

Year 10 Information Evening





To be covered

- Key staff
- Expectations and routines
- Attendance
- Communication
- Curriculum, assessment and revision
- Work experience
- Post 16 pathways
- Key dates
- Parental engagement

Key staff



Mrs R Hudson
Headteacher



Mr N Scoltock
Deputy Headteacher



Ms A Richards
Year 10 Progress Leader

Grey Ms Hoar	Navy Ms Hassall	Purple Ms Kostadinova	Royal Ms Haydock	Turquoise Ms Duffy
SENDCo Ms Henshall			Progress Mentor Ms Beyer	



Safeguarding



Mrs K Appleby
Designated Safeguarding Lead



Mr S Webster
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead



Mrs R Holton
Safeguarding Officer



Mrs S Macintosh
Safeguarding Officer



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MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

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MINDSHIFT APP

This app helps teens by giving strategies and tools to help deal with everyday anxiety.



SMILING MIND APP

A free meditation app developed by psychologists and educators for young people aged 7 -18.



HAPPY NOT PERFECT APP

This app has simple exercises to help with mental wellbeing.

IN THIS SECTION

- ADMISSIONS
- FOOD MENU
- MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING
- OFSTED
- PARENTS EVENING
- PARENTPAY
- SCHOOL APPS
- SCHOOL DAY
- STAFF RECOGNITION SCHEME
- TERM DATES
- UNIFORM AND MOBILE PHONES



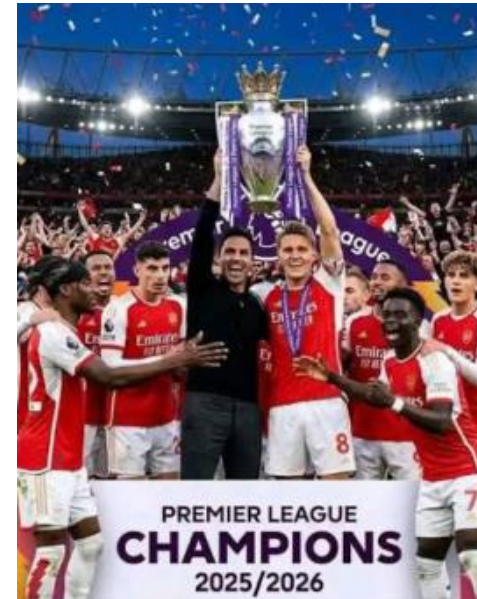
Year 10 – the 38-game season

**Year 11 is where they collect the results.
Year 10 is where they earn them.**

On the first day back, we told Year 10 that the Premier League isn't won on the last day in May. It's won in September, October and November – on cold Tuesday nights, in ordinary weeks.

GCSEs work exactly the same way. The majority of the course content is taught this year, and all of it is examined in summer 2028.

So a lesson missed or with less effort now counts just as much as one missed in Year 11.



The league is won in the ordinary weeks.

Ask your child tonight: “What are the three targets you wrote in your planner after the assembly?”



Small wins, every week

Nobody wins the league with one great game. We told students that good habits are like getting 3 points on the table for your football team – you can't see them straight away, but they add up over the season.

How you can help at home

Attendance	+3	Days off only for genuine illness – and no holidays in term time.
Punctuality	+3	Out of the door in good time, with uniform and equipment sorted.
Focus in class	+3	Ask what they learned today, not just “how was school?”
Taking responsibility	+3	Encourage them to tell their teacher early if they're stuck.
Homework	+3	Check Edulink each week and ask to see it done properly.
Revision habits	+3	Little and often, starting now – not just before the mocks.

38

**school days missed
across Years 10 and 11
at 90% attendance**

*That's a whole 38-game
season sat on the bench.*

190 school days a year × 2 years
= 380 days.
Missing 10% of those is 19 days a
year, 38 in total.



Routines - Behaviour policy

Our whole behaviour is centred around our **SSA Grades**. This system allows for us to identify issues with behaviour / conduct, in addition to reward and praise pupils who consistently follow the school's core principles.

