

## Study Advice - Key Stage 4

### ***Maths:***

- Study examples carefully
- Show all working out
- Do corrections
- Know the basic Number facts
- Practise calculations without a calculator.
- Complete the past papers given, and ask about anything you are unsure about
- Attend Extra Maths for help at any time

### ***Art:***

- Students should work continuously throughout the duration of the course in order to improve skills, allow ideas and work to develop and to avoid a rush at the end of the course.
- Students are given copies of the GCSE assessment objectives. They are individually and continuously talked through these objectives in relation to their work and given Art related tasks to complete. This should be discussed at home and work should be completed as necessary.
- Take advantage of after school classes.  
**{Refer to guide distributed to students}**

### ***Geography:***

Students should:

- Be familiar with the content of the syllabus and memorise key words
- Practise answering questions from past papers
- Learn case studies thoroughly
- Revise work on a regular basis
- Keep up-to-date with current affairs by watching the news/reading newspapers/watching weather forecasts
- Ask questions in the event of not understanding something in class or for homework
- Ensure that notes are in good order and up to date (e.g. after absences).

Controlled Assessment:

This involves 4 stages:

1. Planning.
2. Data collection in the field.
3. Graphs, analysis and interpretation.
4. Evaluation and Conclusions.

Pupils must be well organised, be able to use the necessary equipment, know the background of the topic they will investigate, collect accurate data, present clear graphs, charts, etc., form a thorough analysis and be able to evaluate their own findings.

### ***Physical Education:***

- Learn theory thoroughly, using own notes and text book.
- Apply theory in practical sessions.
- Improve analytical skills of both own performance and of others by watching sport and commenting on strengths and weaknesses of performers.
- Improve practical, coaching and leadership skills through attendance at after school clubs and involvement in outside teams.

### ***History:***

Students need:

- A willingness to work steadily in class and at home
- To learn work **thoroughly** over the course
- Practice and experience of writing coherently on a specific topic.
- To prepare well for End of Unit Tests.

### ***Chemistry:***

Students should:

- Work steadily in class and at home - Learning of work is **essential**
- Become familiar with data leaflet
- Practise examination questions
- Prepare carefully for formal homeworks and end of unit tests
- Know how to work out formulae of compounds and be able to write symbol equations.

### ***Physics:***

- Revise notes every night and **ask** teacher for further explanation if required
- Complete all homework set to the best of student's ability, do all corrections
- Summarise each topic in note form-as each topic is finished
- Learn formulae, laws and definitions by heart
- Test themselves on each topic by answering as many questions as possible – can ask teacher to supply extra questions if necessary
- Take action on advice on how to improve learning based on the outcomes of Tracker assessments.

### ***Biology:***

- Review notes on a regular basis and approach your teacher if you do not understand any aspect of the course.

- Write revision notes using textbooks, notebooks and the specification. It is important to highlight the key words and terms.
- Learn revision notes and diagrams.
- Read relevant chapters in your textbook and refer to other sources such as the internet and natural history programmes/documentaries.
- Practise past paper questions. If you encounter any difficulties refer back to your notes and then ask your teacher.

### ***Music:***

Students should:

- Learn all work thoroughly.
- Listen to set music regularly.
- Listen to a wide variety of music and find out more about the music they come across (e.g. in films, T.V. concerts, radio, etc.)
- Students are expected to be a member of at least one musical group either inside or outside school.
- Students should experience as many live performances as possible.
- A great deal of self-discipline is required when working on compositions. Students must make sure that all deadlines are met and that the composition diary is kept meticulously up to date.

### ***English:***

Students should:

- Ensure homeworks are handed in on time
- Keep Controlled Assessment files up to date
- Keep detailed notes on Literature texts for the open book exam
- Read as widely as possible: novels/poems/plays/newspapers/magazines, etc.
- Students are expected to have a detailed understanding of Literature texts.

***Refer to Departmental Revision Guide for language and Literature issued in December of Y12***

### ***Technology and Design:***

Students need:

- An awareness that they will have to work independently on their own outside of class time to meet deadlines, especially for coursework.

- To realise the importance of revision of classwork in order to understand all concepts fully, i.e. electronics etc.
- To become competent in the use of ICT within Technology (i.e. Pro-desktop/Solidworks & Crocodile Technology).
- To develop skills through sketching and annotation of sketches.

### ***ICT:***

- Organise notes, keeping them in chronological order in a file where they are well protected
- Read notes each day after class, making summary notes when a topic has been fully covered.
- Revise for all class tests.
- Broaden knowledge of Information systems in general by reading relevant magazines and utilizing IT equipment outside of class time.

### ***Modern Languages:***

- **Learn vocabulary and oral work nightly.**
- Speak oral work out loud when learning.
- Correct tests and written work according to instructions given. Aim to avoid repetition of mistakes.
- Plan written work carefully taking cognisance of the content of the Mark Scheme guidance for the grade to which you aspire.
- Recycle language and structures from other units of work covered when doing extended writing-encourages initiative and imagination.
- Use dictionary at home to look up new vocabulary when doing Reading and Listening exercises and record this for future reference.
- Only use a dictionary to check the spelling of familiar words when doing writing tasks.
- Use student specific MP3 recordings at home to support learning of oral material.
- Identify a 'buddy' within the class who can provide you with homework details in the event of absence.

**\* Please note: Set Listening homework should be signed and dated by parent/carer.**

### ***Religious Studies:***

- Students must know scripture passages in detail, and also the significance of the passages.
- They are also expected to explore the deeper meaning of scripture and know how it applies to everyday life.
- Students must be able to express their opinion clearly and give reasons for it.

- Students are also expected to give alternative points of view, with reasons for these views.
- Students should be able to read and respond to articles related to topics studied.

***Child Development:***

Students are expected to:

- Work steadily in class and at home.
- Ensure that notes are in good order and up to date.
- Learn work thoroughly each night and ask the teacher for help if it is required.
- Keep up to date with child development issues through the media and relevant agencies.
- Observe young children and try to get experience with working with young children.