Welcome to Year 11 revision information evening

September 2025

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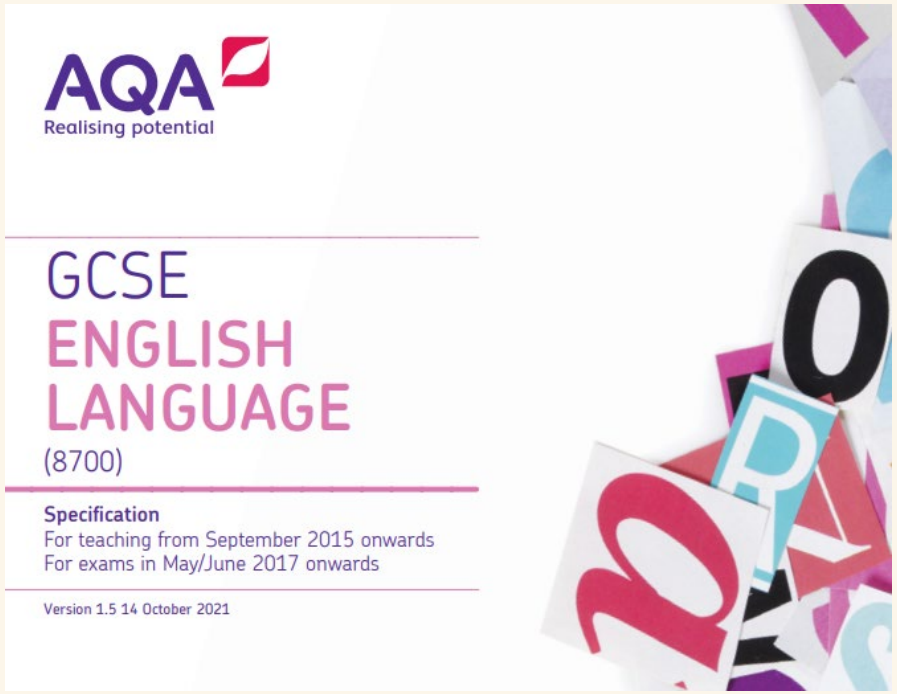
The purpose of this evening

- To support you in preparing for the Mocks in class in October 2025, in the Sports Hall in January/February 2026 and the Summer Exams in 2026
- To explain how to find information for each subject that is being studied
  - Specifications
  - Examiners reports
  - Past papers
  - Revision materials
  - Mock and Summer Exam timetables
- To provide you with skills and techniques to help you revise, memorise and apply information and showing you how technology can support revision
- To support you in creating revision timetables that maintain a healthy balance between schoolwork and other activities
- To provide key English and maths tips when tackling exam questions
- To give you a framework for revision

Exam specifications

- The single most important piece of information that you can access as a parent or a student is the exam specification
- These documents are freely available on the appropriate exam board website, and they list how each subject will be examined and all the aspects/topics within a subject that could be examined.
- Some examples:

English Language



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Subject content

For the award of the GCSE in English Language students must offer all three assessments.

Assessments

All texts in the examination will be unseen.

Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing

What's assessed

Section A: Reading

- one literature fiction text

Section B: Writing

- descriptive or narrative writing

Assessed

- written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- 80 marks
- 50% of GCSE

Questions

Reading (40 marks) (25%)– one single text

- 1 short form question (1 x 4 marks)
- 2 longer form questions (2 x 8 marks)
- 1 extended question (1 x 20 marks)

Writing (40 marks) (25%)

- 1 extended writing question (24 marks for content, 16 marks for technical accuracy)

Paper 2: Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives

What's assessed

Section A: Reading

- one non-fiction text and one literary non-fiction text

Section B: Writing

- writing to present a viewpoint

Assessed

- written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- 80 marks
- 50% of GCSE