SSA 1 = Outstanding Exceptional contribution to the lesson, above and beyond completing the work well.	SSA 2 = Good Good work completed throughout the lesson without needing prompting and expectations were met.
SSA 3 = Passive Effort below what the student is capable of.	SSA 4 / 5 = Negative Behaviour Low level disruption / Persistent disruption / failing to meet the core principles.
SSA \$ = Removed from lesson This is a last resort and used with the primary aim of reintroducing the pupil to the class as soon as possible (if appropriate)	



SSA grades – the Year 10 standard



Outstanding



Good



Passive



Disruption



Persistent

Aim for 1s and 2s, every lesson. No exceptions.

An SSA 3 (passive) doesn't lead to a detention, so it can sometimes mistakenly feel as if it doesn't matter.

But a SSA3 means your child was in the room without really getting involved – doing the minimum. In Year 10, that's a whole chunk of GCSE learning that has been lost.

In assembly we asked for classwork and homework done properly, with effort – not just the minimum.

Noticing a pattern of 3s, or problems in one subject?

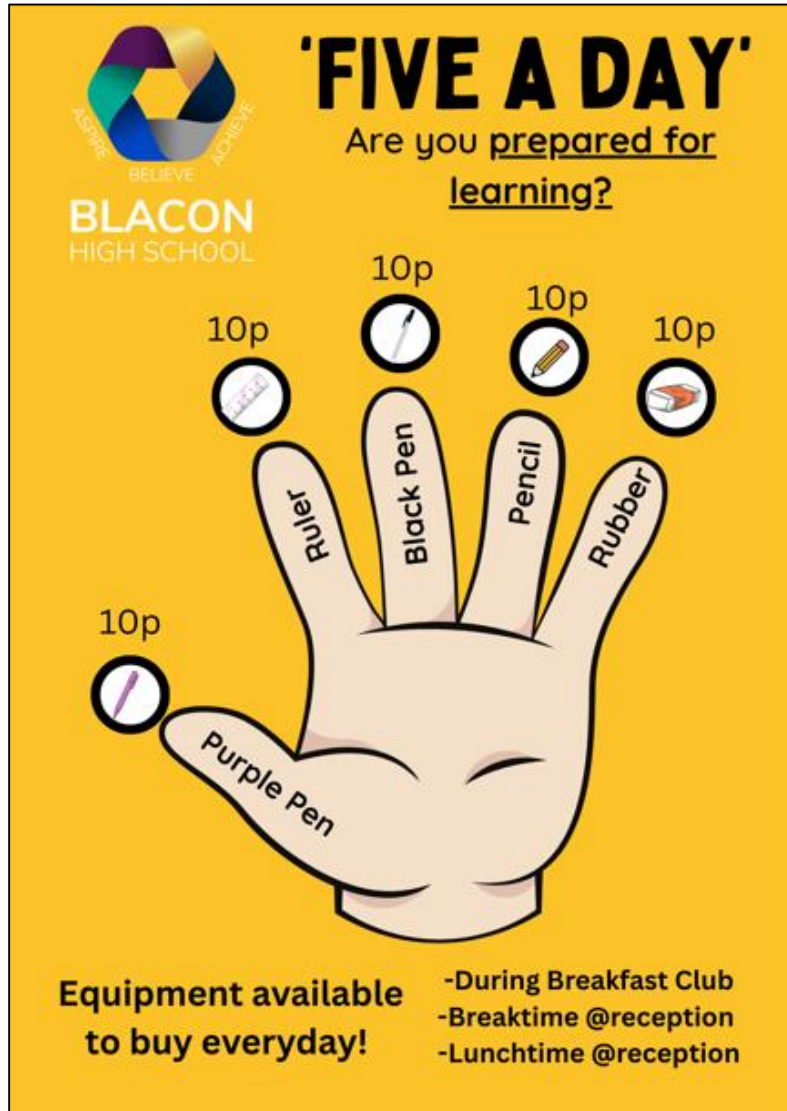
Speak to your child's teacher for that subject, the head of faculty, or speak to Ms Richards or Ms Beyer.

Questions to ask at home

- How many 1s and 2s did you get this week?
- What did you do to earn your 1s?
- How could you turn some of the 2s into 1s?
- Did you get any 3s? What happened in that lesson?
- Which subjects seem to have which grades and why?



Expectations



Come prepared every day:

- 5-a-day equipment in a pencil case
- Planner
- School bag big enough to carry the items they need (water bottle, PE kit, knowledge organisers)

Take pride in your uniform:

- Black school shoes
- School blazer, skirts knee length, no flared trousers or leggings
- No coats worn inside the building
- No nail varnish, false nails or lashes.

