

Year 10 parents Information Evening

Miss Guirguis



This Evening

- An overview of the qualifications
- An overview of the next two years
- How Key Stage 4 qualifications are graded and how we will report to you.
- Specific information for English, maths and Science



Compulsory Curriculum.

- English Language and English Literature
- Mathematics
- Science
 - Worth 2 GCSEs, some pupils study Biology, Chemistry and physics as three GCSEs.
- PE



Different types of courses

- GCSE courses
 - the majority of courses
 - examinations at the end of year 11
 - will lead into A-levels, Vocational College Courses or Apprenticeships.
- Vocational courses
 - aspects of coursework and exam
 - prepare pupils for the Apprenticeships and Vocational College Courses



KS4 Courses

- Linear TWO year programme assessed by terminal examinations.
- Most courses have one tier of entry Mathematics, Science and Modern Foreign Languages have two tiers of entry, Foundation (grades 5-1) and Higher (grades 9-4)
- Some qualifications are vocational and will have a range of assessment methods.
- All external GCSE exams will have to be taken at the end of the course.
- Non-exam assessment has been removed or reduced in the majority of GCSEs



Grading for Vocational courses	Current Grade Structure		Old Grade Structure
Level 2 Distinction *	9		A*
	8		
Level 2 Distinction	7		A
Level 2 Merit	6		B
	5	Strong pass	
Level 2 Pass	4	Standard pass	C
	3		D
	2		E F G
	1		
	U		U