Questions

Reading (40 marks) (25%) – two linked texts

- 1 short form question (1 x 4 marks)
- 2 longer form questions (1 x 8, 1 x 12 marks)
- 1 extended question (1 x 16 marks)

Writing (40 marks) (25%)

- 1 extended writing question (24 marks for content, 16 marks for technical accuracy)

✚

Non-examination Assessment: Spoken Language

What's assessed

(AO7–AO9)

- presenting
- responding to questions and feedback
- use of Standard English

Assessed

- teacher set throughout course
- marked by teacher
- separate endorsement (0% weighting of GCSE)

Combined Science (Trilogy)

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2 Specification at a glance

This qualification is linear. Linear means that students will sit all their exams at the end of the course.

2.1 Subject content

Biology

Chemistry

Physics

2.2 Assessments

There are six papers: two biology, two chemistry and two physics. Each of the papers will assess knowledge and understanding from distinct topic areas.

Biology Paper 1

What's assessed

Biology topics 1–4: Cell Biology; Organisation; Infection and response; and Bioenergetics.

How it's assessed

- Written exam: 1 hour 15 minutes
- Foundation and Higher Tier
- 70 marks
- 16.7% of GCSE

Questions

Multiple choice, structured, closed short answer, and open response.

Biology Paper 2

What's assessed

Biology topics 5–7: Homeostasis and response; Inheritance, variation and evolution; and Ecology.

How it's assessed

- Written exam: 1 hour 15 minutes
- Foundation and Higher Tier
- 70 marks
- 16.7% of GCSE

Questions

Multiple choice, structured, closed short answer, and open response.

Chemistry Paper 1

What's assessed

Chemistry topics 8–12: Atomic structure and the periodic table; Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter; Quantitative chemistry; Chemical changes; and Energy changes.

How it's assessed

- Written exam: 1 hour 15 minutes
- Foundation and Higher Tier
- 70 marks
- 16.7% of GCSE

Questions

Multiple choice, structured, closed short answer, and open response.

Chemistry Paper 2

What's assessed

Chemistry topics 13–17: The rate and extent of chemical change; Organic chemistry; Chemical analysis; Chemistry of the atmosphere; and Using resources.

Questions in Paper 2 may draw on fundamental concepts and principles from Sections 5.1 to 5.3.

How it's assessed

- Written exam: 1 hour 15 minutes
- Foundation and Higher Tier
- 70 marks
- 16.7% of GCSE

Questions

Multiple choice, structured, closed short answer, and open response.

4.1 Cell biology

Cells are the basic unit of all forms of life. In this section we explore how structural differences between types of cells enables them to perform specific functions within the organism. These differences in cells are controlled by genes in the nucleus. For an organism to grow, cells must divide by mitosis producing two new identical cells. If cells are isolated at an early stage of growth before they have become too specialised, they can retain their ability to grow into a range of different types of cells. This phenomenon has led to the development of stem cell technology. This is a new branch of medicine that allows doctors to repair damaged organs by growing new tissue from stem cells.

4.1.1 Cell structure

4.1.1.1 Eukaryotes and prokaryotes

Content	Key opportunities for skills development
Plant and animal cells (eukaryotic cells) have a cell membrane, cytoplasm and genetic material enclosed in a nucleus.	
Bacterial cells (prokaryotic cells) are much smaller in comparison. They have cytoplasm and a cell membrane surrounded by a cell wall. The genetic material is not enclosed in a nucleus. It is a single DNA loop and there may be one or more small rings of DNA called plasmids.	
Students should be able to demonstrate an understanding of the scale and size of cells and be able to make order of magnitude calculations, including the use of standard form.	MS 1b, 2a, 2h WS 4.4 Use prefixes centi, milli, micro and nano.