Routines – Mobile phones



- Pupils who wish to bring a phone must hand it in to their tutor in the morning.
- It goes in a sealed in a box.
- The boxes are securely kept for the day.
- At the end of the school day, tutors will hand phones back to students.

WHY?

To reduce distraction / disruption phones cause during the school day. Phones are a barrier to learning, reduce concentration and increase the likelihood of pupils missing out on key information in lessons.



Attendance

Pupil A has an attendance of 90%. The pupil and their parents feel this is good and are pleased.

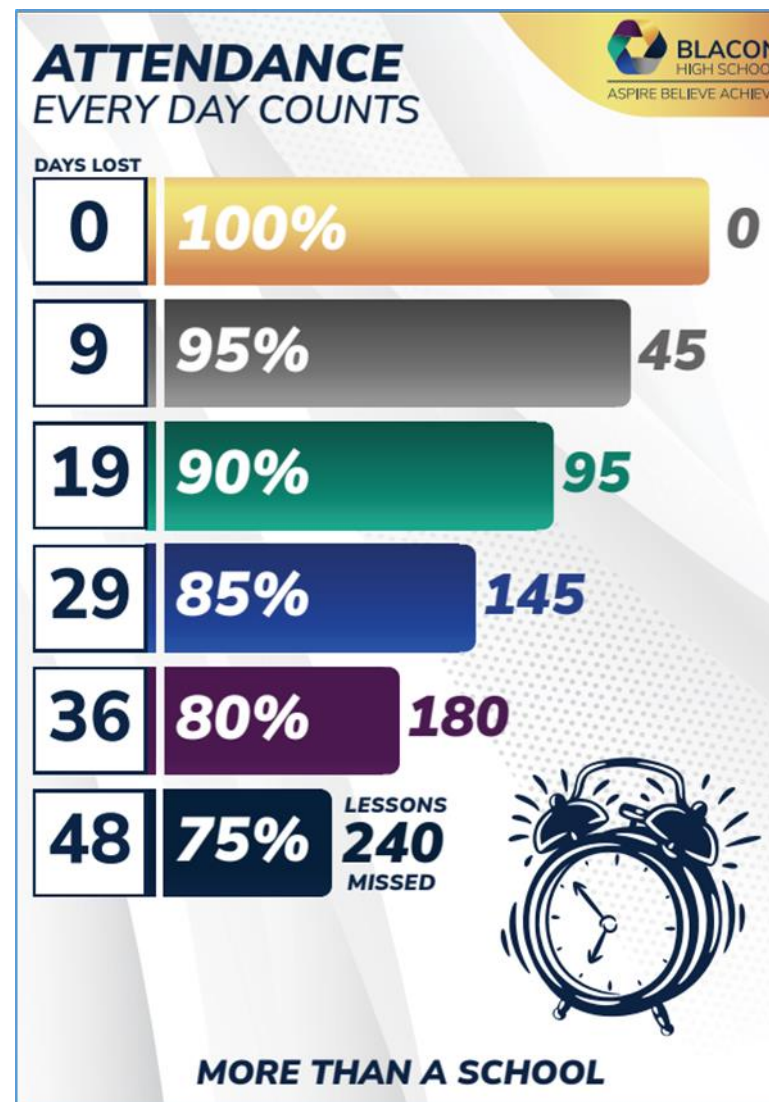
Should they be?

1 school year at 90% attendance = **4 whole weeks of lessons MISSED!**

90% attendance over 5 years of secondary school.... = **half a school year missed!**

Research suggests that 17 missed school days a year = **a GCSE grade DROP in achievement** (DfE)

The greater the attendance the greater the attainment.



Communication



Edulink is the main form of communication between school and home:

- Timetables
- Attendance
- Achievement points
- Behaviour
- Detentions
- Homework
- Reports
- Letters



Communication



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BLACON'S WEEKLY BLOG

Each week, we will share highlights, successes and special moments from across our community

Watch this space every Friday and help us celebrate all that makes Blacon brilliant!

