



King
Ecgbert
School

Year 10

Information Booklet

Foreword

Year 10 have made a great start to their lessons this year. Following option choices made in Year 9, this is now the first stage of a four-year journey that will see students complete their GCSEs/BTECs at the end of Y11, followed by two more years of A Level/BTEC study, either here at KES or at an alternative sixth form or college. Students need to start as they mean to go on, always thinking about being the very best they can be.

We hope this evening will give parents and carers all the information needed so we can work together to aim for the very best outcomes for our young people.

In this booklet there is key information about the school as well as courses your child is studying and sources of further information. The presentation this evening will include advice on how you can best support your child with their learning. The slides will be available on the website after the event.

An important change for many parents and carers is that GCSE examinations are now graded 9-1. There is a table on page 4 of this booklet showing the comparison between the 9-1 grades and the old A*-G equivalent grades. BTEC qualifications are graded at Distinction, Merit or Pass.

We hope this booklet and evening will answer some of your questions about the forthcoming year.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Nick Jones', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Nick Jones
Deputy Headteacher

School Values

At King Ecgbert School, we believe in:

- **Academic excellence for all**
- **Showing respect at all times**
- **Having high aspirations and personal goals that go beyond our time in school**

School Day

8.40am - 9.00am - Registration and Form Time

9.00am - 10.00am - Period 1

10.02am - 11.02am - Period 2

11.02am - 11.27am - Break

11.27am - 12.27pm - Period 3

12.27pm - 13.07pm - Lunch

13.12pm - 14.12pm - Period 4

14.15pm - 15.15pm - Period 5

Good attendance and good punctuality lead to good outcomes. All students should be in school every day and be on time.

Independent study and homework support

Homework is set by all staff on a regular basis and tasks are posted using Edulink. All students are expected to manage their own independent learning using Edulink and parents/carers should try to maintain a regular dialogue with their children about what needs to be completed and how much effort is being put into completing it.

For many students, examinations and deadlines may seem a long way off, but success in the future is largely down to how well you apply yourself on a day-by-day basis all the way through school. Those who put the effort in from the start will see the benefits in the end.

Homework support for Y10 students will be held on Tuesdays after school P6, 3.15pm - 4.15pm. Students are encouraged to come to this, particularly if they have had issues in the past with organising themselves in terms of homework or revision. It encourages good independent learning habits and prepares students for the type of studying that they will use much more when they begin post-16 courses. Where individual students are a concern in terms of their homework, either to school or to parents/carers, attendance at the Tuesday P6 will become compulsory for a fixed period of time to address the issue.

Of course, school is not just about work. All students can access a range of extra clubs and opportunities after school and at lunch time and it would be great to see as many Y10 students as possible taking up these opportunities.

Key Staff

Mr Fennell – Y10 Year Manager / Careers Leader

Mr Jones – Deputy Headteacher / Y10 SLT link

Ms Vilela – Y11 Year Manager and part of the KS4 pastoral team

Mr Bashir – Safeguarding Officer and part of the KS4 pastoral team

Mrs Sellars – SENCO

Mr Vincent – Integrated Resource Leader

Ms Allen – Attendance Officer

Understanding GCSE grades

Where GCSE subjects are now graded 9-1, please use the following table to help you understand how this relates to old A*-G grades.

GCSE grade	Old grade
9	A*
8	A*
7	A
6	B
5	B/C
4	C
3	D
2	E/F
1	F/G
U	U

Subject Information - Core Subjects

GCSE English Language (Graded 9-1)

Specifications: AQA 8700

This qualification will be taken at the end of Year 11. There is no controlled assessment or coursework for this course. Students will take two exams:

Paper 1 (50%):

Section A: Reading

Students read an extract from one literature fiction text and answer 4 questions on the extract. 1 question will be an extended response.

Section B: Writing

Students complete one piece of descriptive or narrative writing. They may be given a choice, or they may be asked to choose from two descriptive tasks, or two narrative tasks. We will teach both skills.

Paper 2 (50%):

Section A: Reading

Students read one non-fiction text and one literary non-fiction text (e.g. travel writing). These texts will be taken from different eras - one will be from the nineteenth century. Students answer four questions on these texts. 1 question will be an extended response.

