two and group seven; and Unit 3 – Introduction to Organic Chemistry, Alkanes and Haloalkanes, Alkenes and Alcohols, Organic Analysis Paper 1 will focus on the Inorganic Chemistry topics with Paper 2 focusing on the Organic Chemistry topics. The Physical Chemistry topics are split between both papers.
Computer Science	Students will be sitting a Paper 1 covering computer systems. The topics will include: 1.1 The characteristics of contemporary processors, input, output and storage devices 1.2 Software and software development 1.3 Exchanging data 1.4 Data types, data structures and algorithms 1.5 Legal, moral, cultural and ethical issues
Core Maths	The paper will be a paper 1, focusing on topics outlined in the topic list students were provided with at the beginning of the year. Revision resources can be found on Firefly under Maths, Core Maths, and then both 'Prerequisite' and 'Revision'.
DT Product Design	This PPE will focus on: Maths in DT, trademarks, processing and working characteristics of: polymers (PTFE, Silicone), wood (laminates), metals, composites, smart materials. Responsible design (focus group), product design and development, quality build, environment (SME).
Digital Media	The PPE will be a past Unit 2 paper (Pre-Production and Planning).
Economics	Students need to prepare for Micro and Macro topics, a combination of topics from Year 12 and the Autumn term of Year 13. There will be a series of short answer questions, some using diagrams followed by a longer mark question from each area which will refer to case study information. Topic lists will be shared with students to enable them to focus their revision on particular elements of the specification.
English Language	Students will sit one paper, Paper 2 (two hours 30 minutes), Dimensions of Linguistic Variations. In Paper 2 they will sit the following three sections: Section A: Language Acquisition. One transcript of a child/children in conversation and students must conduct an analysis of the language use in this transcript. Section B: Topical Language Issues – Writing creatively on a topical language issue (A paper one question that will be moved into Paper 2 for this exam). Section C: Language Change. Two texts from different eras. Students must compare these texts and explore how the language within them has changed over time.
English Literature	Students will sit a full Paper 2 paper, which is two hours and 30 minutes long. This will include the Gothic Critical Appreciation as well as questions on the taught Gothic texts. Students should use their Gothic Anthologies and wider reading for revision. Students will also sit section B of the Paper 1 exam as a separate one hour 15 minutes paper. This requires a comparative response to Oscar Wilde's 'An Ideal Husband' and a selection of Coleridge's poetry. For this section students will have a choice of questions and, therefore, understanding key themes that are shared between the texts is important. They should use their orange revision booklets from year 12 to prepare for this section of the exam.
Film Studies	Students will sit all three sections of Paper 2 Critical Approaches to Film. They will need to know for Section A Skyfall and The Dark Knight Rises, for Section B the Documentary theory and set film (The Act of Killing) and for Section C the Family and Home film they have studied so far (Moonrise

	Kingdom). Students must also revise what we have covered so far on these aspects of film theory: Genre, Representation, Spectatorship, Ideology, Narrative, Institution.
French	Students will sit a full A level Paper 1 Listening, Reading and Writing and a full Paper 2 Essay Writing. For Paper 1, they will need to prepare for all taught topics from Year 12 and the Autumn term of Year 13. A Quizlet vocab set will be shared with them to enable preparation of unfamiliar key vocab from Year 13 topics. For Paper 2, they will be required to write one essay on La Haine and one on Sac de Billes. A Paper 3 Speaking exam will take place in normal lesson time. Students should use past papers for exam technique revision – these are available on savemyexams.com - as well as their class notes and Kerboodle for topic revision.
Geography	Students will be sitting a two hours 30 minutes examination to test the three topics they have studied so far in Year 12. The three topics are: 'Changing Places', 'Coastal Systems and Processes' and 'Natural Hazards'. The exam will be worth 120 marks in total. Questions will vary in marks available from four, six, nine and up to 20 marks. Levels will be used for all other questions that are six marks and over. Two levels will be used for questions worth six marks; three levels will be used for questions worth nine marks; and four levels will be used for questions worth 20 marks. Students should familiarise themselves with the level criteria, so they know how to achieve the highest marks. Although no extra marks will be awarded, quality of written communication and legibility will be assessed, particularly in the level marked questions. Students should use their class notes, support materials on Teams, Topic Overviews and any revision guide they have purchased to help them revise. If students would like guidance on revision guides to purchase, please see their Teams page. It would also be beneficial to practise questions from Past Papers; printed papers can be collected from H6.
History	Students will sit one paper lasting two hours and 15 minutes. This paper will assess students on assessment Objective 1 and assessment Objective 2 which cover the source and essay writing skills required at A Level. Students will complete one 45-minute source essay focused on Topic 1 of Paper 2 South Africa, 1948-1994 and two 45-minute American History essays.
Maths	There will be two papers for students studying A Level Maths: A two-hour Pure Maths paper – which will cover all Year 1 Pure Maths topics, then from Year 2 Pure: Chapter 1 section 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5 on Algebraic and Partial Fractions, Chapter 5 on Radians, Chapter 6 on Trigonometric functions, Chapter 7 on Trigonometry and Chapter 9 on Differentiation section (9.1, 9.2, 9.3, 9.4, 9.5). A 75-minute AS paper on Statistics and Mechanics (The whole of Year 1 mechanics and for statistics content).
Further Maths	There will be two papers for Year 13 Further Maths students: A two-hour Core Pure Maths paper – which will cover everything in Core Pure Book 1 (AS), then from Core Pure Book 2: Chapter 1 on Complex Number, Chapter 6 on Hyperbolic functions (sections 6.1, 6.2 and 6.3), Chapter 5 on Polar coordinates (section 5.1 and 5.2) and Chapter 2 on Series (section 2.1). A one hour 40 minutes AS paper covering the AS content of Decision Maths and Further Statistics 1.
Music Technology	Students will sit two papers: Paper 1: This exam focusses on Component 3 - Listening and Analysing and is designed to assess students' understanding of how music technology has influenced music production and style over time. Students should focus their revision on recording technology: From direct-to-tape to digital audio workstations (DAWs). • Instrumental Technology: Electric guitar, synthesizers, samplers, etc. • Effects and Processing: Delay, reverb, chorus, phaser, flanger, etc. • Music Formats: Vinyl, cassette, CD, MP3, streaming. • Genres and Styles: Jazz, rock, pop, electronic, hip hop, film music, and more. • Historical Context: How technology shaped music production and consumption. Paper 2: This exam focusses on Component 4 - Producing and Analysing. This exam requires both written and practical responses. It assesses students' ability to apply their production skills and theoretical knowledge in a controlled exam setting. Students should revise: • Recording Techniques: Microphone placement, signal flow, gain staging. • Editing and Mixing: EQ, compression, reverb, delay, automation. • MIDI Programming: Quantisation, velocity editing, controller data.