11.9.26 BLACONS WEEKLY BLOG #41



04.09.26 BLACONS WEEKLY BLOG #40



17.07.26 BLACONS WEEKLY BLOG #39



10.07.26 BLACONS WEEKLY BLOG #38



03.07.26 BLACONS WEEKLY BLOG #37



Weekly Blog each Friday on Website, Social Media and through Edulink

<https://www.blaconhighschool.net/page/?title=Blacon%27s+Weekly+Blog&pid=201>



KS4 curriculum

Day	1Mon	1Tues	1Wed	1Thur	1Fri
P1	Eng/Sci	Eng/Sci	Op B	Maths	PSHE
P2	Maths	Eng/PE	Eng	Op C	Op B
P3	Op A	Op B	Sci	Op D	Eng/Sci
P4	Op C	Op c	Op A	Sci	Maths
P5	Op D	Maths	Sci/PE	Eng	Sci

Day	2Mon	2Tues	2Wed	2Thur	2Fri
P1	Eng/Sci	Maths	Op A	Sci/Eng	PSHE
P2	Eng/Sci	Op C	Eng/PE	Maths	Op B
P3	Op A	Op D	Eng/PE	Op D	Eng
P4	Op D	Eng	Maths	Op A	Maths
P5	Op C	Op B	Sci/Eng	Sci	Sci

Students are grouped independently in core subjects:

- English
- Maths
- Science

They have picked 4 subjects to study as their options A-D

(Subjects now agreed)

They stay as a tutor group for PSHE lessons

They take part in PE lessons year group bands X and Y

They have one RE lesson a fortnight





Curriculum



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1.4 CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

YEAR 7	+
YEAR 8	+
YEAR 9	+
YEAR 10	+
YEAR 11	+

IN THIS SECTION

EXTRA-CURRICULAR

1.1 CURRICULUM AIMS

1.2 CURRICULUM MODEL

1.3 CURRICULUM INTENT

→ 1.4 CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

Home learning



Evidence suggests:

- + 5 months progress in learning
- It helps to embed learning and reduce the amount of information being lost / forgotten.
- It enables pupils to undertake independent learning to practice and consolidate skills, conduct in-depth inquiry, prepare for lessons or revise for tests/assessments

School policy - pupils will receive **1 piece of homework from Science & Option subjects once per fortnight** and **1 piece of homework from English & Maths per week.**



Home learning

7x1 Geography

SCN

Meet

Generate link

Class code

e75xaul

Upcoming

No work due soon

[View all](#)

Announce something to your class

N Scoltock posted a new assignment: Homework- set 21/06/22 due in 27/06/22

Jun 22, 2022

N Scoltock posted a new material: Homework - set 25/05/22 due in 07/06/22

May 25, 2022

N Scoltock posted a new assignment: Homework - set 09/05/22 due in 11/05/22

May 9, 2022



Google Classroom



Assessment

GCSE subjects – these are linear qualifications with all assessment completed at the end of the course e.g. Yr11 summer exams. Students will complete between 1-3 exams per subject.

Vocational subjects – These are qualifications that are assessed through a mixture of course and exam. Students complete between 1-3 pieces of coursework across Yr10 and Yr11 and this can form up to 60% of their final grade. The exam element is completed at the end of Yr11.

Practical exams – some subjects also have a practical element (Art, Product Design, Graphics, Food, Languages). This is assessed in the spring term of Yr11.

Students will complete a range of assessment tasks in their subjects. Marks will inform interventions and tier of paper (Maths, Science, Languages).



KS4 Grading

GCSE qualification grading

New Grading Structure	Old Grading Structure
9	A*
8	
7	
6	B
5	
4	
3	C
2	
1	
1	
U	U

Grade 5 =
Strong pass

Grade 4 =
Standard pass

Vocational qualification grading

Vocational Qualification Grade	9-1 Grade equivalent
Level 2 Distinction*	8.5
Level 2 Distinction	7
Level 2 Merit	5.5
Level 2 Pass	4
Level 1 Distinction	3
Level 1 Merit	2
Level 1 Pass	1.25



Mock exams

- Exam practice
- Identify support (access arrangements)
- Decisions on tier of paper – Higher 9-4 / Foundation 5-1 (Science, Maths, Languages)
- Identifies areas of strength & development
- Build skills and knowledge
- Supports revision
- Post 16 applications – data used to inform predicted grades