Section B: Writing

Students will write to present a viewpoint, arguing a case.

In GCSE English Language, spelling, punctuation and grammar count towards 50% of the overall mark.

GCSE English Literature (Graded 9-1)

Specifications: AQA 8702

This qualification will be taken at the end of Year 11. There is no controlled assessment or coursework for this course.

Students will take two exams:

Paper 1 (40%):

Section A Shakespeare: students will answer one question on their play of choice. They will be required to write in detail about an extract from the play and then to write about the play as a whole. The main play studied in Year 10 will be *Macbeth*.

Section B The 19th-century novel: students will answer one question on their novel of choice. They will be required to write in detail about an extract from the novel and then to write about the novel as a whole. The novel most students will be studying is *The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll & Mr Hyde*, although some students will be studying *A Christmas Carol* instead.

Paper 2 (60%):

Section A Modern texts: students will answer one essay question from a choice of two on their studied modern prose or drama text. We will be studying *An Inspector Calls* in Year 10, which we started this in Year 9.

Section B Poetry: students will answer one comparative question on one named poem printed on the paper and one other poem from the AQA anthology. The cluster studied is *Power and Conflict*, which students began to study in Y9.

Section C Unseen poetry: Students will answer one question on one unseen poem and one question comparing this poem with a second unseen poem.

GCSE Mathematics (Graded 9-1)

Specification: Edexcel Linear 1MA1

There are two tiers of entry: Foundation (Grades 5-1) and Higher (Grades 9-4). We will use our professional judgement to enter pupils for the tier which will maximise their grade.

There is no coursework and students will be assessed on three final exams, each 1h 30 mins long. Paper 1 is non calculator, Papers 2 and 3 allow the use of a calculator.

Equipment needed for Maths papers

- Pen, pencil and ruler
- A pair of compasses
- Protractor
- Scientific Calculator (Paper 2 and 3)

The Maths Department has an "open door policy". Members of staff are available for help with homework, guidance for revision and any other maths-related questions.

<https://corbettmaths.com/> - links to free help videos/worksheets/practice questions

<https://www.drfrostmaths.com/resources.php> - links to free revision materials

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/z9p3mnb>

The Maths Department also runs revision sessions during half term weeks prior to exams, for example, Spring Bank holiday to prepare for summer exams.

GCSE Biology, Chemistry, Physics (Graded 9-1)

Separate Sciences - Biology, Chemistry, Physics (Groups D, I, S and C)

Specifications: Edexcel Biology, Chemistry and Physics

Each of these qualifications is a separate GCSE. There are two examinations for each science, each worth 50% of the final grade (1 hour 45 mins each); six exams in total. Each exam paper will be sat in the summer of 2021. Students can expect a wide range of questions testing their scientific understanding, the application of science in novel situations, practical skills and the maths that scientists use. Across the two years, each student will participate in eight core practicals for each science in their lessons. These core practicals will be assessed in the exams at the end of the course; any student who misses any practical will be at a disadvantage in their exam.

Details of content can be found by following these links:

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/sciences-2016.html#tab-0>

GCSE Combined Science (Groups O, V, E and R) (Graded 9-1)

Specification: Edexcel Combined Science

This qualification is worth two GCSEs. There will be six exams, each worth 16.67% of the final grade (1 hour 10 mins each) sat in the summer of 2021. Students can expect a wide range of questions testing their scientific understanding, the application of science in novel situations, practical skills and the maths that scientists use. Across the two years, each student will participate in 17 core practicals in their lessons. These core practicals will be assessed in the exams at the end of the course; any student who misses any practical will be at a disadvantage in their exam.

Details of content can be found by following these links:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/sciences-2016.html#tab-0>

Science – Revision guides

We have purchased science revision guides and these are for sale from the science resource office on C floor. The triple science revision guides are £8.55 for all three books and the Combined Science book is £5.60. Each book contains revision notes and some questions.

