



***Y11 Preparing
for Success
Evening
16th October 2025***



Key staff contacts



Miss L Robinson
Year 11 Pastoral Support
Manager
lrobinson@swintonacademy.org



Mr J Hilton
Year 11 Pastoral Learning Lead
jhilton@swintonacademy.org



Mr A Coe
Assistant Vice Principal
acoe@swintonacademy.org



Mr N Raymond
Careers Advisor
nraymond@swintonacademy.org

Key dates

Y11 Trial exams 1

- 3rd November to 14th November 2025

Data Collection 1

- 2nd December 2025

Y11 consultation evening

- 8th December 2025

Y11 Mock interviews

- 29th January 2026

Data Collection 2

- 2nd February 2026

Y11 Trial exams 2

- 9th February 2026 to 25th February 2026

Data Collection 3

- 17th March 2026

`GCSE external exams start

- 7th May 2026

Y11 Prom

- 25th June 2026

Attendance

Our expectation is that all students aim to have an attendance figure of 100% for each term. This level of attendance will ensure success in lessons, as research has shown there is a direct link between attendance and achievement in school.

WHEN STUDENTS MISS SCHOOL THEY MISS OUT!

Excellent attendance at school is important to allow a child or young person to fulfil their potential.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

“Students who regularly miss school are more likely to become isolated from their friends, to underachieve in exams and become involved in anti-social behaviour.”

Below are just some of the key reasons why it is so important children attend school:

- To learn and make progress.
- To gain qualifications and broaden future opportunities.
- To develop new skills.
- To make and sustain positive friendships.
- To experience new things in life.
- To build confidence and self-esteem.
- To have the best possible start in life.

ATTENDANCE DOES MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO EXAM RESULTS!

Greater than
96% Attendance



83%

Less than
93-95% Attendance



64%

Less than
90% Attendance



26%

Compulsory Period 6 Lessons

Day	Week A	Week B
Tuesday	Options (individual timetable)	Options (individual timetable)
Wednesday	English (X Band) Maths (W Band)	English (W Band) Maths (X Band)
Thursday	Science (X Band)	Science (W Band)

Homework Schedule (via Google Classrooms)

Maths	Exam revision on key topics set on Sparx maths weekly
Drama	Set weekly. Mixture of learning lines for NEA course work and written exam question practice
Science	Exam questions set weekly Seneca learning
French	Vocabulary learning and written homework set weekly
Enterprise and Marketing	Exam revision set weekly Practice questions for the theory part of the course
RE	Exam questions / revision set weekly
History	Homework booklet to complete. Using knowledge organisers and GCSE Pod for support

No homework? Log into



Trial Exams Timetable

Monday 3 rd November	Science – Biology and RE
Tuesday 4 th November	Maths paper 1 and Statistics paper 1
Wednesday 5 th November	History and Geography
Thursday 6 th November	Maths paper 2 and French Reading
Friday 7 th November	Science – Chemistry
Monday 10 th November	Science – Physics
Tuesday 11 th November	English Literature and Statistics paper 2
Wednesday 12 th November	Maths paper 3 and French Listening
Thursday 13 th November	Y11 French writing
Friday 14 th November	English Language

Preparing For Success in English

Titles, exam boards and weightings – English Language

Exam board: Eduqas

Language Component 1: Reading and Writing Fiction (40%)

Language Component 2: Reading and Writing Non-Fiction (60%)

Titles, exam boards and weightings – English Literature

Exam board: Eduqas

Literature Paper 1: 'Macbeth' and Poetry Anthology (40%)

Literature Paper 2: 'Blood Brothers', 'A Christmas Carol' and Unseen Poetry (60%)



What can you expect your child to be doing at home for this subject?

- Past exam papers will be given to students over the course of the year for them to complete.
- Revision booklets (created by staff) will also be sent home.
- Practising skills is the key here – students will not have seen the texts prior to the exams, so the ability to skim read for information and to pick out key quotations, as well as plan answers quickly and effectively are important.
- Any type of reading will help students to become more confident in tackling unseen texts (especially non-fiction texts such as newspaper and web articles).

Preparing For Success in Maths (Y11)

Titles, exam boards and weightings

Foundation paper – OCR, Higher paper – OCR. Each tier has 3 papers which are equally weighted. 2 Calculator and 1 non calculator papers.



What can you expect your child to be doing at home for this subject?

- Past exam papers will be given to students over the course of the year for them to complete.
- Revision booklets will also be sent home.
- Past papers can be downloaded from the internet (type OCR maths past papers into google, with the appropriate tier (foundation/higher) for your child) – other suggested sites included in this booklet.
- Weekly homework completed.
- GCSE bitesize

Preparing For Success in Combined Science and Separate Science



Your course	
Details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Biology, Chemistry and Physics are combined in this qualification, with a double award GCSE being awarded. - Separate Science will be awarded 3 GCSEs, one for Biology, Chemistry and Physics. - All qualification will be graded on a 17-point scale: 1-1 to 5-5 (Foundation) or 4-3 to 9-9 (Higher).
Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There are six 1hr 15minute papers (1 hr 45 minutes for separates). - Two biology, two chemistry and two physics.