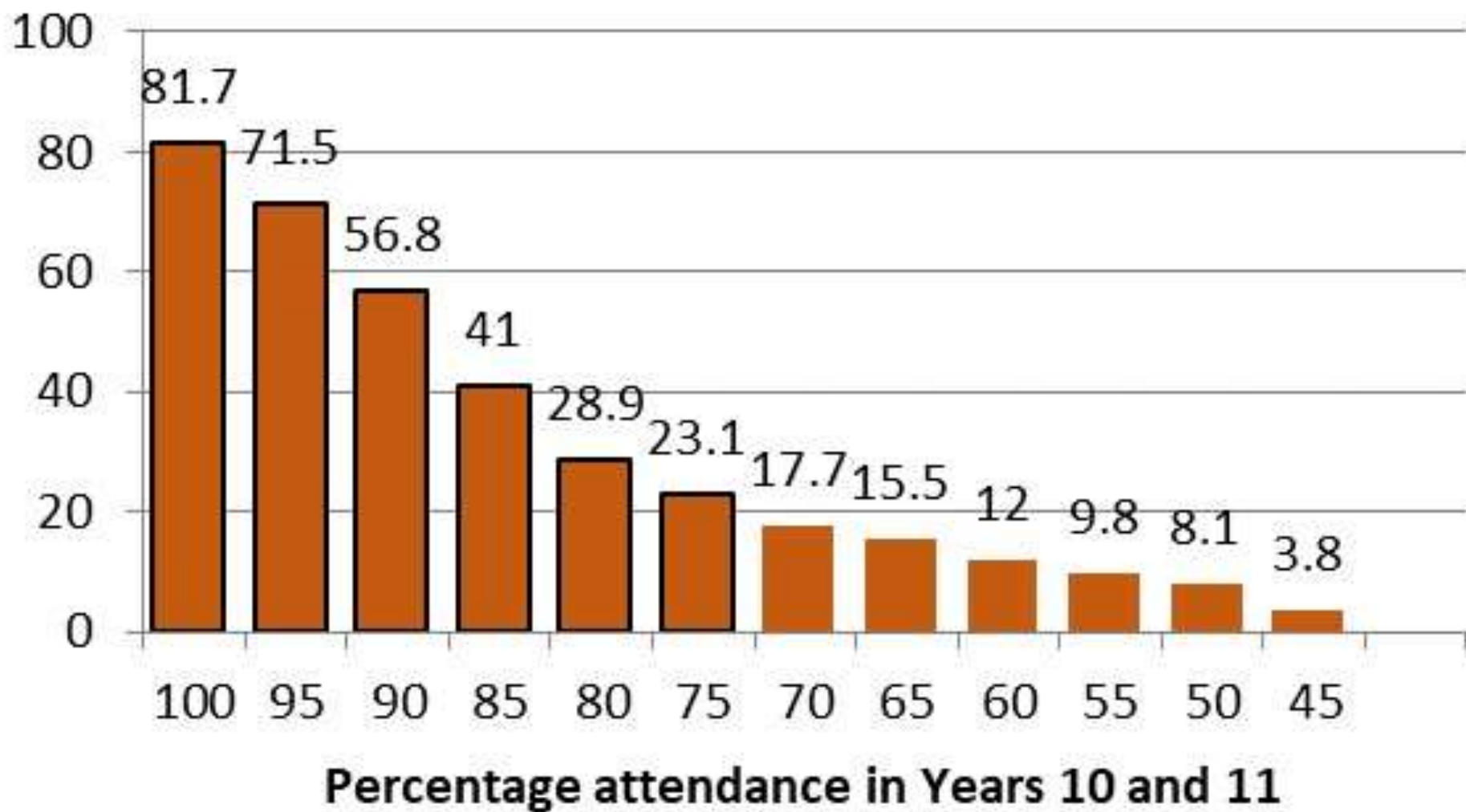
Overview of the year

- Targets: These will come out to you in October.
- Progress reports: The first will be given in December. You will be given a Working at Grade (WAG). This tells you what grade your child is working at, these will be given as +, = or – to indicate whether they are just achieving the grade, secure within the grade or at the top of the grade.
- Termly progress reports will include an Area to Develop, if your child's teacher feels that your child is not on track to achieve their target
- Parents Evening: March 25th
- Year 10 end of year exams start the week beginning 27th April and will last approximately two weeks



Chances of 5+ GCSE 5-9 grades including English and Maths

Percentage of students achieving



What does this mean?

- Need for full attendance at school.
- Regular dialogue between home and school:
 - Progress Reports each term with areas to develop and half termly working at grades
 - Contact with Form tutors, Subject teachers, Head of Faculty.
 - Pastoral Learning Tutor– Mrs Redmond with support from Mrs Pollitt



Year 10 English and Literature



The basics

Literature - AQA

- 100% exam based
- Grades 1-9 awarded
- Un-tiered
- 2 papers (4 hours)
- Closed book
- Texts
 - Shakespeare
 - 19th Century novel (Christmas Carol)
 - Modern text (An Inspector Calls)
 - Poetry Anthology (15 poems)
 - Unseen poetry

English - AQA

- 100% exam based
- Grades 1-9 awarded
- Un-tiered
- 2 papers (3 hours 30 minutes)
- Tests fiction and non-fiction reading and writing



GCSE English – key skills

- Reading quickly and precisely
- Using quotation to support ideas
- Analysing language
- Analysing structure
- Developing a critical position
- The ability to compare texts
- Understanding the writer's perspective
- Accuracy of punctuation
- Ambition of vocabulary
- Creating engaging and convincing texts
- Variety of sentences
- Control of tense and person



GCSE Literature – key skills

- Personal and critical response
- Quotation to support ideas and theories
- Holistic appreciation of a text
- Understanding the text as a construct
- Applying academic skills of analysis
- Demonstrating thorough understanding



Course Structure

Year 9

Macbeth

Year 10

1. An Inspector Calls
2. Paper 1 reading
3. A Christmas Carol
4. Paper 1 writing
5. Poetry
6. Paper 2 reading
7. Paper 2 writing
8. Macbeth
9. Mocks

Year 11

Revision of English
paper 1 and 2 skills

Literature revision

Lots of mock exams!



ALL PUPILS WILL COMPLETE ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND ENGLISH LITERATURE

Literature

- New focus in teaching and learning.
- Thesis based preparation for exams.
- All round knowledge.
- Revision homework will consolidate.



How parents can help...

- Support your child with the revision activities they are set for both English and Literature
- Talk to your child about the Literature text they're studying
- Encourage private reading habits
- Encourage your child to talk about their studies in English and what they are learning
- In cases of under-performance or poor attitude to learning, support the Faculty's decisions regarding detentions and interventions.



Mathematics G.C.S.E



Mathematics teaches you

- Problem Solving

- A systematic approach to defining a problem and creating a vast number of possible solutions without judging these solutions

“Problem solving is a cognitive processing directed at achieving a goal where no solution method is obvious to the problem solver”.