Revision

Eduqas Geography

Revision books	Eduqas GCSE (9-1) Geography B Student Book (2nd Edition) https://www.hachettelearning.com/geography/eduqas-gcse-9-1-geography-b-second-edition My Revision Notes: Eduqas GCSE (9-1) Geography B (2nd Edition) https://www.hachettelearning.com/geography/my-revision-notes-eduqas-gcse-9-1-geography-b-second-edition
Revision websites	Eduqas Official eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/geography-gcse-b Blacon High Geography Revision site- Via Google classroom https://sites.google.com/d/1me3YJwb5OCiXk7J1Z6BsJKddCd1s3ySY/p/1Ad_uGj449z7XvPCm3SzL_OEFaEu5l9EB/edit Eduqas Digital Resources resources.eduqas.co.uk BBC Bitesize bbc.co.uk/bitesize Seneca Learning senecalearning.com Maths Genie mathsgenie.co.uk/gcse/geography Revision World revisionworld.com/eduqas-past-papers Internet Geography internetgeography.net

Eduqas History

Revision books	My Revision Notes: WJEC Eduqas GCSE (9-1) History https://www.worldofbooks.com/en-gb/products/my-revision-notes-wjec-eduqas-gcse-9-1-history-book-r-paul-evans-9781510403826?sku=GOR009427520&gad_source=1&gad_campaignid=17428061177&gbraid=0AAAAADZzAIA45jcQ_osahPk1SMmvmK8p6&gclid=EALaIQobChMly-O7-7jlgMVUpVQBh3kKQuMEAQYASABEgL3JfD_BwE Eduqas GCSE (9-1) History Changes in Crime and Punishment in Britain https://www.amazon.co.uk/History-Changes-Punishment-Britain-present/dp/1398318191
Revision websites	https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zxgyvfrd - all four History GCSE topics are available here https://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/history-gcse/#tab_keydocuments - Past papers and mark schemes are available here as well as knowledge organisers for all subjects Log into GCSE Pod



Revision - Organisation



BELIEVE IN YOURSELF

If you work hard and stay focused with positive energy, stress will be reduced. Believe in yourself and have the confidence to succeed.



GET ORGANISED

You'll feel more confident and in control if you make a list of everything you need to study and create a schedule.



MAKE SLEEP A PRIORITY

Without getting the proper rest it will be even harder to retain information. A good sleep of between 7-9 hours every night helps you have a relaxed and well-rested mind and body.



OVERCOME PROBLEMS

If you find you don't understand some of your material, getting stressed out won't help. Instead, take action to address the problem directly by seeing your teacher or revising on GCSEPod.



EXERCISE

A healthy body = a healthy mind. Encourage your child to do at least 20 minutes of physical activity a day to help improve their focus and keep them relaxed.



EAT RIGHT

Ensure your child is eating three healthy meals a day and limit their caffeine and sugar intake. Power foods for your brain include blueberries, salmon and nuts!



TALK ABOUT YOUR NERVES

Nervousness is a natural reaction to exams but bottling it up will only make it worse. Talk to your child about how they're feeling, it will help them to relieve any stress and worrying they maybe experiencing.



KEEP THINGS IN PERSPECTIVE

Exams will seem like the most crucial thing, but in the grander scheme of things it's only a small part. Remind your child of this and tell them, they can only do their best and that's enough!



Core subject – English Literature

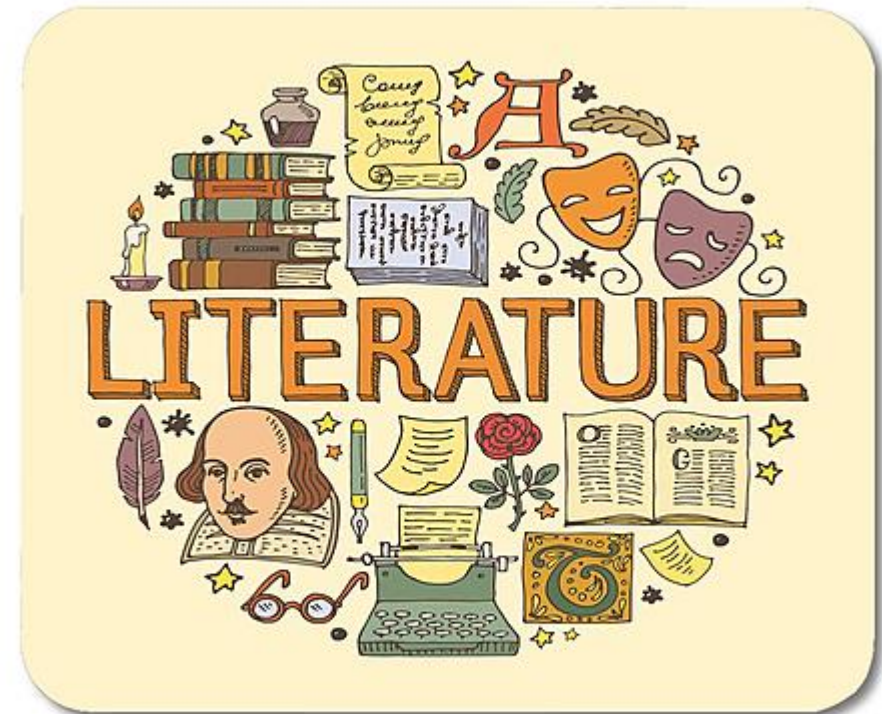
Students sit 2 papers in English Literature (AQA)