Exam	Units	Sub Units
Biology Paper 1	Cells and organisation	B1 Cell structure and transport (RQP 1, 2, 3)
		B2 Cell division
		B3 Organisation and the digestive system (RQP 4, 5)
		B4 Organising animals and plants
	Disease and bioenergetics	B5 Communicable diseases
		B6 Preventing and treating disease
		B7 Non-communicable diseases
		B8 Photosynthesis (RQP 6)
		B9 Respiration

Biology Paper 2	Biological responses	B10 The human nervous system (RQP 7)
		B11 Hormonal coordination (RQP 8)
		B12 Homeostasis in action (<i>separate only</i>)
	Genetics and reproduction	B13 Reproduction
		B14 Variation and evolution
		B15 Genetics and evolution
	Ecology	B16 Adaptations, interdependence, and competition
		B17 Organising and ecosystem
		B18 Biodiversity and ecosystems (RQP 9, 10)
Chemistry Paper 1	Atoms, bonding, and moles	C1 Atomic structure
		C2 The periodic table
		C3 Structure and bonding
		C4 Chemical calculations
	Chemical reactions and energy changes	C5 Chemical changes (RQP 1, 2)
		C6 Electrolysis (RQP 3)
		C7 Energy changes (RQP 4)
Chemistry Paper 2	Rates, equilibrium and organic chemistry	C8 Rates and equilibrium (RQP 5)
		C9 Crude oil and fuels
		C10 Organic reaction (<i>separate only</i>)
		C11 Polymers (<i>separate only</i>)
	Analysis and the Earth's resources	C12 Chemical analysis (RQP 6, 7)
		C13 The Earth's atmosphere
		C14 The Earth's resources (RQP 8)
		C15 Using our resources (<i>separate only</i>)
Physics Paper 1	Energy and energy resources	P1 Conservation and dissipation of energy
		P2 Energy transfer by heating (RQP 1, 2)
		P3 Energy resources
	Particles at work	P4 Electric circuits (RQP 3, 4)

		P5 Electricity in the home
		P6 Molecules and matter (RQP 5)
		P7 Radioactivity
Physics Paper 2	Forces in action	P8 Forces in balance (RQP 6)
		P9 Motion
		P10 Force and motion (RQP 7)
		P11 Force and pressure (<i>separate only</i>)
	Waves, electromagnetism, and space	P12 Wave properties (RQP 8)
		P13 Electromagnetic waves
		P14 Light (<i>separate only</i>) (RQP 9)
		P15 Electromagnetism (RQP 10)
		P16 Space (<i>separate only</i>)

What can you expect your child to be doing at home for this subject?

- Completing weekly homework tasks on SENECA (set by each subject teacher) that will be review Year 10 work and reinforce current learning.
- Completing exam style questions (these have been added to their science google classroom).
- Using their revision guide to read through and make revision resources for each unit.

These guides can be purchased through parent pay (the correct guide and tier has been added for each student).



Drama

Subject	GCSE Drama
Head of Faculty	Ms B Emms
Head of Faculty Email	bemms@swintonacademy.org
Examination Board	Eduqas
Useful revision resources/Websites	BBC Bitesize. Read the text Blood Brothers Work through revision materials Use the Coursework guidance on Google classrooms

What can you expect your child to be doing at home for this subject?

Component 1: Devising Theatre

- **Encourage the creative log:** Remind your child to keep their devising log up to date. This should include photos, diagrams, and notes on practical exploration and character development, not just written ideas.
- **Discuss the process:** Ask your child to explain their group's devising process, including the stimulus they chose and the techniques of the theatre practitioner or genre they are exploring. This helps them articulate their artistic intentions and reinforce their understanding for the portfolio and performance.

Component 2: Performing from a Text

- **Facilitate rehearsal:** Find a quiet space at home for your child to practice their lines and blocking for the two text extracts. Encourage them to record their rehearsals using a phone or camera to review and improve their performance.
- **Help with character analysis:** Ask your child to explain their character's motivations, relationships, and how they use vocal and physical skills to portray them. This helps solidify their understanding and prepare the 150-word "artistic intentions" statement.

Component 3: Interpreting Theatre (Written Exam)

- **Test knowledge of the set text:** Help your child revise An Inspector Calls by testing them on key scenes, characters, and the play's social and historical context. Make flashcards or posters with important drama terminology and roles.
- **Discuss live theatre:** Following watching live/ digital theatre, encourage your child to discuss and evaluate the performance. Ask them about specific choices the actors and designers made and the impact these had on the audience. This helps them prepare for the live theatre review question.

