



KS4 PARENT INFORMATION EVENING

Years 10 & 11

20th September 2017

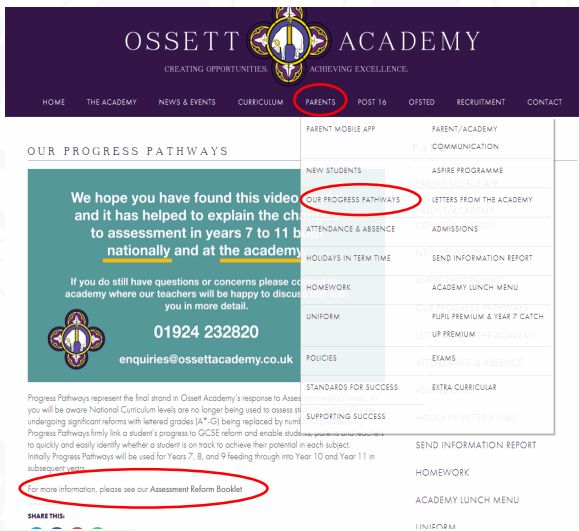
AIMS

- To give parents an understanding of the GCSE Framework and Grading
- To provide information regarding core subjects
- To provide access to specific course guidance.

KS4 PARENT INFORMATION EVENING

20th September 2017

PROGRESS PATHWAYS



A video, Assessment Reform Booklet, and other further information explaining our Progress Pathways can be found on the academy website under the **Parents > Our Progress Pathways** link from the menu across the top of the site.

You can navigate directly to that page from this document by following this link:

<http://www.ossettacademy.co.uk/parents/our-progress-pathways/>

THE NEW GCSE STRUCTURE

- New courses/specifications in GCSE which will be graded 1-9
- Students to sit their GCSE's at the end of Year 11
- No re-sits!!

NEW GRADING STRUCTURE	LEGACY GRADING STRUCTURE
1 - 9	G - A*
9	
8	A*
7	A
6	B C
5	
4	
3	D
2	E
1	F
	G
U	U

YEAR 10 SPECIFIC INFORMATION

20th September 2017

YEAR 10 GCSE ENGLISH

(Brigette Bake, Acting Head of English)

AIMS

- To offer support to you (parents/carers) in helping your son/daughter to achieve their potential in English
- To provide further information and guidance for parents/carers regarding English GCSEs in Year 10
- To answer any questions you may have

THE COURSE

- Two GCSEs: English Language, and English Literature
- Everything studied in Year 10 and 11 will be examined at the end of Year 11
- Revision, organisation and an early start are key aspects in achieving success

EXAMINATIONS

- Two papers, lasting 1 hour and 45 minutes each
- Section A will deal with analysis of fictional and non-fictional extracts
- Section B involves descriptive, narrative writing and functional writing

TEXTS STUDIED

- An Inspector Calls (by J B Priestley)
- A Christmas Carol (by Charles Dickens)
- Macbeth (by William Shakespeare)
- An Anthology of Poetry

HOW CAN YOU SUPPORT?

- Talk about texts your child is studying at school
- Encourage your child to read (and re-read) the texts for exams
- Encourage a wide range of reading (newspapers, fiction, magazines – anything!)
- Practise writing at speed

OTHER INFORMATION

- Texts and Revision Guides are for sale
- English Dept. staff are always here to answer any questions and to listen to important information about your child.
- English Department Curriculum Information on Website:
<http://www.ossettacademy.co.uk/curriculum/departments/english/>

YEAR 10 SPECIFIC INFORMATION

20th September 2017

YEAR 10 GCSE MATHEMATICS

(Greg Taylor, Yr10 Progress Leader – Mathematics)

ENTRY TIERS

- FOUNDATION TIER
 - OCR Examination Board
 - Grade 1 to Grade 5 (where 5 is a high legacy grade C / low legacy grade B)
- HIGHER TIER
 - Ed Excel Examination Board
 - Grade 5 to Grade 9 (where 9 is higher than legacy grade A*)
- Students aiming for an old grade B may be better on FOUNDATION tier.
- No controlled assessments
- 3 exams at the end of Yr11

THE COURSE

- Weekly Homework
- Fortnightly target setting and reflection
- Assessments at the end of each half term (which may result in Set group changes)
- Final Yr10 mock exam in June / July of 3x full 1.5hr duration GCSE papers
- Yr11 setting based on result of Yr10 mock exam