Subject Information - Non-Core Subjects

GCSE Art (Graded 9-1)

Specification: AQA Art and Design

Controlled assessments include classwork and homework done throughout Year 10 and Year 11. The classwork includes projects based around the Year 10 workshops, visits to the Victoria and Albert Museum, Tate Britain and the Yorkshire Sculpture Park. The homework sketch book built up over the two-year course is also an integral part of this portfolio. The portfolio work is worth 60% of the GCSE and is built up over the two-year course. There is also an exam element to the course which will happen in the spring term of Year 11 and this is worth 40% of the GCSE. The exam allows a ten-week preparation period followed by 10 hours of exam time spread over two weeks. The exam is a practical one where the candidate is expected to make a piece of art work around a theme chosen from the exam paper.

<http://web.aqa.org.uk/subjects/art.php>

GCSE Business Studies (Graded 9-1)

Specification: Edexcel Business Studies

During Year 10, students will start their study with theme 1: Investigating small business. This is worth 50% of the overall marks for the course. They will learn about how a business starts, the motives of those that start them, and how they are run and controlled. Whilst the work is taught in Year 10, the examination will not take place until May/June of Year 11. The examination will be one and a half hours long and is assessed out of 90 marks. There are three sections to the exam, with part A being multiple choice questions and part B and C requiring students to answer short and long questions based on stimulus material provided.

In Year 11, students will study theme 2, Building a Business. This is again worth 50% of the final course mark and follows the same format as theme 1 paper. The unit covers much of what students learnt in Year 10, but from the perspective of much larger business organisations such as Marks and Spencer plc. All teaching should be completed by the end of March in Year 11, when students will begin revision for both exams.

The course allows progression either to the Edexcel AS Economics B (Business Economics) course or the BTEC Level 3 Vocational Business course.

Further information can be found at

http://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/GCSE/Business/2017/specification-and-sample-assessments/GCSE_Business_Spec_2017.pdf

GCSE Computer Science (Graded 9-1)

The new OCR GCSE (9-1) Computer Science

The new specification is split into three components:

Component 01 – Computer Systems

Component 01 focuses on Computer Systems. It is an examined unit and makes up 40% of the assessment total.

Component 02 – Computational Thinking, Algorithms and Programming

Component 02 is a new written exam, focused on computational thinking and algorithms. Students will be tested on the elements of computational thinking and logic. They are principally assessed as to their ability to write, correct and improve algorithms.

Component 03 – Programming Project (non-exam assessment)

This component is the non-exam assessment where candidates will be challenged by a range of exciting and engaging tasks to apply the knowledge and skills they have learned.

Component title	Content overview
Computer Systems	Systems architecture Memory Storage Wired and wireless networks Network topologies, protocols and layers System security Systems software Moral, legal, cultural & environmental concerns
Computational Thinking, Algorithms and Programming	Algorithms Programming techniques Producing robust programs Computational logic Translators and facilities of languages Data representation
Programming Project	Programming techniques Analysis Design Development Testing and evaluation and conclusions

Theory will be taught during Year 10 and Year 11 alongside the programming skills in preparation for their programming project.

GCSE Design Technology courses



Year 10 students will start the year building skills and acquiring the theoretical knowledge to apply later in their terminal examination, and to allow them to achieve independence in their controlled assessment, NEA.

All courses are graded on the 9-1 scale except Designing the Built Environment, which is graded using the Distinction/Merit/Pass scale.

There will be many opportunities in the first two terms to experience practical work although this will specifically target aspects of controlled assessment rather than purely an artefact as experienced in KS3. Students will undertake a mock examination in the summer term. They will familiarise themselves with the style of examination questions through homework and tests to prepare for the written component and there will be plenty of opportunities to revisit theory work in detail prior to the examination. Parents and carers are encouraged to sample student work throughout the course.

Below are links to the specifications of each option. Here you will find a detailed breakdown of the course content.



Design Technology – Designing the Built Environment

Examination Board – WJEC

Qualification - 601/0426/0

Units are assessed through supervised assessments and timed controlled assessment



Design Technology – GCSE Design & Technology

Examination Board – OCR

Qualification – J310

50/50 split between examination and controlled assessment



Design Technology - GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition

Examination Board – AQA

Qualification – 8585

50/50 split between examination and controlled assessment



Design Technology – GCSE Fashion and Textiles

Examination Board – AQA

Qualification – 8204

100% controlled assessment

GCSE Drama (Graded 9-1)

Specification: Edexcel GCSE Drama

The first part of Year 10 is spent equipping students with the necessary skills to create high quality performance work. This takes the form of practical projects focusing on a range of performance skills. Students will also be introduced to the technical vocabulary needed to score highly in the written examination at the end of the course.

