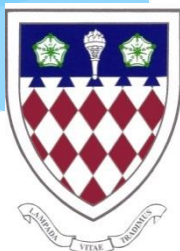


# Year 9 Options Information Evening

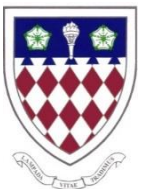
Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2024



# ATTENDANCE 2023-24

## DfE CATEGORIES

- |             |                               |
|-------------|-------------------------------|
| • 95% +     | Expected                      |
| • 91-94%    | At Risk of Persistent Absence |
| • 80-90%    | Persistent Absence            |
| • 51-79%    | At Risk of Severe Absence     |
| • Up to 50% | Severe Absence                |



# SHS 2022-23

	Severe	At risk of severe	PA	At risk of PA	Expected
	0-50%	51-79%	80-90%	91-94%	95-100%
Students	8	27	170	243	521
SHS %	0.8%	2.8%	17.5%	25.1%	53.8%
All Secondary schools	2.7%	8.0%	21.8%	17.9%	49.5%
Difference	-1.9%	-5.2%	-4.3%	7.2%	4.3%

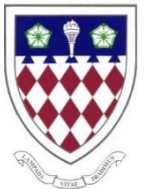
*“Odd days”*

*Short periods of illness*

*Unspecified reasons*

# DOES ATTENDANCE MATTER?

- **91-94%**      **At Risk of Persistent Absence**  
*10 school days (2 weeks) lost per year would equate to approximately 94% attendance.*
- **80-90%**      **Persistent Absence**  
*19 school days (4 weeks) lost per year would equate to approximately 90% attendance.*  
*29 school days (6 weeks) lost per year would equate to approximately 85% attendance.*  
*38 school days (8 weeks) lost per year would equate to approximately 80% attendance.*



# WHAT IMPACT COULD THIS HAVE?

- Research: for every 10% non-attendance over a school year a grade at GCSE could be lost
- Greater attendance → greater achievement & understanding
- Impact on friendships and social engagement
- Worry/anxiety about missing out or catching up



# RESPONSIBILITIES

- Legal responsibilities of parents/carers and School
- Policy on the School website / Information in planner
- Liaison with parents / carers
- Attendance Officer (Mrs Lyford)
- Pastoral Team - Form Tutor / Head of Year / Mentors
- Attendance Stage 1 and 2 letters
- Attendance Support Plans and Pastoral Support Plans



# ATTENDANCE REWARD SCHEME

- Excellent attendance > certificates at Achievement Assemblies
- + 97% attendance at the end of each long term (Christmas, Spring, Summer) > attendance raffle draw
- 100% attendance for the school year > Summer prize draw



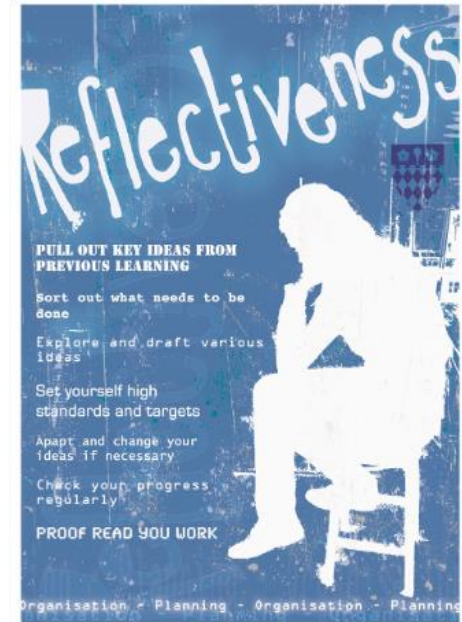
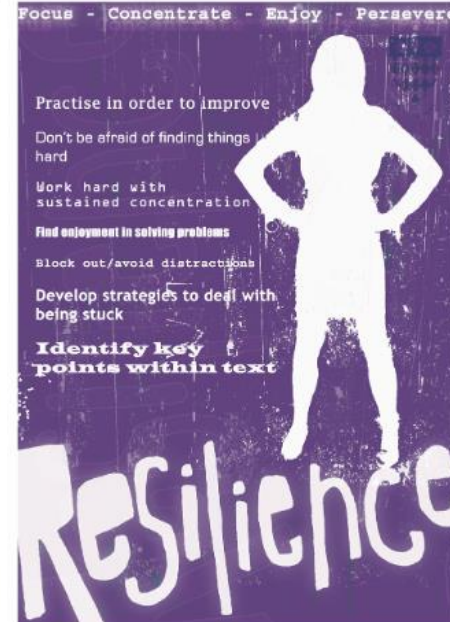
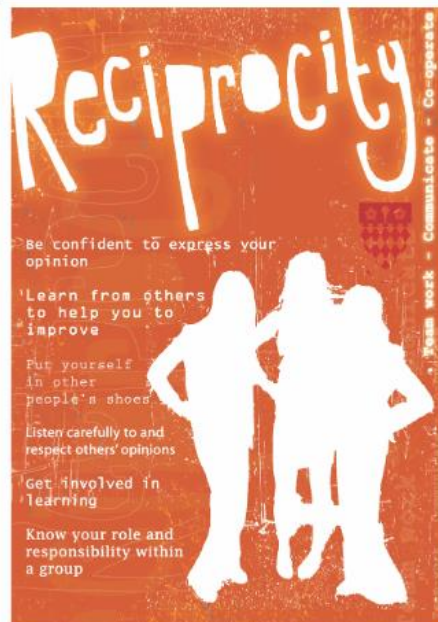
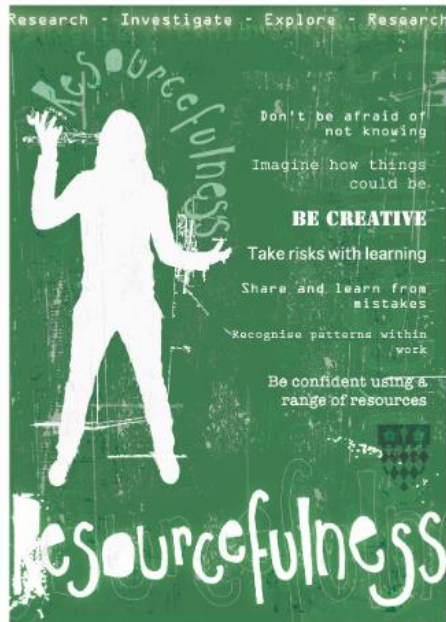
# HOW PARENTS / CARERS CAN HELP