NEW CONTENT

- Many of the old grade B HIGHER tier topics are now part of FOUNDATION tier and will be Grade 5 – these include:
 - Standard form 4.3×10^2
 - Trigonometry SOH CAH TOA
 - Factorising quadratics $x^2 - 5x + 6 = (x-2)(x-3)$
 - Sector area and arc length

HOMEWORK HELP / REVISION CLUB

- Thursdays, 2.45 – 3.45pm: General help – Higher Tier
- Thursdays, 2.45 – 3.45pm: General help – Foundation Tier
- Fridays, 2.45 – 3.45pm: Grade 9 Club (invite only)
- At any other time, students should visit the Maths Workroom to ask for further help

OTHER INFORMATION

- Old GCSE revision guides do not cover the new topics.
- Revision guides should be purchased specifically for the new specification
- Maths Curriculum Information: <http://www.ossettacademy.co.uk/curriculum/departments/maths/>

YEAR 10 SPECIFIC INFORMATION

20th September 2017

YEAR 10 GCSE SCIENCE

(Belinda Smith, Head of Science)

Every student in Year 10 must take GCSE Science, in the form of one of the two course structures:

- GCSE Combined Science (Trilogy) – equivalent to 2x GCSE qualifications, containing components of all three science subjects.
- GCSE Separate Sciences (Triple) – leads to 3x separate GCSE qualifications in Biology, Chemistry and Physics

THE COURSE

- No coursework for either route
- Assessment will be via examination at the end of Yr11
- 6 exams will need to be sat in each route
- Similar content for each route, with the triple route going into more detail on the same topics
- Both routes can progress to Science at 'A' level.

ROUTE COMPARISON TABLE

	GCSE Trilogy	GCSE's in chemistry, Biology and Physics
How many GCSE's?	2	3
How many hours of Science will I have per week?	4	4 plus a possible period 6
How many exams will I sit at the end of Year 11?	6	6
How long is each exam?	1 hour 15 minutes	1 hour 45 minutes
How much does each exam contribute to my final grade?	16.7%	50%

YR10 COURSE CURRENTLY

- All current classes in Yr10 are being taught content found in both routes.
- After discussions based on each child's progress towards their target, a decision will be taken on which pathway will secure success for each pupil.

FURTHER HELP

- Specification and revision guides
- WTM (Walking talking mocks) – see <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8X53rAvNLcQ>
- Science Curriculum Information: <http://www.ossettacademy.co.uk/curriculum/departments/science/>

OTHER USEFUL WEBSITES

- AQA WEBSITE FOR PAST PAPERS (old specification)
 - <http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/chemistry-4402/past-papers-and-mark-schemes>
 - AQA specification
 - <http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse>
 - S-COOL.CO.UK
 - <http://www.s-cool.co.uk/>
 - Docbrown.info (AQA specification)
 - <http://www.docbrown.info/>
 - Edmodo
 - Apps e.g.
 - <https://www.educationalappstore.com/best-apps/best-5-revision-apps>
-

OTHER SUBJECT GUIDANCE

Information for non-Core subjects can be found on the school website by heading to the **Curriculum > Departments** menu across the top of the site, or by following this link:

<http://www.ossettaacademy.co.uk/curriculum/departments/>

YEAR 11 SPECIFIC INFORMATION

20th September 2017

SUBJECT GUIDANCE

More detailed information for all subjects can be found on the school website by heading to the **Curriculum > Departments** menu across the top of the site, or by following this link:

<http://www.ossettacademy.co.uk/curriculum/departments/>

SUPPORTING SUCCESS

Our **Supporting Success** programme for Year 11 students can be found on the academy website by heading to **Parents > Supporting Success** in the menu across the top of the site, or by following this link:

<http://www.ossettacademy.co.uk/parents/interventions/>

TUTOR POD

One-on-One or small group student-initiated support in Extra-Curricular time. Individual or small groups of students can book their own time slot with staff from specific departments via the Tutor Pods system, specifying topics that they want assistance with. This can be accessed via the **Curriculum > Student Resources > TutorPod** link in the menu across the top of our website, or by following this link:

<https://www.edudash.io/tutorpod/>

YEAR 11 SPECIFIC INFORMATION

20th September 2017

YEAR 11 GCSE MATHEMATICS

(Michael Steer, Curriculum Team Leader – Mathematics)

ENTRY TIERS

- FOUNDATION TIER
 - OCR Examination Board
 - Grade 1 to Grade 5 (where 5 is a high legacy grade C)
- HIGHER TIER
 - Ed Excel Examination Board
 - Grade 5 to Grade 9 (where 9 is higher than legacy grade A*)
- Students aiming for an old grade B may be better on FOUNDATION tier.
- No controlled assessments
- 3 exams at the end of Yr11

