

Year 10 Practice Examinations: Monday 15th June – Friday 26th June

The time is fast approaching when our Year 10 students will be sitting their first series of practice exams (please follow this link for the exam timetable).

Over the coming weeks we will be working with our students in assemblies, mentor time and in the classroom to ensure that they are fully prepared for the practice exams.

We have attached an overview of the information that core subjects have sent to parents to support

Throughout this week and next we are looking at how to create the conditions for learning and how to construct an effective revision timetable. We would like to take this opportunity to share with you the guidance we have been giving to our students.

Revision Space:

- If you are fortunate enough to have your own space at home – organise it.
- Revise in a quiet environment where you will not be distracted – TURN OFF MOBILE DEVICES!
- If you do not have a quiet space at home, you can stay after school to revise.
- Be organised with folders, books, equipment and resources.

Revision timetable (please follow this link for a blank revision timetable):

- Write in when you CANNOT revise because you have hobbies / family events etc.
- Then write in when the exams are.
- Write in the subjects to be revised and which topics – rank order: most to least confident.
- Revision should take place in short sessions, for example, **25 minutes** for one subject followed by a ten-minute break and 25 more minutes on the same or different subject and so on.
- It is fine to have a night or day off - it will promote well-being.
- Start with the subjects that you do not feel as confident in – you will need to prepare more for these subjects.

Revision Techniques:

We have been focusing on effective revision techniques such as the use of **flashcards**, **mind mapping** and **self-quizzing**.

- Whichever methods you use please make sure your revision is active rather than simply reading, highlighting or re-writing notes.
- Always prove to yourself that you have learnt the information by self-testing or asking someone else to test you.

- When information is committed to long term memory you need to apply this knowledge to **exam questions** and potentially in timed conditions.

Regards

Mr B Dowle (Head of Year 11)

Mr M Sharman (Student Support Officer)

Mr N Green (Assistant Principal)



ENGLISH

Exam Details

Wednesday 17th June (English Language)

The English Language exam will be **1 hour 45 minutes** in total and is split into two sections:

Section A (50% of the marks):

- Students are required to read an extract of fiction, from either the 20th or 21st century.
- They will then answer 4 questions which build up in difficulty.
- Students should spend one hour on this section.

Section B (50% of the marks):

- Students will be given a choice of either a piece of descriptive or narrative writing.
- Students should spend 45 minutes on this section.

Monday 22nd June (English Literature)

For English Literature, students will be responding to a question on the poems they have studied from the Power and Conflict poetry anthology. They will have **one hour** to complete the question.

- The question will ask students to write about a named poem from the anthology and compare it with a second poem of their choice.
- The named poem will be printed on the exam paper for students to refer to.
- Students may choose any other poem that they have studied from the anthology but this is not printed for them so they need to know the poems well.

Revision at Home

- We will also be sharing recorded revision materials through the 'English Class of 2027' Teams channel including Walking Talking Mock exams for Language Paper 1 and revision videos on the poems to enable all students to access support.
- Here are a few tips for how to revise effectively at home:
- Look back through notes that have been made in class on the poetry anthology. Students do not need to learn the poems off by heart but they do need to know quotations from the beginning, middle and end of their poems that will help them to talk confidently about what messages the poets might be trying to convey.
- Create a revision map of links between the poems – which ones are similar in their themes and ideas and which ones are different. Look at which poems might work well together as a comparison.
- For Language, practise crafting writing by finding a picture (can be of anything) and writing a description inspired by what can be seen. Effective writing uses a range of sentence styles, a range of punctuation, ambitious vocabulary and creative use of similes, metaphors, personification etc. For Questions 1-4, we will give students a past paper to revise at home as well as covering individual question strategies in class.



MATHEMATICS

Exam Details

Thursday 18th June (non-calculator) – One hour 30 minutes (80 marks)

Wednesday 24th June (calculator) – One hour 30 minutes (80 marks)

For these practice exams, students are expected to recall the majority of content covered throughout Year 10, as well as draw upon relevant knowledge from Key Stage 3.

A comprehensive list of all topics to be assessed, along with associated Sparx Independent Learning codes, can be found overleaf for both Foundation and Higher tiers.

Each examination will last 1 hour and 30 minutes and is worth 80 marks, featuring a range of skill based and problem solving questions. Please ensure that your child arrives fully equipped for the exams, including a calculator and a complete maths set.