- Be Vigilant
- Talk to School
- Pastoral support
- SIMS Parent App
- Support good attendance





# Resilience



A decorative graphic at the top of the page consisting of several overlapping, wavy, light blue shapes that create a sense of movement and depth against a darker blue background.

*It's a tiny word for a BIG emotion.*

*As growing up has become faster and more furious, fear has sunk its teeth into far too many young people, causing an epidemic of anxiety, stress and worry.*

*Here's the thing: apart from the occasional 'low', your life is supposed to be EPIC. A 4000-week blaze of glory!*

*It's time to turn the tables, rise above the panic and fight back. Reading A Girl's Guide to Being Fearless will show you how.*

*This gem of a book is a gathering of life's cheat codes, put together with girls in mind. All simple. All do-able. And now... all YOURS.*

*It will help you to:*

***Boost your confidence and smash through self-limiting beliefs***

***Light up the people around you and attract brilliant things into your life***

***Be a class act, on and off-line***

***Bounce back when the lows get reeeeeally low!***

***Love the skin you're in***

***Be excited for your future***

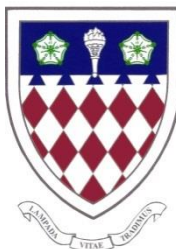
***In short, it'll help you find your BRAVE.***

Further reading...

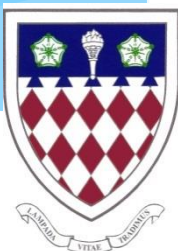
# The Year 10 and 11 Curriculum

**The standard core curriculum at Spalding High School comprises:**

- Core subjects: English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Science
- A modern foreign language: German or French
- A Humanity: Geography or History
- Religious Studies
- 2 other subjects from the option choices

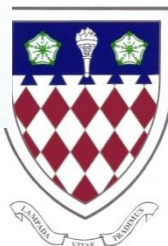
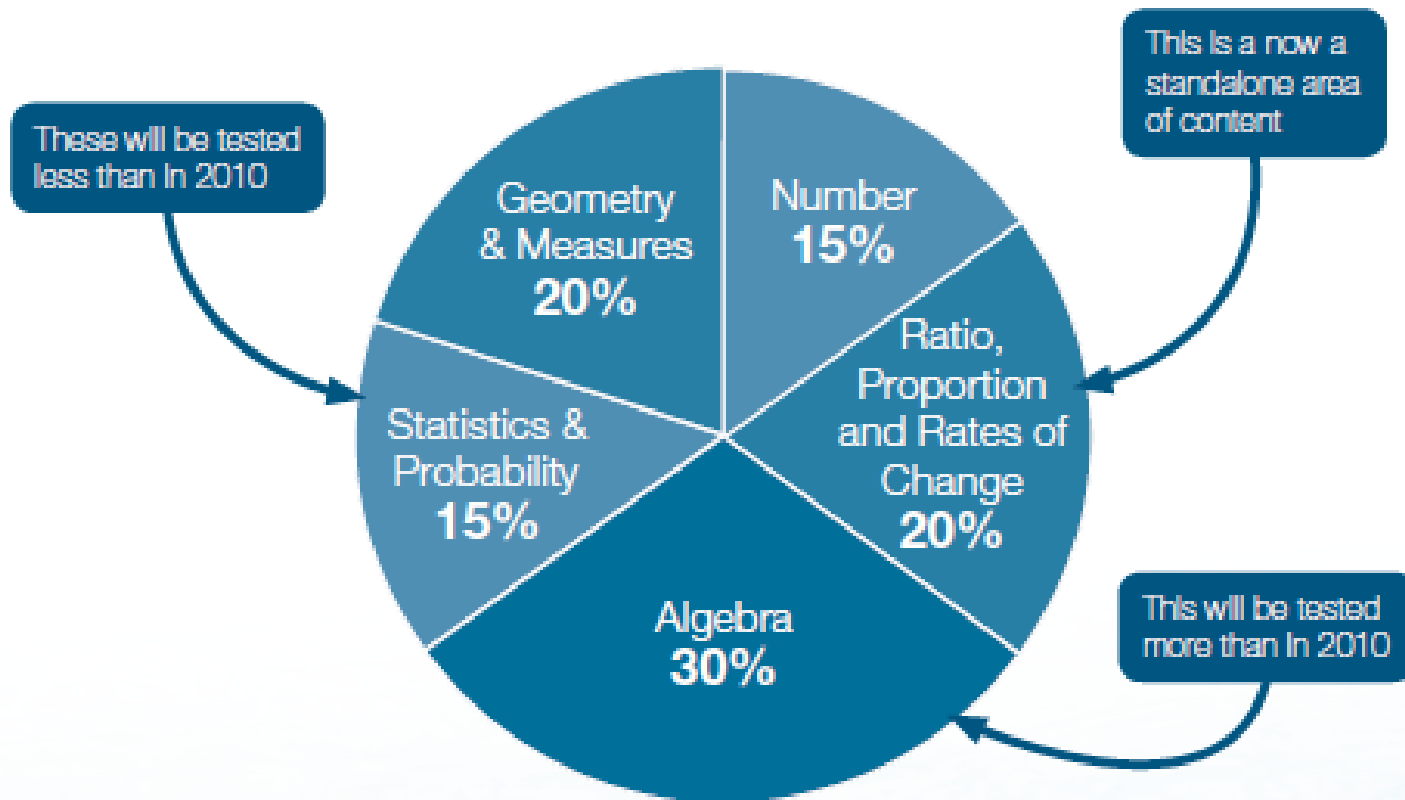