60% of the final grade is based on two coursework projects, one completed in Year 10 & one completed in Year 11.

- Component 1 is a devising project, where students create their own piece of theatre, and an accompanying portfolio.
- Component 2 focuses on the performance of two extracts from an existing script.

Component 3 is a written examination at the end of the course worth 40% of the final grade. The first section focuses on a set text (DNA by Dennis Kelly) the second is to evaluate a live performance.

GCSE Geography (Graded 9-1)

Specification: AQA syllabus A

In Geography students will take 3 exams in the summer of Year 11. There is no longer a controlled assessment element of the course.

Paper 1 (35%): Living with the environment. Covers the topics of challenge of natural hazards, the living world and physical landscapes in the UK.

Paper 2 (35%): Challenges in the human environment. Covers the topic of urban issues and challenges, the changing economic world and the challenge of resource management.

Paper 3 (30%): Geographical applications. This requires students to complete an evaluative issue, as well as answering questions on the fieldwork they will have carried out over the course of the Year 10 and Year 11.

All papers require students to have a good grasp of geographical skills. This includes graphical skills, numerical skills, statistical skills and cartographic skills.

As part of the course, students are expected to carry out two fieldwork investigations. A rivers study fieldwork which is completed during Year 10 and an urban issues fieldwork completed in Year 11.

The geography department has an open-door policy for any students who need further support and guidance. We also recommend the "Bitesize AQA GCSE (9-1) Geography Revision Guide"

BTEC Health and Social Studies (Graded Distinction, Merit and Pass)

Specification: Level 1/2 BTEC Tech Award in Health and Social Care. Equivalent to 1 GCSE.

Students complete two controlled assessments and one exam throughout the two-year course with varied deadline dates.

The externally assessed exam unit taken in Y11:

Health and Wellbeing – Exam taken in February 2021 (Y11): 40% of the final mark. Students have one opportunity to retake the exam in May 2021.

The two internally assessed coursework units completed in Y10 and Y11:

Human Lifespan Development & Health and Social Care Services and Values, accumulating for 60% of the final grade:

Students will need to ensure that coursework is submitted on or before the deadline dates as per the BTEC assessment rules, failure to do so can cause detrimental effects on the overall grade.

BTEC Early Life Stage: Learning and Development (Graded Distinction, Merit and Pass)

Specification: Level 1/2 BTEC NQF Award in Childrens Play, Learning & Development. Equivalent to 1 GCSE.

Students complete two controlled assessments and one exam throughout the two-year course with varied deadline dates.

The externally assessed exam unit:

Patterns of Child Development – Exam taken in May 2020 (Y10): 25% of the final mark. Students have one opportunity to retake the exam when in Y11 (January 2021).

The two internally assessed coursework units:

Promoting Children's Development Through Play & The Principles of Early Years Practice - Studied throughout Y10 and Y11, accumulating for 75% of the final grade:

Students will need to ensure that coursework is submitted on or before the deadline dates as per the BTEC assessment rules, failure to do so can cause detrimental effects on the overall grade.

GCSE History (Graded 9-1)

Examining body: Edexcel

You will sit three exams at the end of Year 11 and there is no coursework within the course. The examination is not tiered, so all students take the same exam.

Paper 1: Thematic study and historic environment

Written examination: 1 hour and 15 minutes

30% of the qualification

Option 11: Medicine in Britain, c1250–present *and* The British sector of the Western Front, 1914–18: injuries, treatment and the trenches.

Paper 2: Written examination: 1 hour and 45 minutes

40% of the qualification

British depth study

Option B4: Early Elizabethan England, 1558–88.

Period study

Option 26/27: Superpower relations and the Cold War, 1941–91.

Paper 3: Modern depth study

Written examination: 1 hour and 20 minutes

30% of the qualification

Option 31: Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918–39.

