

# Ryburn

## Valley High School



## Hints and Tips for your Revision



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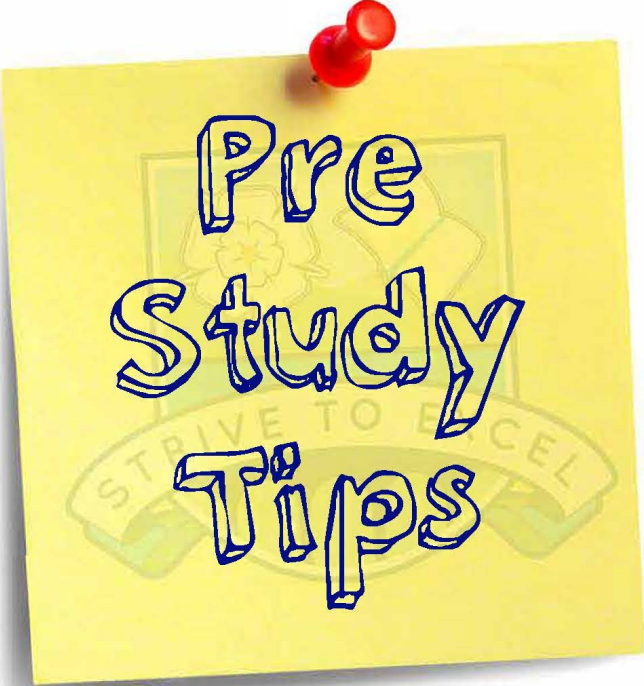
## Year 11 Subject Support - What's On

Before School (8.30-9.00)		MONDAY		Lunch Time (12.35 - 1.15)		MGr		223		After School (3.15-4.30)		English		109	
												Drama		210	
Before School (8.30-9.00)		TUESDAY		Lunch Time (12.35 - 1.15)		KPa		213		After School (3.15-4.30)		Geography B Week		204	
												Art Coursework Sessions		211/220	
Before School (8.30-9.00)				Lunch Time A (12.35 - 1.15) B (12.05 -12.45)		LCI		301/302		After School (3.15-4.30)		Geography A Week		205	
												Art Coursework Sessions A Week		211/220	
Before School (8.30-9.00)				Lunch Time (12.35 - 1.15)		JBo		311		After School (3.15-4.30)		Art Coursework Sessions		211/220	
												Photography		221	
Before School (8.30-9.00)				Lunch Time (12.35 - 1.15)		Rfa		315		After School (3.15-4.30)		Spanish		305	
												German		304	
Before School (8.30-9.00)				Lunch Time (12.35 - 1.15)		ARu		314		After School (3.15-4.30)		Dance Theory		LRC	
												Dance Practical		225	
Before School (8.30-9.00)				Lunch Time (12.35 - 1.15)		SHI		Media		After School (3.15-4.30)		Biology Foundation A Week		318	
												Biology Higher A Week		310	
Before School (8.30-9.00)				Lunch Time (12.35 - 1.15)		SHI		Media		After School (3.15-4.30)		Chemistry Triple A Week		311	
												Chemistry Foundation B Week		311	
Before School (8.30-9.00)				Lunch Time (12.35 - 1.15)		SHI		Media		After School (3.15-4.30)		Chemistry Higher B Week		313	
												Biology Triple B Week		317	

# GCSE Revision Tips



Nothing beats hard work, especially when it comes to studying, but you can guide your brain to remember information more easily and this supports your ability to learn.



## Pre Study Tips



## Create a Revision Timetable

Building a revision timetable will help you to organise your study time. Make sure you include ALL your subjects - even the ones you don't like!



## Be Prepared

Get a folder for each subject for your revision guides, notes, and practice exam papers. Make sure you keep these things in the folders so you can find them!



## Create a Study Area

Sit at a desk when revising, so it's just like being in the exam. Keep the door open, and put your phone on silent so you aren't distracted by alerts from Facebook.