# GCSE Mathematics



# Content

Higher

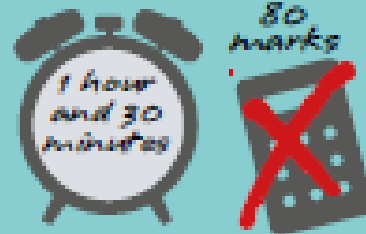


# Examination Papers

## Foundation (grades 1-5)

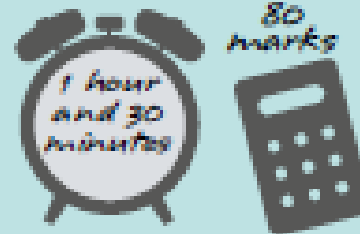
### Paper 1 Non-calculator

*33.3% weighting*



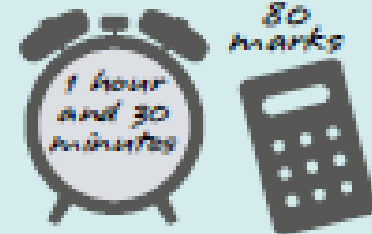
### Paper 2 Calculator

*33.3% weighting*



### Paper 3 Calculator

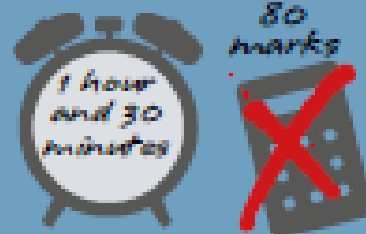
*33.3% weighting*



## Higher (grades 4-9)

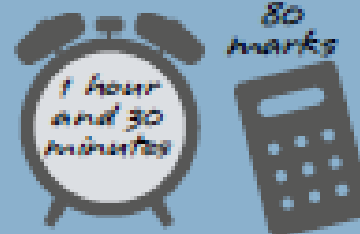
### Paper 1 Non-calculator

*33.3% weighting*