Revision at Home

As mathematics is best learned and revised through active practice rather than rereading notes, we encourage students to revise effectively by:

- Reviewing the revision list and RAG rating their confidence for each topic
- Completing questions independently, referring to worked examples only where necessary
- Refraining from the use of AI technology
- Showing full and clear working, as they would be expected to do in the exams
- Regularly access Sparx Independent Learning to support their revision.
- A strong starting point is to revise a variety of topics within each session (for example, one topic from Number, Algebra, Data, Geometry, and Ratio). This approach builds mathematical flexibility and mirrors the structure of the exam. Even 20–30 minutes of focused, structured revision can make a significant difference.



SCIENCE TRILOGY

Exam Details

Wednesday 17th June – Biology: One hour 15 minutes (70 marks)

1. Cell biology
2. Organisation
3. Infection and response
4. Bioenergetics (not photosynthesis)

Monday 22nd June – Chemistry: One hour 15 minutes (70 marks)

1. Atomic structure and the periodic table
2. Bonding, structure and the properties of matter
3. Quantitative chemistry
4. Chemical changes
5. Energy changes

Wednesday 24th June – Physics: One hour 15 minutes (70 marks)

1. Energy
2. Electricity
3. Particle model of matter
4. Atomic structure

Revision at Home

Students can access information on how to revise and find information all about the exams on our Y10 practice exams site found on the science SharePoint here: [Y10 Practice Exams](#)

Students also have access to wide range of revision materials through the science SharePoint site ([GCSE Science](#)), these materials are organised by science subject and include: revision materials by topic, quizzes, past paper questions and whole past papers with mark schemes. They will also find support pages for the important **science required practicals** that are assessed in the science exams, on here there are videos, quizzes, essential knowledge sheets and virtual practicals for students to use to revise these key elements of the science course.

All students also have access to Sparx science independent learning [Independent Learning - Sparx Science](#). This includes a wide range of questions to help students work on their recall of key subject knowledge and also develop their scientific skills. Included in this are **flashcards** that students can use to effectively recall key knowledge for all of the topics listed above. Student learner pathways, found in their exercise books, list Sparx codes that can be entered into Sparx to access the topics that they have found most challenging during this first year. Instructions on how to access this and all the materials mentioned above are found on the [Y10 Practice Exams](#) site. It would be really beneficial if you could encourage your child to access and use these resources regularly at home.

When revising, we encourage students to focus on active revision techniques and use the resources provided through Sparx science and the SharePoint. A revision guide is also a very useful resource and the correct guides for AQA Science can be purchased from the school shop.



SEPARATE SCIENCE

Exam Details

Wednesday 17th June – Chemistry: One hour 45 minutes (100 marks)

1. Cell biology
2. Organisation
3. Infection and response
4. Bioenergetics (not photosynthesis)

Monday 22nd June – Physics: One hour 45 minutes (100 marks)

1. Atomic structure and the periodic table
2. Bonding, structure and the properties of matter
3. Quantitative chemistry
4. Chemical changes
5. Energy changes

Wednesday 24th June – Biology: One hour 45 minutes (100 marks)

1. Energy
2. Electricity
3. Particle model of matter
4. Atomic structure

Revision at Home

Students can access information on how to revise and find information all about the exams on our Y10 practice exams site found on the science SharePoint here: [Y10 Practice Exams](#)

Students also have access to wide range of revision materials through the science SharePoint site ([GCSE Science](#)), these materials are organised by science subject and include: revision materials by topic, quizzes, past paper questions and whole past papers with mark schemes. They will also find support pages for the important **science required practicals** that are assessed in the science exams, on here there are videos, quizzes, essential knowledge sheets and virtual practicals for students to use to revise these key elements of the science course.

All students also have access to Sparx science independent learning [Independent Learning - Sparx Science](#). This includes a wide range of questions to help students work on their recall of key subject knowledge and also develop their scientific skills. Included in this are **flashcards** that students can use to effectively recall key knowledge for all of the topics listed above. Student learner pathways, found in their exercise books, list Sparx codes that can be entered into Sparx to access the topics that they have found most challenging during this first year. Instructions on how to access this and all the materials mentioned above are found on the [Y10 Practice Exams](#) site. It would be really beneficial if you could encourage your child to access and use these resources regularly at home.

When revising, we encourage students to focus on active revision techniques and use the resources provided through Sparx science and the SharePoint. A revision guide is also a very useful resource and the correct guides for AQA Science can be purchased from the school shop.