# Main Study Tips

## Practise, Practise, Practise!

One of the biggest recommendations that previous GCSE students make is to practise questions by doing lots of past papers against the clock. Practising past papers will help you become familiar with the: exam format, question style, time pressure and retrieval of information.

## Take Breaks

Get a folder for each subject for your revision guides, notes, and practice exam papers. Make sure you keep these things in the folders so you can find them!

## Make A Study Group

If you find making study notes to be too much, why not divide the notes between trustworthy classmates and share your notes with each other. This will reduce the amount of work you need to do to prepare for your GCSEs, plus, you will gain an insight into how other students learn.

## Write your own notes & REPEAT!

Stick notes to your keyboard, wall, and fridge - anywhere you will see them all the time! Rewrite key points, making them more concise every time, and read them out loud. We remember more than twice of what we read and say aloud!

## Topic Checklists

Make sure you create a list of the topics you need to revise for each subject and then make a 'To Do', 'Doing' and 'Done' record. Include any skills that you may need to develop, too!



### Noise

Everyone revises in different environments. Some prefer peace and quiet, but other people need a bit of background noise. Use music without lyrics if you need some background noise.

### Variety is the Spice of Life!

Mix up your study habits and methods by listening to podcasts, watching videos or documentaries, moving to a new study area, or even by doing something as simple as using different colours for your study notes. Your brain will recall where you were and how you revised for a topic, which will help you to remember more information. Give it a go!

### Write your own notes & REPEAT!

Stick notes to your keyboard, wall, and fridge - anywhere you will see them all the time! Rewrite key points, making them more concise every time, and read them out loud. We remember more than twice of what we read and say aloud!

### Flashcards, Acronyms and Post it Notes

Use flash cards for key definitions and acronyms to remember phrases and the order of things. Use post it notes to label topics you may need to re-visit and highlighters to make important facts stand out!

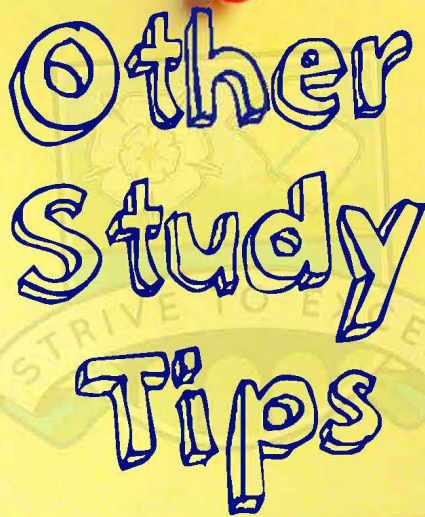
### Repetition and Writing

Repetition is key when memorising terms and theories. Write your notes out and say them aloud to yourself as you write them down.

### Your Goals!

What do you want to achieve? Your target grades? A gift from your parents? A reward? Make a note of what you are working towards to keep you focused.





# Other Study Tips



## Apps for Students

If you want to stay ahead of your friends with the latest technology, get the best student apps before anyone else. Try 'Exam Time' for some suggestions on the best study apps.



## The Day of your GCSE Exam

The day of your exam can be the most stressful of the entire examination experience, but there are ways in which you can minimise your anxiety, such as, avoiding panicky friends and giving yourself plenty of time to get to school on time. Also, don't underestimate the power of eating a healthy breakfast on the day of each exam. Believe in yourself and be positive!