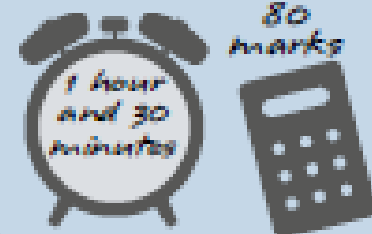
### Paper 2 Calculator

*33.3% weighting*

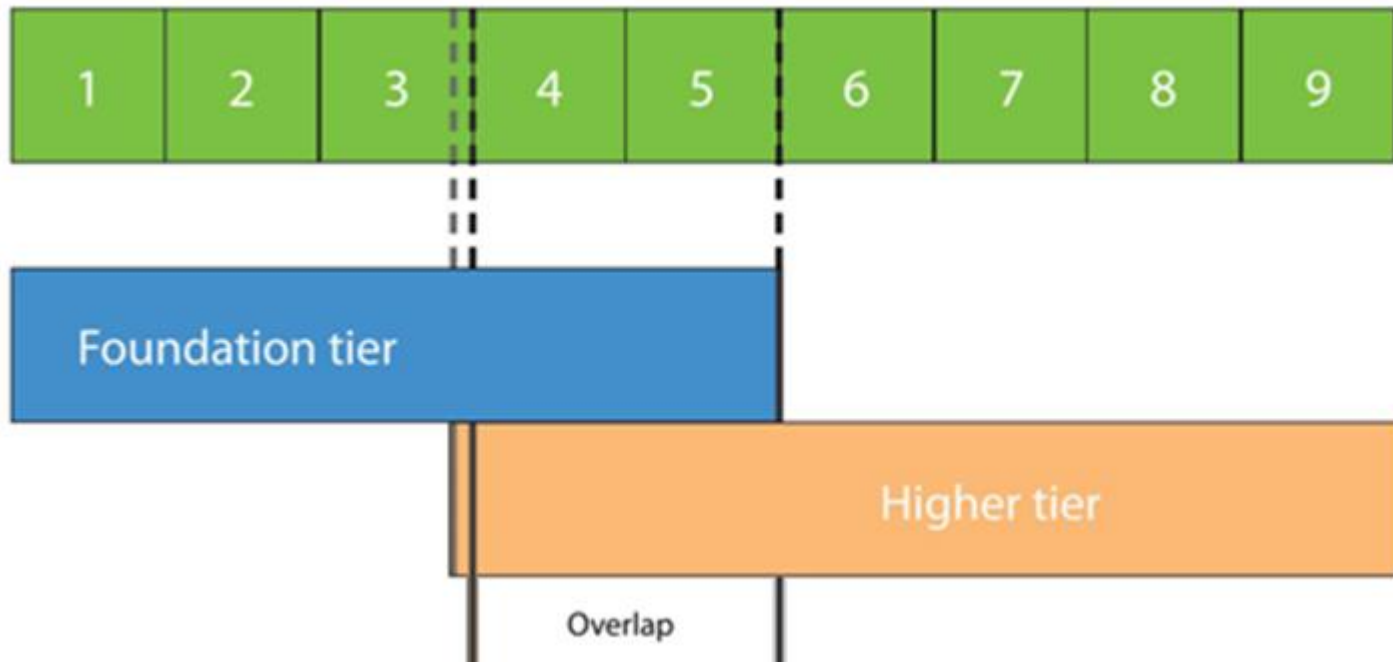


### Paper 3 Calculator

*33.3% weighting*



# Illustration of grades and tiering in the new GCSE mathematics

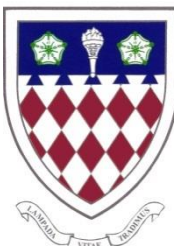




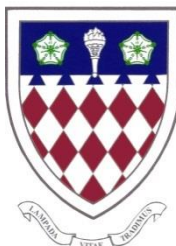
# Need More Challenge?

## Sets 1 & 2

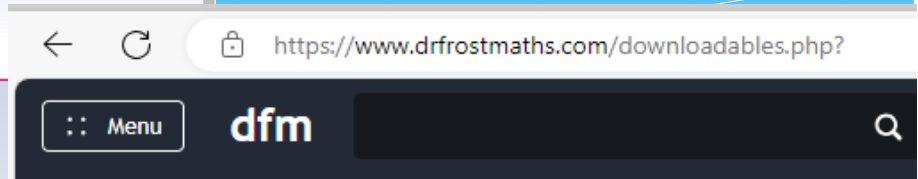
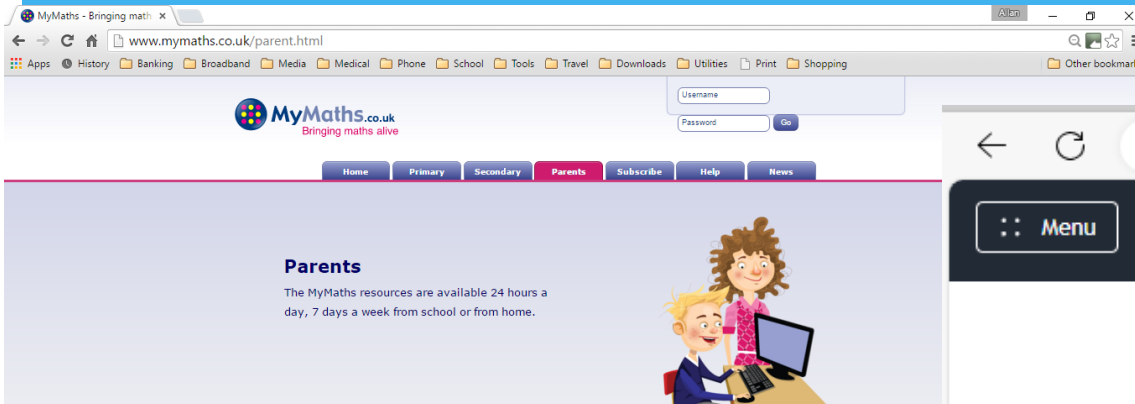
AQA GCSE Further Mathematics for  
those aiming for grade 8 or 9