Recommended website to look at to learn more about the syllabus:

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/history-2016.html>

BTEC ICT [Digital Information Technology] (Graded Distinction, Merit and Pass)

Specification: Edexcel BTEC Tech Awards in Digital Information

This course aims to give learners sector-specific knowledge and skills in a practical learning environment.

The course has three components and is assessed by a combination of coursework and examination.

Component 1: how to project plan the design and development of a user interface

Component 2: process and interpret data and draw conclusions

Component 3: explore how organisations use digital systems and the wider implications of their use

Components 1 and 2 are both assessed using coursework. Students will be given feedback by the teacher and will then work on individual pieces before the final submission date.

Component 3 is an external exam of 1 hour and 30 mins. This will be taken at some point in the second half of Y11.

GCSE MFL – French and Spanish (Graded 9 – 1)

Specification:

- AQA

Course Information:

- Students will study three core themes over the course of Year 10 and Year 11 which are broken down into the following sub-themes:
 - 1) Identity and culture:
 - a. me, my family and friends

- b. technology in everyday life
 - c. free-time activities
- 2) Local, national, international and global areas of interest:
 - a. home, town, neighbourhood and region
 - b. social issues
 - c. global issues
 - d. travel and tourism
- 3) Current and future study and employment:
 - a. my studies
 - b. life at school/college
 - c. education post-16
 - d. jobs, career choices and ambitions
- The course grammar requirements will be taught alongside the above topics.

Examination Information:

- All examinations will be sat at the end of Year 11.
- There are two tiers of entry: Foundation (Grades 5-1) and Higher (Grades 9-4)
- Students who are studying GCSE languages will sit the following four examinations:
 - 1) Paper 1: Listening (25% of GCSE) Questions on this paper will be written and answered in both English and the target language.
 - 2) Paper 2: Speaking (25% of GCSE). This examination will consist of three sections:
 - a. a role play
 - b. a photo card response
 - c. general conversation.
 - 3) Paper 3: Reading (25% of GCSE). Questions on this paper will be written and answered in both English and the target language. Students will also be given a short translation to complete from French into English.
 - 4) Paper 4 (Writing (25% of GCSE)). This examination will consist of three written response questions (varying in length) and one translation task to complete from English into French.

Please note: Students will be entered for either the foundation tier or the higher tier. Students must be entered for all four question papers at the same tier (either all foundation or all higher). It is therefore important for students to apply themselves throughout the course so that they are entered for the tier of entry which is the most appropriate to their ability.

Further useful information:

- Learning and written homework will be set weekly in MFL at GCSE.
- Students may find it useful to be making vocabulary cards at home to support with their learning homework. They will be shown how to create these cards in lessons and can be provided with card to do so. Websites such as <https://quizlet.com/> can also help with this.
- Students will be given a log in to www.kerboodle.com during Year 10. They may wish to use this website for consolidation of class work or further independent study.
- The MFL department offers fantastic support to students. If your child requires extra support they can arrange to see us at any break time, lunch time or after school

GCSE PE (Graded 9-1)

Specification: AQA PE

The course is 40% Non-Examined Assessment (NEA or coursework) and 60% examination.

In Year 10 and Year 11 assessment is on-going in the practical lessons. Students will be assessed in 3 different sports. Students must be aware that it will be their responsibility to get themselves assessed in sports they participate in outside of school. This will include producing video evidence of themselves performing in their chosen sport. This should be started as soon as possible. The examination is two written papers, both of which are sat at the end of Y11.

BTEC Sport (Graded Distinction, Merit and Pass)

Specification: Edexcel BTEC First Award Sport

75% course work and 25% examination

Students will cover the following units: Health and Fitness for Sport and Exercise; Practical Sport Performance; Training for Personal Fitness; Leading Sports Activities. All modules are externally assessed assignments which may be written or delivered verbally with video evidence to support.

A useful website is: www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/pe/

Exams Information

Assessments will be taking place throughout the year in classes as decided by individual teachers and departments.

In terms of formal examinations, there is one key date to be aware of:

Y10 end-of-year exams - w/b 15th June and w/b 22nd June

This exam period will be held in formal exam conditions.