# Study Websites

[www.mathswatch.co.uk](http://www.mathswatch.co.uk)

[www.gcsepod.com](http://www.gcsepod.com)

[www.bbc.co.uk/education](http://www.bbc.co.uk/education)

Now in  
your school

**gcsepod**<sup>®</sup>  
education anywhere

Use the **technology** in your **pocket**  
to **improve** your **GCSE grades**



- ✓ English
- ✓ Maths
- ✓ Humanities
- ✓ Science
- ✓ Music Theory
- ✓ ICT
- ✓ PE
- ✓ D&T
- ✓ Modern Languages
- ✓ Revision Skills

“With the help of GCSEPod's short podcasts, my Science grades have soared!”  
Grace

“It allowed me to continue my revision whilst on my bike or at the gym.”  
Jack

### How do you get it?



#### Watch and download

Look for this button on your school VLE or website, then **watch online** or **download** to your device.



#### Get the App!

Get podcasts straight to your device. Login to GCSEPod on your device or computer then go to [www.gcsepod.co.uk/app-setup](http://www.gcsepod.co.uk/app-setup)

Over 2,500 audio-visual podcasts now available to help you during your GCSEs



## **Pupils: Preparing to Study - A Good Study Place**

You need a good study place to be prepared to study. You should be able to answer YES to all of the following questions:

### **1. Is my Study Place available to me whenever I need it?**

Your Study Place does you little good if you cannot use it when you need it. If you are using a Study Place that you must share with others for any reason, work out a schedule so that you know when you can use it.

### **2. Is my Study Place free from distractions?**

Research shows that most students study best in a quiet environment. If you find that playing a stereo or TV improves your mood, keep the volume low. Do you really need it though?

### **3. Does my Study Place contain all the study materials I need?**

Be sure your Study Place includes reference sources and supplies such as pens and pencils, paper, ruler, calculator, and whatever else you might need. If you use a computer for your schoolwork, it should be in your Study Place.

### **4. Does my Study Space contain a large enough desk or table?**

While working on an assignment or studying for a test, use a desk or table that is large enough to hold everything you need. Allow enough room for writing and try to avoid clutter.

### **5. Does my Study Place have enough storage space?**

You need enough room to store your study materials. Be sure you have enough storage space to allow you to keep your desktop or other work surface clear of unnecessary materials that can get in the way.

### **6. Does my Study Place have enough light?**

The amount of light you need depends on what you are doing. The important thing is that you can clearly see what you need to see without any strain or discomfort.

## Where to get help and support ....

### From School:

You can contact pastoral staff, subject teachers, the Exams Officer Mr Finney or our Careers Adviser.

The websites below are recommended:

### Advice for parents / study skills:

[www.revisionworld.co.uk](http://www.revisionworld.co.uk)

[www.how-to-study.com](http://www.how-to-study.com)

[www.merlinhelpsstudents.com](http://www.merlinhelpsstudents.com) (*parents guide*)

[www.bbc.co.uk/schools](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools)

[www.study-smart.co.uk](http://www.study-smart.co.uk)

[www.getrevising.co.uk](http://www.getrevising.co.uk)

### Advice for pupils / revision:

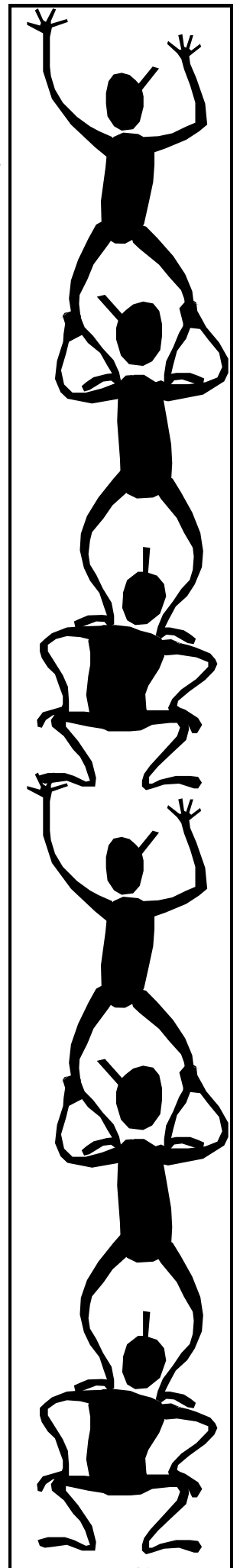
[www.gcsepod.co.uk](http://www.gcsepod.co.uk)