# Online support with learning



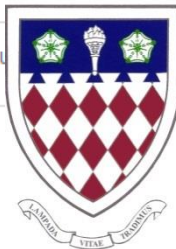
# Online support



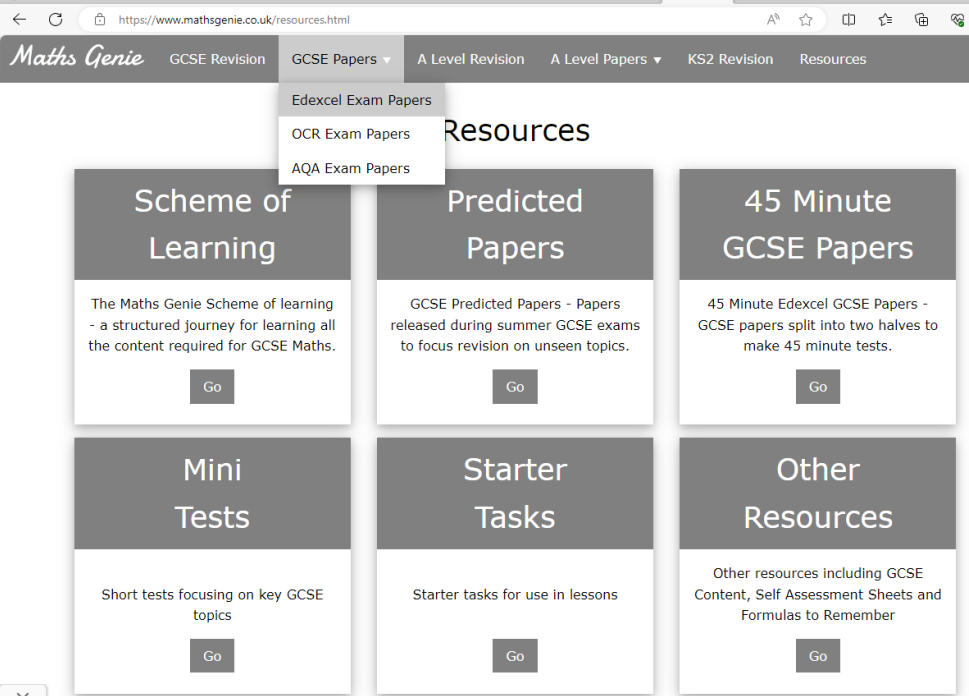
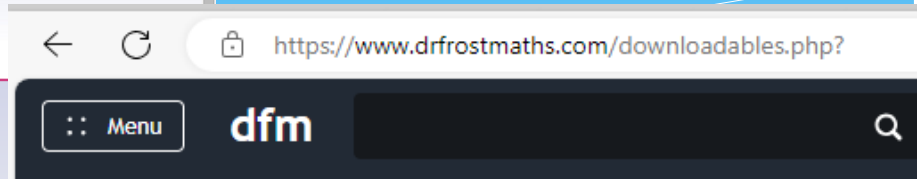
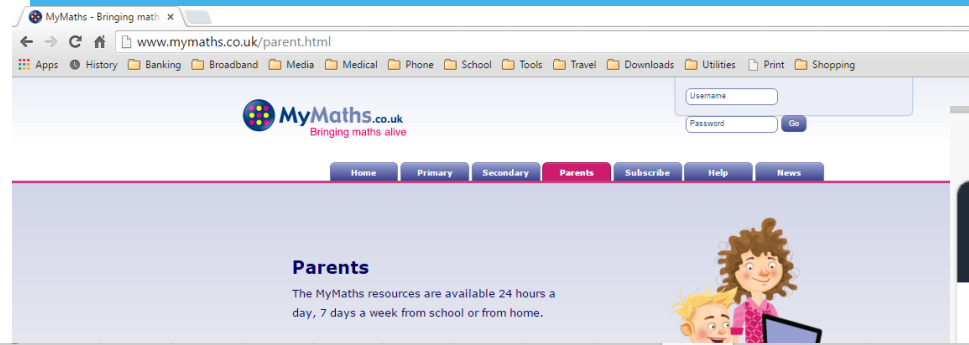
## Lesson Resources

A Level Other Primary Secondary

✓ Algebra	159 resources
✓ Data Handling & Probability	23 resources
✓ Number	61 resources
✓ Revision	7 resources
✓ Shape, Space & Measures	129 resources



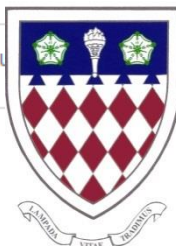
# Online support



## Lesson Resources

A Level Other Primary Secondary

- ✓ Algebra 159 resources
- ✓ Data Handling & Probability 23 resources
- ✓ Number 61 resources
- ✓ Revision 7 resources
- ✓ Shape, Space & Measures 129 resources



Spalding High School



# Spalding High School

"An outstanding Girls' Grammar School with a Mixed Sixth Form"



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## Maths



### Careers using Mathematics

#### Department Curriculum Map 2023-2024

#### Enrichment

#### Key Stage 3 Maths

#### Key Stage 4 Maths

#### Key Stage 5 Maths

#### Recommended Calculator (Mathematics)

#### Resources

#### Support

## Mathematics Overview

Within the mathematics curriculum there are six main topics:

- Number
- Algebra
- Ratio, proportion and rates of change
- Geometry and measure
- Probability
- Statistics

These six topics are studied in every year group throughout KS3 and KS4, with the level of difficulty progressing each time. This is called the 'spiral curriculum' - going back around the same broad areas but getting more in-depth and complex each time. So, for example, a Year 7 might be able to solve a simple algebraic equation; a Year 8 might solve an equation with fractions, or unknowns on both sides, or brackets, or powers; a Year 9 could solve a pair of simultaneous equations; a Year 10 could manipulate algebraic fractions; and a Year 11 could solve simultaneous linear and quadratic equations. Each time we revisit each topic there is the opportunity to consolidate previous years' work and then add to it, and if a student is working above what we would expect of their year group then they are given extension work to broaden their knowledge and problem solving skills from the same or related topic area.

## Scheme Learning

The Maths Genie Scheme - a structured journey through the content required

Go

## Mixed Tests

Short tests focusing on topic

Go

es.php?



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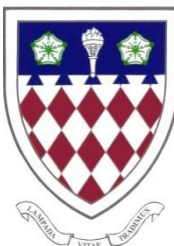
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# Help

- Homework books
- MyMaths, Dr Frost, Mathsgenie website
- Talk to your teachers for support
- Maths Clinic every Wednesday R21 1pm
- Revision guides available



# Finally

What can you do to support your child in maths?

1. Encourage your child whenever possible. **Revision** prior to every assessment is a vital part of developing skills for the final examination series.
2. Developing the ability of “**working out what to do when you don’t know what to do**” takes time, perseverance and practice, practice practice. Encourage your child to “**stick with it**” and ask for help if necessary. Where there is a will there is a way etc
3. Make the most of technology available to us today; graphing tools, mymaths and numeracy apps to boost confidence and speed up calculations.
4. Support and encourage your child with organisation with their books, equipment and how to meet deadlines.
5. Homework is a vitally important part of developing skills independently, it provides consolidation and enrichment opportunities. So your continued support with a quiet place to work, preferably in a social media free-zone to aid concentration and encouragement when questions are tough is always appreciated.