Exams Office (C floor long, next to Ms Smith's office):

The **School's Examinations Officer** (Mrs Payne) administers the examinations in line with the boards' regulations as essential practice for the rigour required in Year 11. We are responsible for:

- examination entries
- issuing examination timetables
- applications for Access Arrangements and Special Consideration
- supervision of examination sessions
- receiving and circulating examination results

We are happy to answer any questions on examination procedures. Please email Mrs Payne on tpayne@ecqbert.sheffield.sch.uk

For other information and FAQs, please see below.

Exam Questions Answered:

How do I know when my exams take place?

Your timetables will be given out in April (via Edulink) for summer exams (slightly later for Y10 exams). You must check your timetable carefully and contact Mrs Payne urgently if you think something is wrong. Some of you may find that you are timetabled to have exams in two different subjects in the same session. This 'clash' can easily be dealt with by moving one of the exams to a different time on the same day. If you think you have a clash that has not already been identified and discussed with you, please see Mrs Payne immediately.

What happens if I am late?

Morning and afternoon exam start times can vary; avoid arriving late by checking your timetable carefully the day before each exam. If you know you are going to miss the start time of an exam, inform the school urgently on 0114 235 3855 in order for us to help and advise you. Get here as quickly as possible. On arrival, report immediately to reception.

What if I am ill or something goes wrong?

In the case of illness or injury in the lead up to the exams or on an exam day, you must inform the school as soon as possible in order for us to help and advise you. If, for example, you injure your hand and are unable to write, we may be able to provide you with a scribe if we have enough notice. We could also find you a separate room in which to sit your exam.

If you feel unwell during an exam, raise your hand and an invigilator will come to your assistance. If you feel that your exam performance may have been affected by illness, injury or any other adverse conditions beyond your control (such as illness of a family member or domestic crisis), you should speak immediately to the Exams Officer.

What should I do when I arrive for my exam at school?

Go directly to the dining room and wait for further instructions.

What about Candidate Numbers, Seating Plans, Extra Time and Special Support?

Seating plans will be posted before every exam on the exams notice board.

Do I have to wear school uniform?

Yes.

What do I need to bring for my exams?

All equipment should be contained in a **transparent** pencil case or small plastic bag. Basic requirements are:

- ✓ Pencils
- ✓ **Black pens** - this is the **only** colour of pen accepted by the exam boards
- ✓ Rubber
- ✓ Ruler
- ✓ Calculators for exams such as maths, science and geography. Calculators should not be brought to non-calculator maths exams [the calculator case must be left in your bag]

You may also bring:

- ✓ Water in a clear plastic bottle, with all **labels removed**

Is there anything I am not allowed to bring?

- You must not have a mobile phone on you in an exam room. It must be switched off and placed in your bag.
- You are only allowed clear drinking bottles (with no labels) and clear pencil cases.
- You are not allowed to wear any kind of watch.

I have been given the wrong paper.

You are asked to check the exam paper before the exams starts. If you think you have the wrong paper put your hand up and speak to the invigilator. The invigilator will alert one of the exams officers who will check and make sure you are sitting the correct paper.

What happens if I have two exams at the same time?

If there is a clash, please go to the exams office and speak to Mrs Payne who will explain what will happen.

What happens if the bus is late?

You must phone the school immediately - put the school number in your mobile (if you have got it with you) - and let us know what the problem is. It may be possible to still sit the exam depending on what time you arrive.

What do I do if I finish my exam early?

You should use all of the available time on your exams. Spend any time at the end checking your answers. You are not allowed to leave before the end of the exam and you must remain silent at your desk to avoid any disturbance to students still working.

What do I do if a fire alarm rings?

Follow instructions from invigilators. Leave everything on your exam desk. You will be led to an assembly point isolated from other students. It is essential that you remain under exam conditions during an evacuation.

Useful Websites

www.sheffieldfutures.org

www.UCASprogress.com/search

www.nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk

Equipment for Sale**Essentials Examination Pack**

This contains a plastic wallet, black pen, rubber, ruler, compass, protractor, pencil sharpener.

Packs cost £1

Packs available from the Exams Office or the Maths Department