4.1.1.2 Animal and plant cells

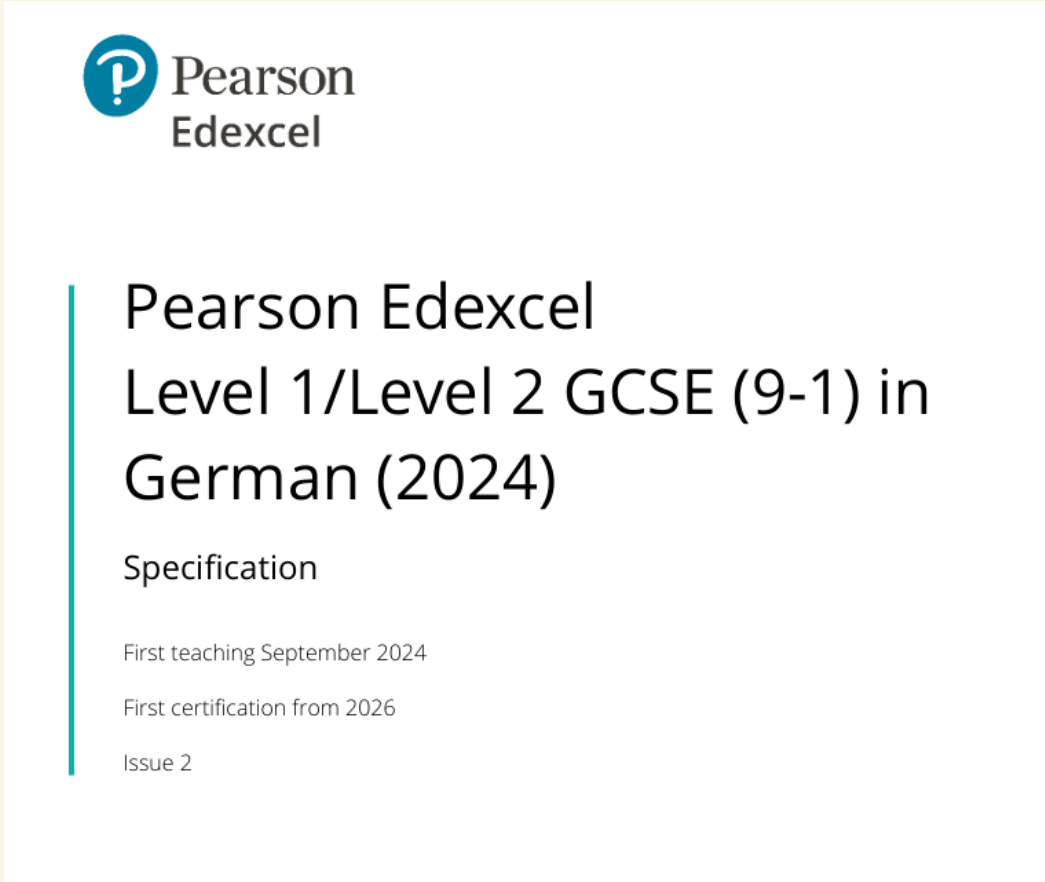
Content	Key opportunities for skills development
Students should be able to explain how the main sub-cellular structures, including the nucleus, cell membranes, mitochondria, chloroplasts in plant cells and plasmids in bacterial cells are related to their functions. Most animal cells have the following parts: • a nucleus • cytoplasm • a cell membrane • mitochondria • ribosomes. In addition to the parts found in animal cells, plant cells often have: • chloroplasts • a permanent vacuole filled with cell sap. Plant and algal cells also have a cell wall made of cellulose, which strengthens the cell.	WS 1.2 Recognise, draw and interpret images of cells.
Students should be able to use estimations and explain when they should be used to judge the relative size or area of sub-cellular structures.	MS 1d, 3a AT 7 Images of cells in videos, bioviewers, photographs and micrographs can be used as comparison for students own drawings.

Required practical activity 1: use a light microscope to observe, draw and label a selection of plant and animal cells. A magnification scale must be included.

AT skills covered by this practical activity: biology AT 1 and 7.