# Science





# How it is organised in Y9?

In Y9 all students are studying the same course currently

## Biology Topics

- DNA and Inheritance
- Communicable Diseases
- Non-communicable Diseases
- Enzyme and Nutrient Cycles
- Biological Science Techniques

## Chemistry Topics

- States of Matter
- Periodic table and Atomic Structure
- Bonding
- Structures and Properties
- Fractional Distillation and Crude Oil

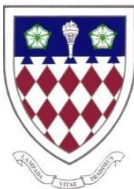
## Physics Topics

- Pressure and Moments
- Particles
- Hot to Cold
- Energy
- Energy Resources



# The Two Courses

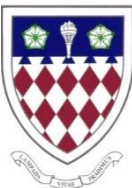
- Most of the country follow the Combined Science course
- Both courses allow progression to all higher courses including A Levels
- Full range of grades achievable  
Grades 9 to 4
- Challenge of content the same



# So What is the Difference?

## Separate Science

- Additional content equivalent to an extra GCSE – taught in the same time as Combined Science
- An extra GCSE grade – equivalent to the additional content
- Longer examinations

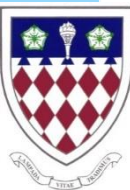


# Year 9, Welcome to English!

January 2024

2 GCSEs

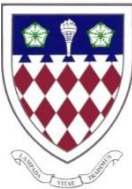
English Language and English Literature



# SHS Learning Intentions, Implementation and Impact

In KS4 you will learn to:

- Read a wide range of texts, fluently and with good understanding.
- Read in depth, critically and evaluatively, so that you are able to discuss and explain your understanding and ideas.
- Acquire and use a wide vocabulary, including the grammatical terminology, literary and linguistic terms.
- Criticise and analyse what you read.
- Write accurately, effectively and analytically about prose and non-fiction texts
- Carefully craft creative and transactional writing, using Standard English.



# AQA Examination Board

**English Language (8700)**  
**Grade 1-9 (5-9)**

2 Papers

- \* Paper 1 Creative reading and writing  
( 1 hour 45 minutes)

- \* Paper 2 Writer's viewpoints and Perspectives  
( 1 hour 45 minutes)

- \* Spoken Language Endorsement  
(pass, merit, distinction)  
Continual assessment

*Students will be filmed and a sample is sent to the exam board for moderation*

Spalding High School

**English Literature (8702)**  
**Grade 1-9 (5-9)**

2 papers

- \* Paper 1 Shakespeare and Nineteenth Century Novel  
( 1 hour 45 minutes)

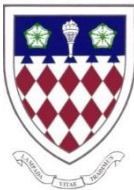
- \* Paper 2 Modern Texts and Poetry  
(2 hours 15minutes)

Respect



# Grading at 1-9 (5-9) in English

- There is a national requirement for every student to achieve a grade 4 or higher in one of the English GCSEs.
- The default starting point for SHS English Department is that every student is capable of passing both English GCSEs with a grade 5 or higher.
- We aim for best possible outcomes with many students achieving top grades 7-9



# Skills Based Learning

English Language and English Literature require a toolkit of skills:

- Comprehension
- Summary
- Inference
- Deduction
- Exploration of the writer's methods
- Evaluation and analysis
- Contextualising texts
- Comparison and comment





# GCSE English Language

## English Language (AQA 8700)

<b>Paper 1 (50%) Creative Reading and Writing (fiction)</b>	<b>Paper 2 (50%) Viewpoints and Perspectives (non fiction)</b>	<b>Spoken Language (0%)</b>
Section A: Reading	Section A: Reading	
Section B: Writing	Section B: Writing	
Total exam time: 1 hr 45 mins	Total exam time: 1 hr 45 mins	Assessed by teacher/ examiner <b><i>A separate endorsement</i></b>



# English Language Course Content

We will study a wide range of GCSE fiction and non-fiction materials to provide platforms for lively debate.

We will be exploring the language techniques, themes, issues & ideas which are these texts.

- Summer term Year 9 - We begin our GCSE Language adventure with some carefully selected prose extracts and begin to explore how writers use language techniques for effect.
- In Year 10 we complete our study of the prose extracts and learn to create and craft descriptive and narrative writing. Then we explore non-fiction extracts to understand how language techniques shape viewpoints and perspectives. We also develop transactional writing skills.
- In Year 11 we revise, practise and consolidate reading skills and understanding how to respond to set aspects of both of the exams. We also run writer's workshops consolidating how to craft linguistic devices for deliberate effects.

Assessments are 'common assessed tasks' using past papers; these are strategically placed throughout both Year 10 and Year 11



# GCSE English Literature

## English Literature (AQA 8702)

Paper 1 (40%)	Paper 2 (60%)
Section A: Shakespeare (Macbeth)	Section A: Modern Texts (An Inspector Calls)
Section B: 19 <sup>th</sup> Century Prose (Jekyll and Hyde)	Section B: Poetry Anthology (Power and Conflict)
	Section C: Unseen Poetry
Total exam time: 1 hr 45 mins	Total exam time: 2 hrs 15 mins



# GCSE Literature is a Closed Book Exam

- All exams are closed book: any stimulus materials required will be provided as part of the examination.
- Closed book examinations require a different approach to learning than in past but students are well-prepared and superbly supported by staff throughout the course.
- There will be English clinics and revision masterclasses closer to the time of exams.
- You can purchase your own copies of texts, so you can annotate them. Or, we provide PDF copies
- You should re-read and revise all the texts , practise and consolidate skills - not just in class - independently, in order to improve the quality of timed responses.
- Learn quotes for the exam responses.