THE COURSE

- 5 lessons per week
- Remaining new course content until December
- Regular assessment in class and through weekly homework
- Formal assessment Mock Exam in November
- All results analysed to produce bespoke class plans for January onwards
- Programme of re-teaching, revision and exam preparation
- Further assessments used to check progress

NEW CONTENT

- Many of the old grade B HIGHER tier topics are now part of FOUNDATION tier and will be Grade 5 – these include:
 - Standard form 4.3×10^2
 - Trigonometry SOH CAH TOA
 - Factorising quadratics $x^2 - 5x + 6 = (x-2)(x-3)$
 - Sector area and arc length

SUPPORT AVAILABLE

- Tuesday night study club
- Tutor Pods
- PE Intervention
- Maths Form Groups
- Thursday night homework support
- Maths Conferences
- Masterclasses
- Walking Talking Mocks
- Pizza & Pop nights
- Easter and Half-Term School
- Saturday Mornings
- We're open to suggestions...!

SUPPORT BEYOND THE ACADEMY

- Equipment
- Homework completion
- A positive study environment
- Revision guides should be purchased specifically for the new specification
- Websites & Apps
 - <http://www.studymaths.co.uk>
 - <http://www.mrbartonmaths.com>
 - <http://www.hegartymaths.com>
 - <http://www.revisionmaths.com>
 - <http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/>
 - <https://mathsapp.pixl.org.uk>

YEAR 11 SPECIFIC INFORMATION

20th September 2017

YEAR 11 GCSE ENGLISH

(Lyndsey Chand - Acting Head of English
Helen Law – Acting Deputy Head of English)

AIMS

- To offer support to you (parents/carers) in helping your son/daughter to achieve their potential in English
- To provide further information and guidance for parents/carers regarding English GCSEs in Year 10
- To answer any questions you may have

THE COURSE

- GCSE English Language
 - Two papers both lasting 1hr 45mins.
 - Section A: Analysis of fiction and non-fiction extracts
 - Section B: Descriptive, narrative writing and functional writing
- GCSE English Literature
 - Paper 1: A Christmas Carol, Macbeth
 - Paper 2: An Inspector Calls, An Anthology of Poetry (Power and Conflict), Unseen Poetry

WHAT CAN YOUR CHILD DO OUTSIDE LESSONS?

- Ensure homework is completed to a high standard
- Read widely (modern and C19 fiction, non-fiction, newspaper articles, opinion columns)
- Work through a revision guide
- Reread Literature texts
- Learn short quotes (mind maps, key quotes posters, Post-It notes)
- Download and use the Pixl It App
- Use BBC Bitesize to revise Lit texts and Language skills
- Book Tutor Pod appointments and / or attend English Drop-in sessions
- Complete past papers under timed conditions

HOW CAN YOU SUPPORT YOUR CHILD?

- Encourage your child to do these things: re-read texts, complete homework to a high standard, read widely, work through a revision guide, learn quotes, book tutor pod appointments...
- Talk to your child about their reading (both the Lit texts and their wider reading) and ask them questions. Can they sum up what the text is about? Can they pick out an example of effective language use and explain why? Can they talk to you about the structure? Can they respond to an evaluative statement about a text, or sum up the differences between two texts?
- Test your child on their knowledge of Lit quotations. You could use the Pixl It app together, or ask them to give you key quotations for the main themes / characters.
- Practise writing legibly at speed

TEXTS STUDIED

- An Inspector Calls (by J B Priestley)
- A Christmas Carol (by Charles Dickens)
- Macbeth (by William Shakespeare)
- An Anthology of Poetry

HOW CAN YOU SUPPORT?

- Talk about texts your child is studying at school
- Encourage your child to read (and re-read) the texts for exams
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YEAR 11 SPECIFIC INFORMATION

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YEAR 11 GCSE SCIENCE

(Belinda Smith, Head of Science)

OCTOBER HALF-TERM EXAMS

- For both Double and Triple Awards...
 - 3x Exams (1x Biology, 1x Chemistry, 1x Physics)
 - 1 hour each
- Content: everything taught in Years 9 & 10

PPE EXAMS – NOVEMBER / DECEMBER

- For both Double and Triple Awards...
 - 6x Exams (2x Biology, 2x Chemistry, 2x Physics)
- Double Award: 1hr 15mins each exam
- Triple Award: 1hr 45mins each exam
- Content: everything taught in Years 9, 10 & 11