[www.revisioncentre.co.uk](http://www.revisioncentre.co.uk)

[www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize](http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize) (then search subject)

[www.bbc.co.uk/skillswise](http://www.bbc.co.uk/skillswise)

*There are also an increasing number of great apps.*





## Subject Specific Websites

Subject	Link
BTEC Business	<a href="http://www.beebusinessbee.co.uk/index.php/business-qualifications/btec-first-award-business-level-2">http://www.beebusinessbee.co.uk/index.php/business-qualifications/btec-first-award-business-level-2</a>
GCSE Business	<a href="https://www.tutor2u.net/business/collections">https://www.tutor2u.net/business/collections</a>
Computer Science	<a href="http://www.teach-ict.com">www.teach-ict.com</a> <a href="https://revisecomputerscience.com/">https://revisecomputerscience.com/</a>
Drama	<a href="https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/guides/zwmvd2p/revision/1">https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/guides/zwmvd2p/revision/1</a> <a href="https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/guides/zxn4mp3/test">https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/guides/zxn4mp3/test</a>
English	<a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/gcse">www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/gcse</a> <a href="https://www.gcsepod.com">https://www.gcsepod.com</a>
Film Studies	<a href="http://resources.edugas.co.uk/Pages/ResourceByArgs.aspx?subid=50&amp;lvlid=2">http://resources.edugas.co.uk/Pages/ResourceByArgs.aspx?subid=50&amp;lvlid=2</a>
French	<a href="http://www.thisislanguage.com">www.thisislanguage.com</a> <a href="http://www.quizlet.com">www.quizlet.com</a>
Geography	<a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/gcse">www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/gcse</a>
German	<a href="http://www.thisislanguage.com">www.thisislanguage.com</a> <a href="http://www.quizlet.com">www.quizlet.com</a>
Health and Social	<a href="http://www.teachers-direct.co.uk/resources/quiz-busters/subjects/ks4/health-and-social-care.aspx">http://www.teachers-direct.co.uk/resources/quiz-busters/subjects/ks4/health-and-social-care.aspx</a>
History	<a href="http://www.revisegcsehistory.co.uk">www.revisegcsehistory.co.uk</a> <a href="http://www.andallthat.co.uk/">http://www.andallthat.co.uk/</a>
Maths	<a href="http://mathswatch.co.uk/">http://mathswatch.co.uk/</a>

Science	<a href="http://revisionworld.com/">http://revisionworld.com/</a> <a href="https://getrevising.co.uk/">https://getrevising.co.uk/</a>
Spanish	<a href="http://www.thisislanguages.com">www.thisislanguages.com</a> <a href="http://www.quizlet.com">www.quizlet.com</a>
Technology: Resistant Materials	<a href="http://www.technologystudent.com">www.technologystudent.com</a> <a href="http://www.youtube.co.uk">www.youtube.co.uk</a>
Technology: Food Technology	<a href="http://www.youtube.co.uk">www.youtube.co.uk</a> <a href="http://www.foodafactoflife.org.uk/Sheet.aspx?siteId=19&amp;sectionId=108&amp;contentId=491">http://www.foodafactoflife.org.uk/Sheet.aspx?siteId=19&amp;sectionId=108&amp;contentId=491</a> <a href="http://www.food.gov.uk/">http://www.food.gov.uk/</a>
For those using laptop's in their exams	<a href="http://www.typingclub.com">www.typingclub.com</a> <a href="http://www.doorwayonline.org.uk">www.doorwayonline.org.uk</a>

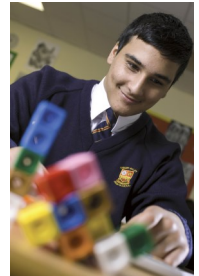


## **Parents: How To Prepare Your Child**

We are now on the final leg of our journey towards GCSEs. There's no escaping the fact that this can be one of the most stressful parts of your child's life – but there's a lot that parents can do to help. You may find the following helpful .....