# English Literature Course Content

Texts with the themes Power and Conflict are at the centre of our choices for the GCSE texts as these provide platforms for lively debate.

We will be exploring the language techniques, themes, issues and ideas which within these texts.

- Summer term Year 9 - We begin our GCSE adventure with some 'Unseen' poetry skills and we introduce the AQA 'Power and Conflict' poetry anthology.
- In Year 10 we complete our study of the poetry anthology then we explore the Modern Play 'An Inspector Calls' and the Nineteenth Century Novel, 'Jekyll and Hyde'.
- In Year 11 we study and analyse Shakespeare's Macbeth.

Assessments are 'common assessed tasks' using past papers; these are strategically placed throughout both Year 10 and Year 11



# What Can You Be Doing Now?

- Engage with a variety of texts – novels, plays, poetry, newspaper articles, travel literature, autobiographies... etc.
- Reading widely and discussing what you have read with parents, carers, friends and teachers will be valuable. This will develop your opinions and critical skills.
- Past papers, mark schemes and examiners' reports are available to the public on the AQA website.
- GCSE English tutorials available on YouTube e.g. Mr Bruff, Mr Birch... etc
- BBC Bitesize has an wealth of excellent study material and activities.
- Seneca courses.
- CPG Revision guides: if you don't already have these resources, they will be available to purchase next term.



# Support and Stretch

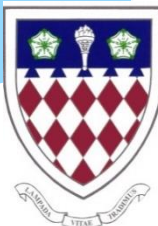
- There is always support available; every teacher of English has an open door policy.
- Mrs Lord runs KS3 drop-in on Fridays and KS4 clinic and drop-in on Thursdays.
- National competitions are always available for entry.
- Curriculum trips to the theatre will be offered.
- Students are strongly advised to buy the CPG revisions bundle through school.  
(much reduced from the RRP price.)
- We welcome parental support. Please engage with your child about their studies and encourage your child to read a range of genres and non-fiction texts to promote best possible outcomes.



# Religious Studies GCSE

Examined through three examination papers sat  
at the end of year 11

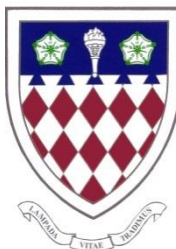
Religions studied – Christianity and Sikhism  
Graded 1-9





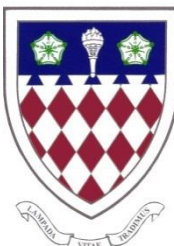
# Pupils start their GCSE course in Year 9 (Board is Eduqas)

- Year 9 – Sikhism – exploring the beliefs and practices of Sikhism
- Year 10 - Christianity – exploring the beliefs and practices of Christianity
- Year 11 – students explore a range of philosophical, religious and ethical issues.



# Year 9 Sikhism – the 1 hour Sikhism paper is worth 25% of the marks

- Sikh beliefs about God
- Sikh teachings about equality
- Beliefs about life after death – the Sikh belief in reincarnation
- Worship both in the home and local gurdwara
- Sikh festivals and places of pilgrimage



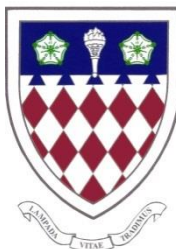
# Organisation and a good work ethic are vital in Year 9

- Course content is challenging with lots of specialist language.
- Pupils are not just examined on factual knowledge. Evaluation skills are important as these questions are now worth 50% of the marks at GCSE.
- **Evaluation questions are worth 15 marks**  
E.g. “Going on pilgrimage to Amritsar should not be a priority for Sikhs”. Discuss 15 marks

# Year 10 Christianity

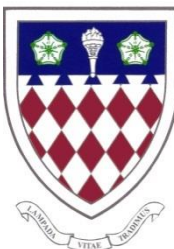
The 1 hour Christianity paper is also worth 25% of the marks

- Christian beliefs about God and the person of Christ
- Life after death
- How and why Christians might worship differently
- Christian festivals and places of pilgrimage
- Whether or not Britain can still be classed as a Christian country.

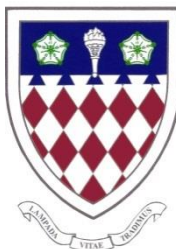


# Walsingham Trip

Pupils will visit Walsingham in Year 10, a well known place of pilgrimage associated with claims of miracles



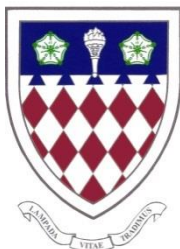
**Year 11 - The 3<sup>rd</sup> paper is issues based  
and worth 50% of the mark  
2 hours long**



# Pupils explore Christian and Sikh perspectives on a range of moral/religious issues

Some of the topics include

- Abortion
- Euthanasia
- Sex and relationships
- Crime and punishment, including the death penalty
- The problem of evil and suffering



# Overview

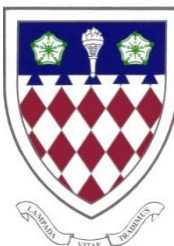
In Year 11 students sit

- a Christianity paper – 1 hour 25% of marks
- a Sikhism paper – 1 hour 25% of marks
- an Issues based paper – 2 hours (from Christianity and Sikhism) 50% of marks

The course content is challenging but hopefully thought provoking and enjoyable too!

The GCSE RS results have also been consistently excellent.