Paper 1 (1h 45m)

- Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde OR A Christmas Carol (GIL)
- Romeo & Juliet

Paper 2 (2h 15m)

- Blood Brothers
- Poetry Anthology & Unseen Poetry



[illegible]

Core subject - English



Ways you can help

- ✓ **Encourage revision** – invest in revision materials
- ✓ **Google Classroom** – activities and resources
- ✓ **Bespoke revision activities/materials** – available from class teachers
- ✓ **Past papers** – available on exam websites to support with timings
- ✓ **Period 6** – delivered by class teachers

How to revise...

Flash cards | Acetate on walls | TikTok | Instagram | Mindmaps
| YouTube | Exam paper walkthroughs | GCSE Pod



Head of Maths – Mr Slade

Exam Structure - Maths

Exam Structure

Examining Board:	Pearson (Edexcel)/OCR Foundation
Assessment:	100% exam-based
Tiers:	Foundation (grades 1–5) or Higher (grades 4–9)
Papers:	3 papers of 80 marks each (240 marks total)

Paper Breakdown

Duration per paper: 1 hour 30 minutes

- Paper 1 – Non-calculator (80 marks)
- Paper 2 – Calculator (80 marks)
- Paper 3 – Calculator (80 marks)

Important Requirements

Calculators are essential for two of the three exams and are available through parent pay at a discounted price. Students should ensure they have the correct model before the examination series begins.

Homework – Sparx Maths

What is Sparx Maths?

- Online homework platform
- AI-powered personalised learning
- Accessible 24/7 from any device
- Immediate feedback on answers
- Tracks progress and identifies gaps

Other Useful Websites

Maths Genie

Corbett Maths

Savemyexams

Accessing Sparx Maths

You will receive a unique login and can access Sparx Maths via the website or mobile app. Homework is set weekly and must be completed by the deadline set by your teacher. If you need help, use the hints and videos provided, or ask your teacher in class.

Curriculum - Whiterose Maths

The screenshot shows the White Rose Education website interface. At the top, the navigation bar includes 'Schools & teachers', 'Parents & pupils', 'Shop', 'About', and 'Help'. The 'Parents & pupils' link is highlighted with a yellow arrow. Below the navigation bar, the 'Home learning' section is visible, with a yellow arrow pointing to the 'Home learning' link in the left sidebar. The main content area displays a grid of topics for the Autumn, Spring, and Summer terms. A yellow arrow points to the 'Equality & equivalence' topic in the Autumn term. To the right, the 'Home learning' section is expanded, showing a 'SCHEME OF LEARNING' dropdown and a filter section. The filter section has 'Year' set to 'Maths Year 7' and 'Term' set to 'All', with a 'FILTER' button. A yellow arrow points to the 'FILTER' button. Another yellow arrow points to the 'Home learning' section header.

