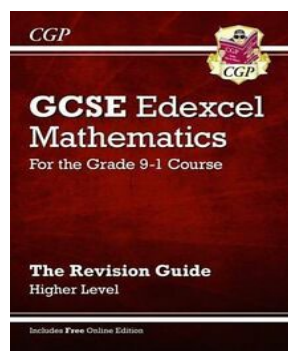


Helping Your Child through their GCSEs...

Your child will be sitting their GCSE exams in Summer 2026 and those results will play a major role in deciding the direction in which their working life travels.

You can help us to make sure your child comes out of the exams well by checking their work through, getting them to use the following revision guides and workbooks, and setting a tone whereby they 100% appreciate that school and grades matter.



GCSE Mathematics...

There is no post-16 route that is not made easier with a top grade in GCSE Maths.

The school currently does the GCSE Edexcel Maths - though it is important you check with your child whether they are doing the Higher (9-4) or Foundation (5-1) paper.

We would recommend you buying the CGP Edexcel Revision Guide and Workbook for the Maths paper your child is doing. Those children pushing towards Grades 7-9 could also add in the specialist 8-9 Workbook as well.

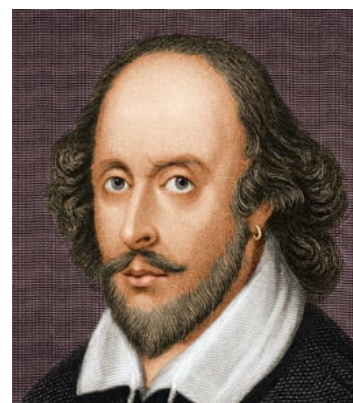
GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature...

Again, all post-16 routes are helped by this GCSE - one of the basics.

We would recommend the CGP Eduqas English Language Revision Guide and Workbook. There are no tiered English papers so one book covers everyone.

We would also suggest buying the books and films of the texts being studied in the English courses. This will be confirmed at the start of Year 10.

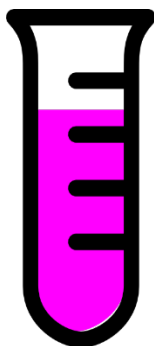
More generally, any reading improves vocabulary, punctuation, grammar and spelling - the best results usually come from those who read regularly.



GCSE Combined Science...

Most students take this AQA course but they may be entered for the Higher (9-4) or Foundation (5-1) tier.

The course is worth two GCSEs and covers Biology, Chemistry and Physics. We would recommend the CGP GCSE Combined Science Revision Guide and Workbook.



GCSE Triple Science...

Some students may choose to do Triple Science and this means they do separate AQA GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Again, they could be Higher (9-4) or Foundation (5-1) tier.

In this case, we would again point to the CGP Revision Guidance and Workbook but this would be for each separate subject (so three sets of books).



GCSE French...

The AQA GCSE French course sees 25% given over to each of Speaking, Listening, Reading and Writing.

The CGP AQA French Revision Guide and Workbook can be supported by the CGP GCSE French Grammar Workbook.

Currently, this GCSE course includes an optional Year 11 field trip to Paris which includes language skills, mentoring sessions, and practical experience.

Exam Concessions

Your child may well qualify for exam concessions, which could mean use of a computer or extra time. We will monitor which children may qualify for this and if necessary run them through formal assessments which are required in order to qualify. If your child does qualify then it is nothing to worry about and we will let you know.



GCSE Geography...

Our popular GCSE Geography runs to the AQA course. It includes a good variety of human and physical topics and includes practical field visits to connect to an exam which has set investigations to prep in advance.

We would recommend the Revision Guide called: 'My Revision Notes: AQA GCSE (9-1) Geography'.



GCSE History...

Our extremely popular GCSE History course is the WJEC Eduqas syllabus and it is a one tier paper. Currently, the course covers: The Elizabethan Age, 1558-1603, The Development of the USA, 1919-2000, Germany in Transition, 1919-1939 and Changes in Entertainment and Leisure in Britain, c500 to the present day. There will be a field trip to Blackpool to support the case study.

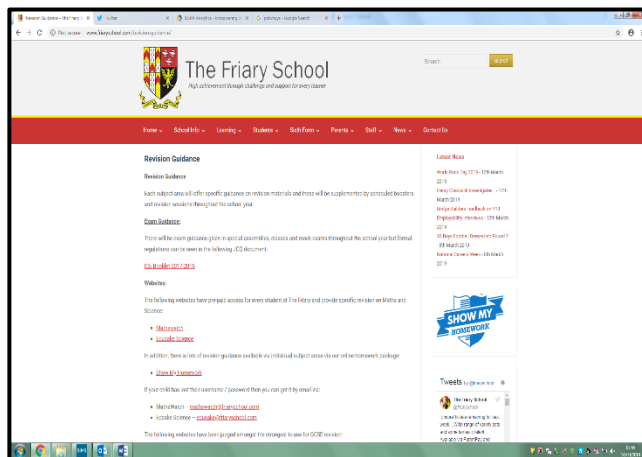
We would recommend the Revision Guide titled 'My Revision Notes: WJEC Eduqas GCSE (9-1) History'.

Study Skills & Revision...

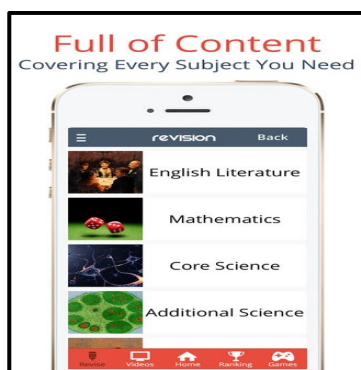
The students who perform best in their exams undertake revision work throughout the course - not just as homework, but as their own independent study.

The school website has some excellent revision skills resources that help students to work alone at home: <https://www.friaryschool.co.uk/revision/>.

You can support this extra work by making sure your child has a place to work, a selection of revision guides, paper, pens, highlighters, etc.



Perhaps the most important step any parent can take to secure their child's exam success is to take an active interest in their homework and private study. Parents will often watch a show, or attend a match, but sometimes not put that amount of time into their child's study. If you are a participant in their work, a celebrator of their success, and an advocate of their 'passes', then your child will more than likely follow your lead. You don't need to know it all, but you can still be a very positive force.



Online Study & Revision...

Our school has secured your child access to some excellent online resources that will help your child to do better in each subject.

One example is MathsWatch which includes video tutorials, set topic worksheets, and means that you and your child can watch a trained teacher explain a Maths task and then practise working on sample questions.

Elsewhere, many subjects are covered by our partnership with PIXL and your child can access online materials in History, Geography, Science, etc.

Elsewhere, there are a wide range of superb GCSE online websites, whether it be BBC Bitesize or Revision World, and a large number of phone / tablet apps which help with revision, including Revision Buddies and iMindMap.

FACT BOX

DAYS IN A YEAR... 365

HOURS IN A YEAR... 8,760

HOURS IN LESSONS... 950

% OF YEAR IN LESSONS... 10.8%

% OF YEAR OUT OF LESSONS... 89.2%

Wrapping Up...

We are fortunate that the vast majority of our parents appreciate in the time we have (10.8% of the year) we cannot cover everything: GCSEs are one thing, but the latest pushes are also on knife crime, diversity, workplace skills, etc. We will promise to do all we can - but we cannot get the GCSE results alone. We will do better with your help.