	• Aural Discrimination: Identifying effects, processing, and mix issues. • Technical Numeracy: Interpreting diagrams, signal paths, and data. • Musical Language: Using correct terminology to describe processes. Students should revise using their lesson notes and the Rhinegold A Level Music Technology Study/Revision Books.
Physics	Students will sit a two hour exam comprising of 60 marks of short and long answer questions and 25 multiple choice questions on the following topics: Measurements and their Errors, Particles and Radiation, Waves, Mechanics and Materials, Electricity and Periodic Motion.
Psychology	Students will sit a Psychology Paper 1 which will cover Social Influence, Memory, Attachment and Psychopathology. They will also need to revise Research Methods as this topics questions can also appear in Paper 1.
Religious Studies	Students will sit two papers. Paper 1: Judaism will be a one-hour paper, students will answer one full question including both parts A (AO1 worth 20 marks) and B (AO2 worth 30 marks). Students will choose their question out of a choice of three, testing their knowledge and evaluation of the Judaism topics studied in Years 12 and 13. Paper 2: Philosophy and Ethics will be a two-hour paper. Students will answer two full questions including both parts A (Ao1 worth 20 marks) and B (Ao2 worth 30 marks). Students will be required to answer one Philosophy question and one Ethics question out of a choice of six; three Philosophy questions and three Ethics questions, testing their knowledge and evaluation of the Philosophy and Ethics topics studied in Years 12 and 13. Revision resources will include textbooks and class notes. Class teachers will direct students to relevant websites and online resources.
Sociology	Students will sit a complete Component 2 Paper. Section A: Research Methods Section B: Researching Social Inequalities Revision list and instructions for answering the questions can be found in their course handbook.

I hope you find this information useful in providing specific details on what students should be revising between now and the November PPE exams. It is essential that Year 13 students are now setting aside a significant amount of time (in the evenings, on the weekends and over the holidays) to prepare for these exams. Students will need to strike the right balance over the holidays in having time to rest and relax as well as setting aside sufficient time for revision. This will not necessarily be easy but if students put the hard work in now, use the half-term break wisely, and then come back in November ready to do their best, they can be confident about receiving encouraging PPE results.

Formal feedback on performance in these exams will be given in the Year 13 Reports which will be available in January 2026 ahead of Year 13 Parents' Evening on Thursday 22 January 2026.

If 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



Miss R Hopwood
Deputy Headteacher

TIMETABLE FOR YEAR 13 PRE PUBLIC EXAMS – NOVEMBER 2025

	MORNING	Times	AFTERNOON	Times
MONDAY 17 NOVEMBER	BTEC Sport Unit 22	9.00 – 12.00	Chemistry Paper 1	1.00 – 2.30
	French Paper 1	9.00 – 11.30	DT	1.00 – 2.00
	Maths - Pure	9.00 – 11.00		
	Psychology	9.00 – 11.00		
TUESDAY 18 NOVEMBER	Computer Science	9.00 – 11.30	Biology	1.00 – 3.00
	Business	9.00 – 11.00	Music Tech - Component 3	1.00 – 2.30
	Year 12 Core Maths	9.00 – 10.30	English Literature Paper 1	1.00 – 2.15
WEDNESDAY 19 NOVEMBER	Sociology	9.00 – 11.15	RE - Philosophy & Ethics	1.00 – 3.00
	French Paper 2	9.00 – 11.00	Film Studies	1.00 – 3.00
	Economics	9.00 – 11.00	Further Maths - Decision & Stats	1.00 – 2.40
	BTEC Law	9.00 – 11.00		
THURSDAY 20 NOVEMBER	English Literature Paper 2	9.00 – 11.30	Digital Media	1.00 – 3.00
	BTEC Sport Unit 2	9.00 – 11.30	Chemistry Paper 2	1.00 – 2.30
	English Language	9.00 – 11.30		
	Physics	9.00 – 11.00		
FRIDAY 21 NOVEMBER	Geography	9.00 – 11.30	Maths - Applied	1.00 – 2.15
	Music Tech - Component 4	9.00 – 11.30	RE - Judaism	1.00 – 2.00
	History	9.00 – 11.15		
	Further Maths - Core Pure	9.00 – 11.00		