This practical activity also provides opportunities to develop WS and MS. Details of all skills are given in Key opportunities for skills development (page 176).

German



Pearson
Edexcel

Pearson Edexcel
Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9-1) in German (2024)

Specification

First teaching September 2024

First certification from 2026

Issue 2

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Adverbs: Foundation and Higher	
English	**German**
every day, daily	täglich
everywhere	überall
finally, at last	endlich
first of all, firstly	zuerst
from something, in this direction, here	her
further	weiter
gladly, (with a verb) like to	gern, gerne
here	hier
in all, altogether, in total	insgesamt
just as	genauso
late	spät
more	mehr
more gladly, rather	lieber
mostly	meistens
never	nie
normally	normalerweise
not	nicht

Short phrases

Foundation and Higher

Short phrases: Foundation and Higher	
English	**German**
all the best	alles Gute
as...as	so...wie
at home; at my/our house	zu Hause
both ... and ...	sowohl ... als auch ...
Enjoy your meal!	Guten Appetit!
home; to (your) home	nach Hause
How are you?	Wie geht's?
I am ..., I feel ...	Es geht mir ...
I am sorry	Es tut mir leid
I don't mind, I'm not bothered	Es ist mir egal
in my opinion	meiner Meinung nach

Irregular inflected verb forms: Higher and Foundation

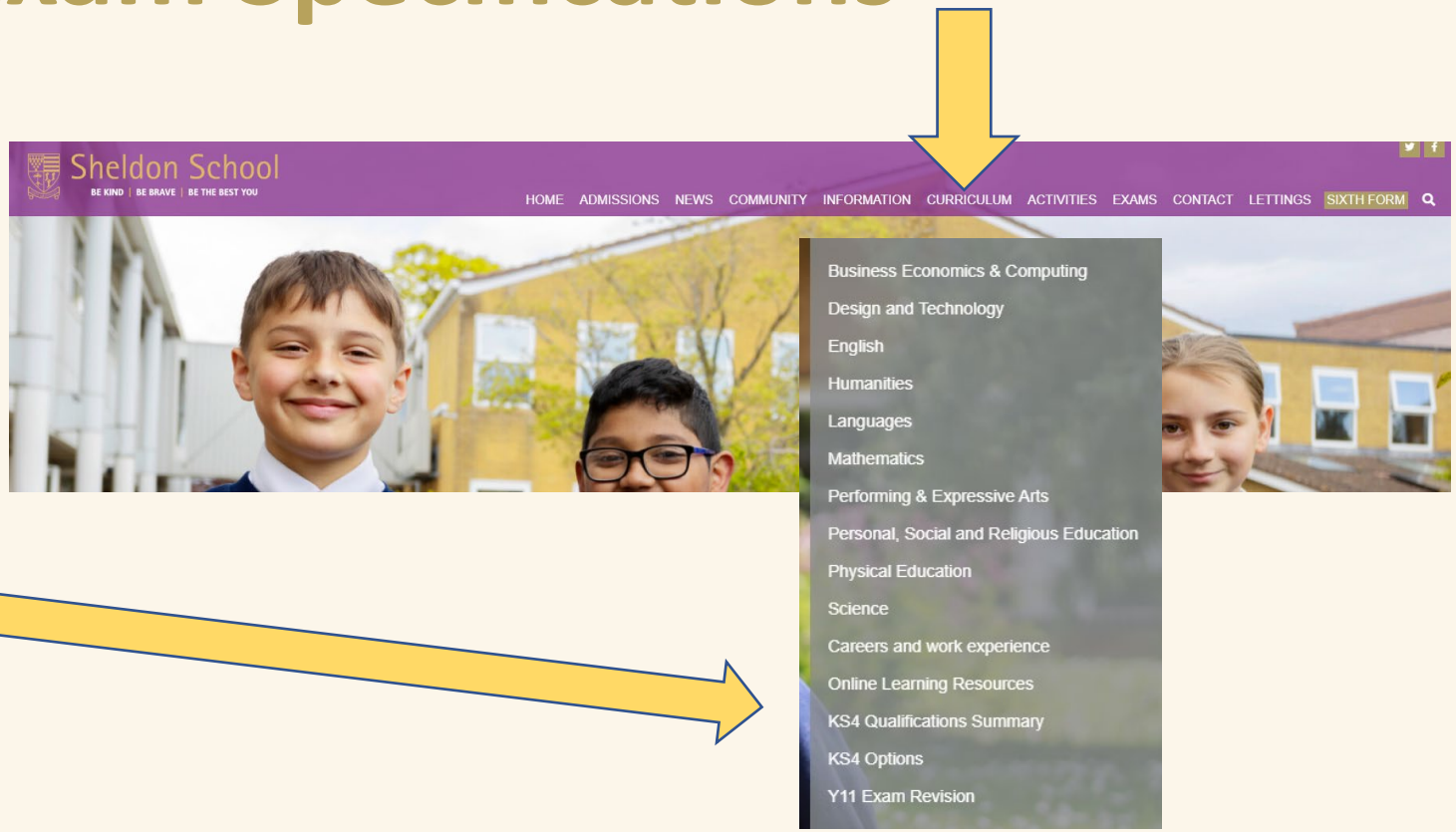
English	German
to be	**sein**
(I) am	bin
(you (sing informal)) are	bist
(she, he, it, one) is	ist
(we) are | (they) are | (you (formal)) are	sind
(you (pl informal)) are	seid
(I) was | (I) used to be | (she, he, it, one) was | (she, he, it, one) used to be	war
(we) were | (we) used to be | (they) were | (they) used to be | (you (formal)) were | (you (formal)) used to be	waren
(you (sing informal)) were | (you (sing informal)) used to be	warst
(you (pl informal)) were | (you (pl informal)) used to be	wart