TOP TIPS FOR SUCCESS – PARENTS

- Revision Guides
- Intervention – Friday night
- Homework club – Wednesday night
- Triple Science students – Period 6 attendance
- Check key facts (equation lists, labelled diagrams etc.)
- Check planners – homework / revision
- Quiet working space – no distractions
- Parents' Evening

TOP TIPS FOR SUCCESS – STUDENTS

- You
- Your revision
- Your preparation
- Your effort inside AND outside of class

FURTHER HELP

- Specification and revision guides
- Walking Talking Mocks

OTHER USEFUL WEBSITES

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8X53rAvNLcQ>
- AQA WEBSITE FOR PAST PAPERS (old specification):
<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/chemistry-4402/past-papers-and-mark-schemes>
- AQA specification: <http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse>
- S-COOL.CO.UK: <http://www.s-cool.co.uk/>
- Docbrown.info (AQA specification): <http://www.docbrown.info/>
- Edmodo: <https://ossettacademy.edmodo.com/pps> e.g.
- Revision Apps: <https://www.educationalappstore.com/best-apps/best-5-revision-apps>

YEAR 11 SPECIFIC INFORMATION

20th September 2017

CAREERS & NEXT STEPS

(Dan Green, Head of Careers)

WHAT SUPPORT HAVE THEY HAD SO FAR?

- Attendance at whole school careers conventions since Year 7
- Mock Application forms and Mock interview day
- Next: Applying for Post 16 Options

POST 16 OPTIONS

- Sixth Form – usually offering A level and BTEC L2/3 courses
- College – usually offering A level, BTEC and vocation courses (e.g.: Electrical Engineering, Childcare)
- Apprenticeship – earn while you learn. 4 days a week at work, 1 day block-release to college or training provider to gain related qualification. See www.wakefieldfirst.com or www.apprenticeships.org.uk
- Education until 18 – ALL have to be in some form of education or training until they are 18.

HOW TO APPLY

- <http://www.ucasprogress.com/search/>: Online process – single application distributed to multiple providers.
- NOT to be confused with <http://www.UCAS.com> (for university applications)
- Issued with own username and password – keep it safe and remember it!
- Ask your child about the process and support them in writing their applications

THINK ABOUT...

- What interests them about the subject?
- Are they good at the subject?
- Will they get the entry requirements, e.g.: Maths A level will need Grade 6 or above
- Where do they want to study? Sixth form or College?
- What jobs / careers does the qualification lead on to?
- Location of the Sixth form or College
- Travel time

HELP SHEET

- Personal Statement completion help sheet added to school website via **Curriculum > Careers** menu at top of page, or by following this link: <http://www.ossettacademy.co.uk/curriculum/careers/>
- Follow the guide step by step, answering each question. This formulates the Personal Statement.

PERSONAL STATEMENT

- The most important part of the application process – chance for a student to sell themselves
- Talk about...
 - Hobbies & interests
 - Why they are keen on the subject / course
 - Career intentions if known
 - Skill & qualities (e.g.: good communicator, timekeeping)
 - Any part-time work which could demonstrate commitment

APPRENTICESHIPS

- Apply for a college course as a backup!
- For 99% of apprenticeships, the student must find their own employer
- Apprenticeship & CV workshops start after school in January from 2.45pm in the LRC (more info tbc)
- Apprenticeships should NOT be considered an easy option.

FURTHER HELP AND SUPPORT

- Wakefield Learning Community Careers Convention at Cedar Court Hotel, Denby Dale Road, **Tuesday 26th September 3.00pm - 6.45pm**
- Hints and tips assembly on how to complete UCAS personal statement – Monday 9th October 2017
- Form time in IT rooms from 10th October 2017
- Every Tuesday at 2.45pm - UCAS Progress Application Support in the LRC (Library) with Mr Green
- **Ossett Sixth Form Open Evening – Tuesday 10th October 5.45pm - 8pm**

- Attend other open days, where you feel it is appropriate...
- Presentations from the Sixth Form Team...
- Apprenticeship & CV workshops after school from January 2018 – Tuesdays in the LRC (Library)
- Careers appointments with myself, but some students will be called automatically – **but anyone can request an appointment!** Mrs Graham in the Admin department organises these.
- Annual Careers Convention Wednesday 8th November: all will be attending!

UCAS PROGRESS DEADLINE

- Last day before we break up for Christmas
- **Thursday 21st December 2017**
- Late applications look bad.
- Form tutors complete your reference – be nice to them!