### **Be Prepared!**

Be well versed with the **4 Ps – Preparation Prevents Poor Performance**. The most effective way of alleviating the stress brought on by tests and exams is to be well prepared. Don't underestimate the importance of your child revisiting their learning regularly, from this point, right through to the end.



### **Cover Everything**

Help your child plan their study time, making sure to cover all their subjects, not just their favourite ones! You could make your own study timetable, or register for free with [www.getrevising.co.uk](http://www.getrevising.co.uk) and let the site make you one online.

### **Practice Makes Perfect**

As well as revisiting topics and key vocab, revision should involve practice in answering examination questions in the time allowed. It's important that your child not only knows their work, but is able to regurgitate that information in the time and format required for the exam. Ask teachers or look on exam websites for **past papers** and mark schemes.

### **Take A Break**

Recognise that concentration falls off after certain amount of time. This can vary from person to person, but regular breaks are a good idea. A brisk walk is a great way to recharge the batteries.

### **Cook The Books**

Feed the body and you feed the mind. Omega 3 fish oils are known to be an aid to concentration. Make sure they eat healthily and regularly and don't let them skip meals.

### **Rest The Mind**

Make sure they get a good night's sleep. Give your child time to wind down if they've been studying in the evening. Let them watch a bit of TV, have a warm drink, maybe a bath and a read before trying to go to sleep.

### **Have a 'PMA' ...**

Don't underestimate the power of a **Positive Mental Attitude!**

**"I am a great believer in luck, and I find the harder I work, the more I have of it." Thomas Jefferson**

## **Top 10 Tips for Parents from the Edexcel 'Examzone' site:**

1. A dedicated quiet space with good natural light is best for studying, with no distractions. If you have other children who are not studying for exams, make sure that they know the importance of revision time.
- 2 Ensure that your child has one evening a week away from their studies. It's also important that they take regular breaks during study periods.
- 3 Be around as a 'feeding station' – feed your child lots of healthy food and proper meals - not too many sugary snacks and junk food.
- 4 Offer to help with testing or ask if there is something that you can do for them. Reassure them you are concerned about their welfare more than the results.
- 5 Know your child's personal study/revision timetable. Encourage them to tell you about what they are studying. If you know that they are not at their best first thing in the morning, encourage them to rest then and work when they are more lively. They should choose their weakest/sleepiest time of day to be sociable and go out, or watch TV at those times.
- 6 Know exactly the date, time and location for each exam and incorporate this into the revision plan. Make sure that they have the correct equipment they need for the exam (black pen, calculators, rulers etc). Know what they are not allowed to take in to the exam (mobile phones, iPods etc).
- 7 If your child has a medical condition, for example diabetes or hayfever, make sure that school knows about it. There are special considerations for some conditions.
- 8 If there is a family crisis, for example divorce or bereavement, again ensure that school knows about it, since the additional stress can affect your child's exam performance and school could request special consideration.
9. Make sure that your child is using the internet to study and not as a resource to give the appearance of study!
- 10 Tell them that they can only try their best and even if they don't do as well as you'd hoped, you still love them just as much.