To help you find Exam Specifications

- A single document with links to each exam specification for the KS4 qualifications at Sheldon School can be found under the Curriculum tab on the website
- The exam boards also publish specimen papers, past papers and mark sheets for practice. It is usual that the most recent paper is not freely available, as they are held back for use for mock exams in schools.

To help you find Exam Specifications

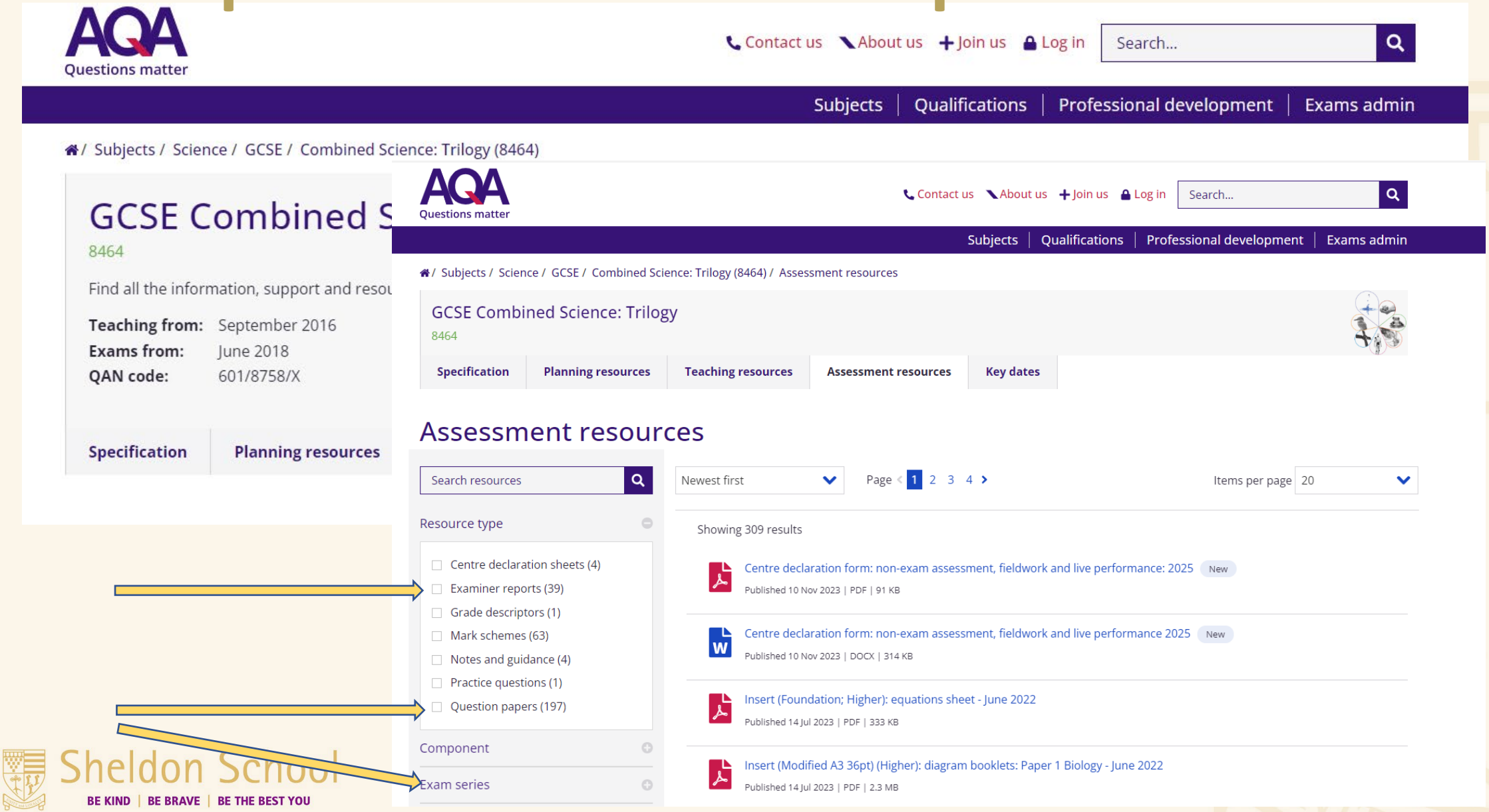
- Sheldon School website
- Curriculum
- KS4 Qualifications Summary



KS4 Qualifications Summary

Subject	Level	Exam Board	Specification Number	Link to Spec	Link to Website
Art and Design (Art, Craft and Design)	GCSE	EDUQAS	C650QS		Link
Art and Design (Fine Art)	GCSE	EDUQAS	C651QS		Link
Art and Design (Photography)8*	GCSE	EDUQAS	C656QS		Link
Art and Design (Textile design)	GCSE	EDUQAS	C653QS		Link
Business	GCSE	Pearson Edexcel	1BS0		Link

Past Papers and Examiners reports



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How will we support revision and exam preparation?

Revision Resources, Revision Homework and Revision Olympics

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To help you find the Y11 Revision Resources

- You can access the Y11 revision resources through the Exam tab on the school website. The resources from this evening will be uploaded here after the revision evening.
- The exams tab will be updated as the year progresses with all the exam information, regulations etc.
- A document listing all the revision guides for each subject and links to the specific site on three retailers websites is available under the revision study guides section or click here.

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The Y11 revision booklet (linked below and on the Y11 revision page on the website) lists the key dates for the year ahead.
It also includes links to all the specifications and exam board websites, gives links to revision websites by subject and contains the in-class mock timetable.