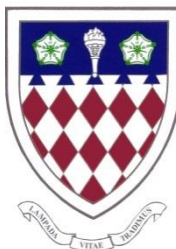
e.g. 2023 – 77% of grades were 6 to 9  
with 42% achieving a grade 8 or 9





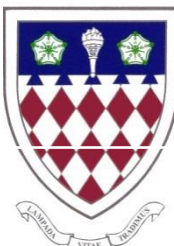
# Non-examination Subjects

- Cross curricular ICT
- Careers Education
- Citizenship taught via Religious Studies, PSHCE and across the curriculum
- PSHCE (personal, social, health and careers education) British Values and Protected Characteristics
- Physical Education



# Option Choices

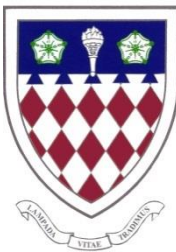
- Geography
- French
- Music
- Business
- DT: Textile based materials
- History
- Spanish
- Art and Design
- Computer Science
- Design and Technology
- German
- Latin
- Drama
- Food Science and Nutrition
- PE



# How do I decide which option subjects to choose?

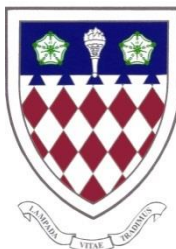
- Choose subjects that you are good at and that you enjoy.
- Consider the non-examination assessment (coursework) demands.
- Think about any career ideas that you might have.
- Talk to your teachers.

**REMEMBER** – a wide range of subjects at this stage will leave your options open for the future



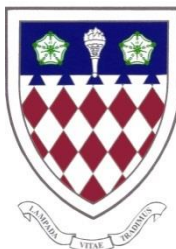
# Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance

- Careers Leader – Mrs Bushell
- Work Experience Manager and Careers Adviser – Mrs O’Brien
- Year 9 tutors
- Subject teachers



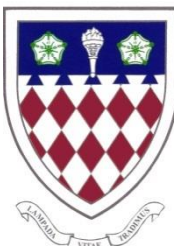
# Useful Resources for Research

- Unifrog platform – careers library & subjects library
- Informed choices website:  
<https://www.informedchoices.ac.uk/>
- UCAS website: <https://www.ucas.com/>
- UCAS subject guides -  
<https://www.ucas.com/explore/search/subject-guides>

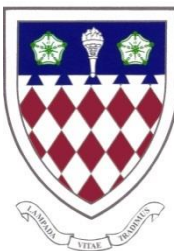


# Work Experience

- Launches in July of Year 9
- Takes place in Year 10 for one week  
(*This year in March*)

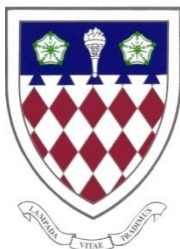


# Y10/Y11 student voice



# Who can help me in making my option choices?

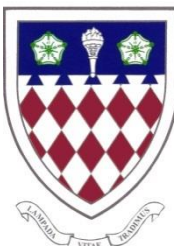
- Subject Teachers
- Information in your options booklet
- Use the websites listed in the booklet
- Y10 and Y11 students at the options fair
- Mrs French, Options Coordinator
- Your Form Tutor, Pastoral support or Head of Year
- Mrs Bushell, Careers Leader
- Parents and older siblings





# Monitoring

- GCSEs have started in 8 subjects
- 1-9 grade scale



# GCSE Grades

New	Old
9	A*
8	
7	
6	B
5	
4	
3	D
2	
1	

# What is a Projected Grade?

*“Based on the work you have produced that I have seen and marked, assessments and tests, the effort you make, the extra work you put into this course and from what I know about you, if you continue as you are, the **most likely grade** you will achieve at the end of the course, at this point in time, is....”*




## **Year 9 Progress Report February 2024**

**Annie Other 9B**

**Attendance: 98.2 %**

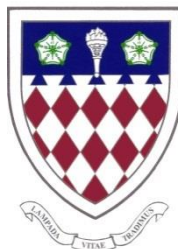
Subject	Projected Grade	Effort
English Language	6	E
English Literature	6	E
Mathematics	7	AE
Science	7	O
Art & Design	7	AE
Computing	6	E
Design Technology	6	E
Drama	6	E
French	5	E
Geography	6	E
History	7	AE
Latin	5	E
Religious Studies	6	E

# Year 9 Assessment & Reporting

9 <sup>th</sup> February	22 <sup>nd</sup> February	5 <sup>th</sup> July
Projected Grade 9-4 OR 4-	Online Parents' Evening 	Projected Grade 9-1
Effort Grade	27 <sup>th</sup> Feb Options Deadline	Effort Grade + Report

# What Happens Next?

- **Subject Talks** – From tomorrow in lessons
- **Options Fair** – Monday 15<sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January at lunchtime in the hall
- **Y9 Languages Day** - Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January
- **Parents' Evening** – Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February
- **Deadline for Options Forms –Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February**
- All information including presentation and booklet on school website for reference



# What Happens Next?

3. Compulsory Modern Foreign Language (select the

Select your answer



4. Compulsory Humanity (only select one)

Select your answer



5. GCSE subject choice (only select one)

Select your answer



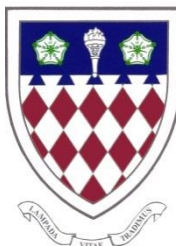
6. GCSE subject choice (only select one)

Select your answer



- The **Options Form** will appear as an assignment on student Teams tomorrow.
- This presentation, along with the 2024 Options Booklet will be added to the school website tomorrow.

Respect



# Thank you