- Critical Thinking

- Purposeful mental activity that helps formulate or solve problems, make decisions, or fulfil a desire to understand”

- Decision Making

- The act of narrowing down the possibilities, choosing a course of action and determining the action’s potential consequences.



Assessment of mathematics GCSE

The assessments will cover the following content headings:

- Number
- Algebra
- Ratio, proportion and rates of change
- Geometry and measures
- Probability
- Statistics



Assessment of mathematics GCSE

The qualification consists of three equally-weighted written examination papers at either Foundation tier or Higher tier.

Individual papers are not graded. Each paper covers all six areas.

- Paper 1 is non-calculator, Papers 2 and 3 are calculator
- Foundation tier: grades 1 to 5.
- Higher tier: grades 4 to 9 (grade 3 allowed).
- Each paper has a range of question types; some questions will be set in both mathematical and non-mathematical contexts.
- A formulae sheet is given at the front of each examination paper.



Resources

- ▶ VLE-mathswatch/past papers
- ▶ Mymaths
- ▶ Revision guides/books
- ▶ (Edexcel)
- ▶ Websites-edexcel.org.uk
- ▶ <https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/mathematics-2015.html>
- ▶ Bbcbite size
- ▶ <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/z9p3mnb>

Equipment :

- ▶ Scientific calculator
- ▶ PENS (BLACK)
- ▶ PENCIL
- ▶ RULER
- ▶ PROTRACTOR
- ▶ COMPASS



Science

Tottington High School



Science

Pupils either study Combined Science or Biology, Chemistry and Physics as three separate GCSEs.

Course content - Biology

- Cell biology
- Organisation
- Infection and response
- Bioenergetics
- Homeostasis and response
- Inheritance, variation and evolution
- Ecology

Course content- Chemistry

- Atomic structure and the periodic table
- Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter
- Quantitative chemistry
- Chemical changes
- Energy changes
- The rate and extent of chemical change
- Organic chemistry
- Chemical analysis
- Chemistry of the atmosphere
- Using resources

Course content - Physics

- Energy
- Electricity
- Particle model of matter
- Atomic structure
- Forces
- Waves
- Magnetism and electromagnetism
- Space Physics – Separate Science ONLY



GCSE Combined Science - Assessment

- For each of the 6 units students sit a 1 hr 15 minute exam and each exam is out of 70 marks:
 - B1 & B2 unit = 33%
 - C1 & C2 unit = 33%
 - P1 & P2 unit = 33%
- There is no course work
- There are 'Required Practicals' that need to be completed and there will be questions in each exam paper based on these practicals.
- Two GCSE grades (9-1) awarded in August of Year 11.



Triple Science - Assessment

- Each Science is taught by a subject specialist
- For each of the 6 units students sit a 1hr 45 min exam and each exam is out of 100 marks:
 - B1 & B2 unit = 100 %
 - C1 & C2 unit = 100 %
 - P1 & P2 unit = 100 %
- There is no course work
- There are 'Required Practicals' that need to be completed and there will be questions in each exam paper based on these practicals.
- Three separate GCSE grades (9-1) awarded for Biology, Chemistry and Physics awarded in August of Year 11.



Higher or foundation?

- **Foundation tier** covers grades 5-1
- **Higher tier** covers grades 9-4
- The class teacher and Head of Science will make a decision as to which tier of exam paper will be sat.
- This will be based on the performance during the course through a number of tests.
- These are such important years
- Revision resources should be prepared progressively throughout the two years.



Other information

- Pupils should do a **minimum** of 3 hours revision per week
- If you are told “I don’t have any homework” – Pupils can revise by making quizzes; a glossary; revision cards; equation revision; key words or going on:
 - GCSE BBC Bitesize science AQA.
 - GCSE Science past papers AQA.
- Help them to succeed:
 - Folders for revision notes etc.
 - Planning how to use their time & revision timetables.
 - Purchasing revision guides and/or cards
 - Regular exercise, good diet and a good nights sleep.
 - Space to actually study / complete work



Key Dates

- Parents Evening: March 25th
- Year 10 end of year exams start the week beginning 27th April and will last approximately two weeks