1. Whiteroseeducation.com
Click on parents & pupils
Then Home learning

2. Change to year 7 then click filter

3. Select the topic to view videos for supporting with home learning or if students have missed lessons due to absence.

Essential Equipment – Why the Right Calculator Matters

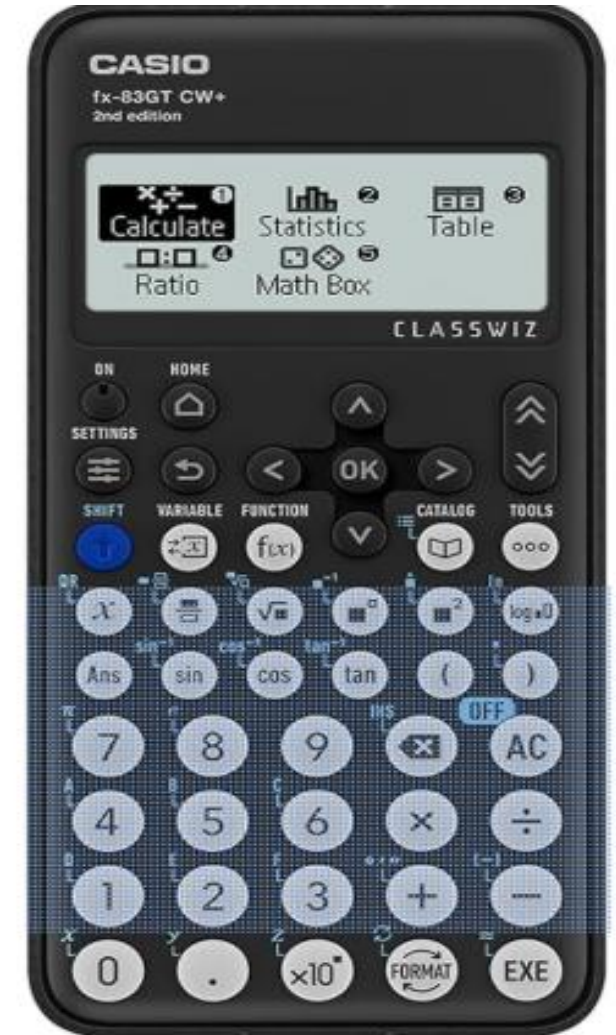
The Challenge

- 2 out of 3 GCSE exams require a calculator = 66% of the course
- Without the right calculator at home, students can't practise properly
- Phone calculators are NOT allowed in exams

Why the Casio FX-83GTX?

- Approved by all GCSE exam boards
- Natural display for fractions, roots & surds
- Built-in statistics, algebra & matrix functions

This is not optional – it's essential for exam success. Available through parent pay.



Yr10 Work Experience

The dates of the one-week placement for this year are:

Monday 26th April – Friday 30th April 2027.

It is a great opportunity for all students to spend some time with an employer or other organisation, allowing them to experience as far as possible the hours, working conditions and regulations they may encounter when they go to work themselves.

In addition, it will provide an insight into different career areas and help students develop the skills and qualities employers look for such as communication, team work and motivation.

Students are encouraged to arrange their own placement. Employers also much prefer it when students contact them themselves as it shows initiative and interest.



Yr10 Work Experience

From now, students need to start contacting local businesses to find a suitable placement.

They have been given a Self-Placement Form which must be returned to school as soon as possible after they have arranged their confirmed placement and at the latest by the deadline of **Monday 1st February 2027** .

The form must be completed in full and signed by student, parent/carers and the employer to show agreement.

It is extremely important that the deadline for returning the Self Placement form is met and ideally to return these as soon as possible. The earlier the form is returned to school, then MPLOY can start the various Health & Safety, Risk Assessment and Insurance checks that must be completed before your child can take part in the placement.

Without these checks being completed your child will be unable to attend a placement. Where placements are deemed unsuitable in terms of health and safety, the student will not be allowed to attend.



Yr10 Work Experience



WORK EXPERIENCE SELF PLACEMENT FORM

Dear Student,

This form is to be used only if you have found your **own placement**. Please make sure all sections are completed and that you have **all three signatures** before handing the form to your teacher.

SCHOOL DETAILS

School _____ Placement Dates: _____
Tel No _____ From _____ To _____

STUDENT DETAILS

First Name _____ Surname _____
Date of birth _____ Age at Placement _____ Form/Tutor Group _____
Home Address _____ Post Code _____
Contact No _____ E-mail* _____

*This may be used to send you details about careers and other info you may find useful as well as details about your placement. Please tick if you **do not** want to be contacted ☐

Please give details of any medical or other conditions which could affect your work placement ie Hayfever, Asthma, Eczema, Epilepsy, Allergies, Colour Blindness, Dyslexia _____

Dear Employer,

This form has been given to you following your agreement to a work placement. Please complete the Company details and Job description sections of the form and then sign the Employer section on the reverse confirming that you carry **Employer's Liability Insurance**. This form should then be returned to the student for delivery to school. Please ensure that you put details of this placement in your diary as the next contact you have may well be from the student just prior to the placement starting. Thank you for supporting the work experience programme.