[Year-11-Revision-Booklet-2025-26.pdf]

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Key Dates 2025-26

Y11 Revision Evening	25.09.2025
Sixth Form Open Evening	16.10.2025
In-Class Mock Assessments – Fortnight Beginning	06.10.2025
Interim 1 Reports Home	12.11.2025
Face to Face Parents' Evening	05.01.2026
Mock examinations – Fortnight Beginning	25.01.2026
Interim report 2	05.03.2026
Examinations start	07.05.2026
Examinations end	17.06.2026
Exam Contingency Day	23.06.2026

In-Class mock timetable

In-Class Mocks Timetable

October 2025

		Lesson 1-2 8:55-10:35	Lesson 3-4 10:55-12:35	Lesson 5-6 13:20-15:00
Follow Week 2 Schedule	Mon 6 Oct		Option D Max 1hr 15 Min	
	Tue 7 Oct		Right Side Science (Biology) 1hr 15 Min	Option B Max 1hr 15 Min
	Wed 8 Oct	Whole Cohort Maths Max 1hr 15 Min		
	Thu 9 Oct	Right Side Science (Chemistry) 1hr 15 Min		Left Side Science (Biology) 1hr 15 Min
	Fri 10 Oct		Left Side Science (Chemistry) 1hr 15 Min Right Side English 50min	Right Side Science (Chemistry) 1hr 15 Min
Follow Week 1 Schedule	Mon 13 Oct	Option C Max 1hr 15 Min	**Y11 to early lunch at 12:15**	Whole Cohort English **Early start at 1pm**
	Tue 14 Oct		Left Side English 50min	
	Wed 15 Oct	Whole Cohort Maths Max 1hr 15 Min		Option A Max 1hr 15 Min
	Thu 16 Oct			
	Fri 17 Oct		Left Side Science (Physics) 1hr 15 Min	Right Side Science (Physics) 1hr 15 Min

Right Side: KLD, RES, JCN, ECD
Left Side: AVW, SEF, ZXM, TJT, GMB

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Revision Support

- In preparation for the classroom based mocks, each subject has ensured that students have received a list of areas that will be included. This can be found on epraise.
- The timetable has been published for when the in-class mocks will be held.
- Revision Olympics will start in January and these documents will guide students through revision tasks to prepare for the January/February mocks and the summer exams. These will be available on the Y11 revision page.
- After school paper societies have started in maths and science and further revision sessions will be added as the year progresses.
- The timetable for January mocks will be published in early-mid November.

Lessons During the mock Exam weeks

- During the in-class assessments teaching will continue as normal and the lessons shown in the mock timetable will be dedicated to the mock exam.
- For the Jan/Feb mocks in the sports hall, formal teaching will be suspended but students will be expected to go to their usual lessons where they will be able to revise for their next exam and get help and support from their classroom teachers.

Overview – Exams 2026

- Exams in summer 2026 will go ahead as usual.
- There is no optionality in exam dates, they are held on that day and that day alone in the summer!
- There are some contingency days across the summer exam season and students are expected to be available on these days should that need arise. These days will be clearly shown in the summer exam timetable and are in the key dates section of Y11 Revision Booklet :
  - Wednesday 17th June 2026
  - Wednesday 23rd June – don't book holidays before this date!!

Expectations

- Attendance is key – students who have good attendance do better
  - 95% sounds great doesn't it?
  - That equates to one half day out of school every two weeks
  - Almost 60 lessons lost across the year
  - Students will be expected to be in school up to and including Friday 23rd May i.e. the last day of term 5
- Revision little and often is better than cramming
- We are expecting everyone to engage with the Revision Olympics and the after school revision sessions that we will put on in 2025-26
- If you don't understand, ask for help
- Get started on your revision – don't put it off!

How can you help your child?

- Make sure that they attend school >95%
- Make sure your child has a quiet place to work
- Help them to be organised
- Ask them to teach you something they have learned
- Help them stay positive
- Help them avoid distractions
- Ensure they are getting enough exercise, rest and are eating well
- Know when to back off!!

Good Luck

Be kind – to yourself (and your parents!)

Be brave – tackle the things you are putting off

Be the best you – don't leave an exam thinking you should have put in more effort. If you give your best, that is all anyone can ask of you.