## **Website addresses for Year 11 Subjects**

Subject	Exam Board	% Exam	% CA	Link
Art	AQA	40	60	<a href="https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/art-and-design/gcse/art-and-design-8201-8206">https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/art-and-design/gcse/art-and-design-8201-8206</a>
Biology	AQA	100	0	<a href="https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/biology-8461">https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/biology-8461</a>
BTEC Business	EDEXCEL	25	75	<a href="https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-firsts/business-2012-nqf.html">https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-firsts/business-2012-nqf.html</a>
BTEC Dance	EDEXCEL	40	60	<a href="https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-tech-awards/performing-arts.html">https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-tech-awards/performing-arts.html</a>
BTEC Health & Social	EDEXCEL	25	75	<a href="https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-firsts/health-and-social-care-2012-nqf.html">https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-firsts/health-and-social-care-2012-nqf.html</a>
BTEC Music	EDEXCEL	25	75	<a href="https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-firsts/music-2013-nqf.html">https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-firsts/music-2013-nqf.html</a>
BTEC Sports	EDEXCEL	50	50	<a href="https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-firsts/business-2012-nqf.html">https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-firsts/business-2012-nqf.html</a>
Business Studies	EDEXCEL	100	0	<a href="https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcse/business-2017.html">https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcse/business-2017.html</a>
Chemistry	AQA	100	0	<a href="https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/chemistry-8462">https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/chemistry-8462</a>
Combined Science	AQA	100	0	<a href="https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/combined-science-trilogy-8464">https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/combined-science-trilogy-8464</a>
Computer Science	OCR	100	0	<a href="https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse/computer-science-j276-from-2016/">https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse/computer-science-j276-from-2016/</a>
Drama	EDUQAS	40	60	<a href="https://www.educas.co.uk/qualifications/drama-and-theatre/gcse/">https://www.educas.co.uk/qualifications/drama-and-theatre/gcse/</a>
English Language	AQA	100	0	<a href="https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-language-8700">https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-language-8700</a>
English Literature	AQA	100	0	<a href="https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-literature-8702">https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-literature-8702</a>
Film Studies	EDUQAS	70	30	<a href="https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/film-studies/eduqas-film-studies-gcse-from-2017/">https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/film-studies/eduqas-film-studies-gcse-from-2017/</a>
Food Technology	AQA	50	50	<a href="https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/food/gcse/food-preparation-and-nutrition-8585">https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/food/gcse/food-preparation-and-nutrition-8585</a>
French	EDEXCEL	100	0	<a href="https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcse/french-2016.html">https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcse/french-2016.html</a>
Geography	AQA	100	0	<a href="https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/geography/gcse/geography-8035">https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/geography/gcse/geography-8035</a>
German	EDEXCEL	100	0	<a href="https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcse/german-2016.html">https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcse/german-2016.html</a>
History	OCR	100	0	<a href="https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse/history-b-schools-history-project-j411-from-2016/">https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse/history-b-schools-history-project-j411-from-2016/</a>
Mathematics	EDEXCEL	100	0	<a href="https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcse/mathematics-2015.html">https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcse/mathematics-2015.html</a>
Media Studies	EDUQAS	70	30	<a href="https://www.educas.co.uk/qualifications/media-studies/gcse/">https://www.educas.co.uk/qualifications/media-studies/gcse/</a>
Photography	AQA	40	60	<a href="https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/art-and-design/gcse/art-and-design-8201-8206">https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/art-and-design/gcse/art-and-design-8201-8206</a>
Physical Education	EDEXCEL	60	40	<a href="https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcse/physical-education-2016.html">https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcse/physical-education-2016.html</a>
Physics	AQA	100	0	<a href="https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/physics-8463">https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/physics-8463</a>
Resistant Materials	OCR	50	50	<a href="http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse/design-and-technology-j310-from-2017/">http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse/design-and-technology-j310-from-2017/</a>
Spanish	EDEXCEL	100	0	<a href="https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcse/spanish-2016.html">https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcse/spanish-2016.html</a>
Textiles	OCR	50	50	<a href="http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse/design-and-technology-j310-from-2017/">http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse/design-and-technology-j310-from-2017/</a>
WJEC Construction	WJEC	25	75	<a href="https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/construction/planning-and-maintaining-the-built-environment-level-12-award.html">https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/construction/planning-and-maintaining-the-built-environment-level-12-award.html</a>