COMPANY DETAILS (address of placement)

Organisation Name _____ Dates Confirmed: _____
Business Description _____ From _____ To _____
Address _____ Post Code _____
Contact Name _____ Title _____
Position _____ No of employees _____
Tel No _____ Mobile No _____
E-mail address _____
(please complete overleaf)

JOB DESCRIPTION

(Please give as much information as possible)

Placement Title _____

Placement Tasks _____

Working Days From _____ To _____

Working Hours From _____ To _____

Lunch Times From _____ To _____

Lunch arrangements Staff Canteen / Local Cafe / Bring Packed Lunch / Provided

Dress / PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) Requirements _____ Provided Yes / No

Have you provided work experience placements in the past Yes / No

Would you consider offering placements in the future Yes / No

SIGNATURES

STUDENT

As the **student** named overleaf I agree to take part in this work experience scheme. I agree to hold in confidence any information about the Employer's business which I may obtain during this work period. I also agree to observe all safety and security regulations in accordance with Company policy.

Name _____ Signed _____ Date _____

PARENT

As the **parent/carer** of the student named I confirm that I agree to the placement and I am satisfied that it is a suitable environment in which the student may undertake their work experience.

Name _____ Signed _____ Date _____

For more information, please visit our website www.mployolutions.co.uk

EMPLOYER

As a representative of the above **Employer** I confirm that the student has a placement with the company on the dates specified, that as a company we have **Employer's Liability Insurance** and I have checked that this extends to students on work experience - this is a minimum requirement and the placement cannot go ahead if not in place (if possible, please supply a copy). I also understand that, where necessary, MPloy Solutions Ltd may need to visit to discuss health and safety arrangements for the placement.

Name of Insurer _____ Policy No _____ Exp Date _____

Name _____ Position _____

Signed _____ Date _____

Post 16 Pathways

- Grade 4/5 passes are required for most courses
- **English & maths resits are compulsory in college, should these grades not be achieved regardless of course you are following**
- A good grasp of our language gives us the confidence to communicate effectively
- A good grasp of numeracy gives us the confidence to calculate effectively
- Reading and writing forms part of all courses
- English revision inevitably supports all other subject areas

A Level applications completed by end of January 2028
Vocational applications completed by end of May 2028*



Post 16 Pathways

A – levels

QPHS 6th Form

Christleton 6th Form

Upton High School 6th Form

The Chester Catholic High
6th Form

Deeside Sixth

Vocational study (College)

Foundation level – individual entry requirements will be discussed at an interview with the college.

- Level 2
- Level 3

Learners who do not achieve a Grade 4 in both English and Maths will continue to study these subjects as part of their Study Programme

Cheshire College South and West (CCSW)

Coleg Cambria

Reaseheath college

Apprenticeships

An apprenticeship is a real job where you learn, gain experience and get paid.

Find an Apprenticeship

Traineeships

A traineeship is a skills development programme that includes a work placement and provides the learner with a qualification at the end of the course.

TTE Training



10 Key dates

Date	Event/Activity
25 January	Yr10 Progress Reports
28 January	Yr10 Progress Evening
1 February	Work experience self-placement form deadline
26-30 April	Yr10 Work Experience
14-25 June	Yr10 Mock Exams
12 July	Yr10 Progress Reports

Students are continuously assessed across the curriculum to support progress.



Parental support

- Help your child to keep on top of work, but also factor in rest, and relaxation.
- Follow a revision plan (linked to the mock exam timetable).
- Be a revision buddy – help test them on the things they need to know.
- Make sure they are eating and drinking enough.
- Make sure they are getting enough sleep - lack of sleep can lead to an increase in stress and anxiety.
- Be there to listen when they want to talk. A lot of the time they are not necessarily looking for advice, they just want to offload their concerns.
- Give reassurance and encouragement - focus on positive reinforcement



A word cloud graphic on a dark blue background. The central text reads "ANY QUESTIONS?" in large, bold, white capital letters. Surrounding this central text are various question words in different colors (yellow, green, blue, white) and sizes. The words include "WHEN?", "WHERE?", "WHO?", "WHAT?", "HOW?", "WHY?", and "What?". Some words are repeated multiple times, and they are arranged in a circular pattern around the center.