MFL

Subject	GCSE French
Head of Faculty	Mr S Colton
Head of Faculty Email	scolton@swintonacademy.org
Examination Board	Edexcel - (2024 onwards specification) https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/french-2024.html
Useful revision resources/Websites	Learn speaking answers from GCSE French Speaking booklet (these will also help with your written component) GCSE Bitesize – Listening, Reading & Grammar practice with revision videos https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zhkvkhv Verb conjugation practice in all key tenses www.conjuguemos.com Quizlet – links to each vocabulary section on Google Classroom Module 1-8 Knowledge Organisers – electronic versions available on Google Classroom GCSE Pod – French

Humanities

Subject	GCSE History
Head of Faculty	Mr A Hill Mrs H Jenkinson
Head of Faculty Email	ahill@swintonacademy.org hjenkinson@swintonacademy.org
Exam Board	EdExcel
Useful revision resources/Websites	Revision resources and knowledge organisers provided in lessons. GCSE Bitesize Edexcel History: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zw4bv4j Seneca Learning: https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/blog/gcse-history-revision-guide/ GCSE Pod.

Subject	GCSE Geography
Head of Faculty	Mr A Hill
Head of Faculty Email	ahill@swintonacademy.org
Examination Board	AQA
Useful revision resources/Websites	GCSE Bitesize AQA Geography www.bbc.com/bitesize/examspecs/zy3ptyc Cool Geography http://coolgeography.co.uk/ GCSE Pod

Religious Studies

Subject	GCSE RE
Head of Faculty / Head of RE	Miss C Wilkinson
Head of RE email	Cwilkinson@swintonacademy.org
Exam Board	AQA
Useful revision resources/Websites	Student Trial Examination Revision Booklet and Work Booklet GCSE Pod BBC Bitesize AQA GCSE Religious Studies A: Christianity and Islam Revision Guide Paperback available from Amazon £9.99

Business and Computing

Subject	GCSE Creative iMedia
Head of Faculty	Mr C Machon
Head of Faculty Email	cmachon@swintonacademy.org
Examination Board	OCR
Useful revision resources/Websites	Revision Booklets; Practice exam papers; GCSE Bitesize; GCSE Pod

Subject	Cambridge National Certificate in Enterprise & Marketing
Head of Faculty	Mr C Machon
Head of Faculty Email	cmachon@swintonacademy.org
Examination Board	OCR
Useful revision resources/Websites	GCSE Pod; GCSE Bitesize; Revision mats provided in lessons

Physical Education and Health and Social Care

Subject	Physical Education
Head of Faculty	Mr R Hill
Head of Faculty Email	rhill@swintonacademy.org
Examination Board	OCR Cambridge National Sport Science

Subject	Health and Social –
Head of Faculty	Mr R Hill
Lead Teacher	Mrs L Longstaff
Head of Faculty Email	rhill@swintonacademy.org
Lead Teacher Email	llongstaff@swintonacademy.org
Examination Board	OCR Cambridge National

Art, Design Technology

Subject	Construction in the Built Environment
Head of Faculty	Miss Sarah Croft
Head of Faculty Email	scroft@swintonacademy.org
Examination Board	Eduqas
Useful revision resources/Websites	https://resources.eduqas.co.uk/pages/ResourceSingle.aspx?rlid=1523 www.goconstruct.org

Subject	Hospitality and Catering
Head of Faculty	Miss Sarah Croft
Head of Faculty Email	scroft@swintonacademy.org
Examination Board	Eduqas
Useful revision resources/Websites	https://resources.eduqas.co.uk/pages/ResourceSingle.aspx?rlid=1521

Subject	GCSE Art and Design (Fine Art)
Head of Faculty	Miss Sarah Croft
Head of Faculty Email	scroft@swintonacademy.org
Examination Board	AQA
Useful revision resources/Websites	https://www.tate.org.uk/art/student-resource/exam-help

Parent/Carer Support for Revision

You're a crucial person in your child's achievement and future success. You have an enormous impact on your child's attendance and progress which will help them to be more resilient.

Here are some tips and reminders to help:

- Help them to create a revision timetable and schedule, including weekends.
- Ensure you build in relaxation and free time as well as learning.
- Encourage your child to be organised.
- Make sure they have the materials they need to revise.
- Provide a quiet space from them to revise – a place where there is as little distraction as possible.
- Motive and praise. Give them positive messages and support when they feel they cannot continue.
- Ensure your child is drinking and eating to keep them healthy.
- Create a healthy sleeping routine and pattern. Reduce the use of mobile phones and gaming before bedtime.
- Show interest in what they are doing in school and their homework.

Every lesson counts. Ensure your son/daughter is in the academy every day to access the high-quality teaching to prepare them for their GCSEs.

Revision Tips

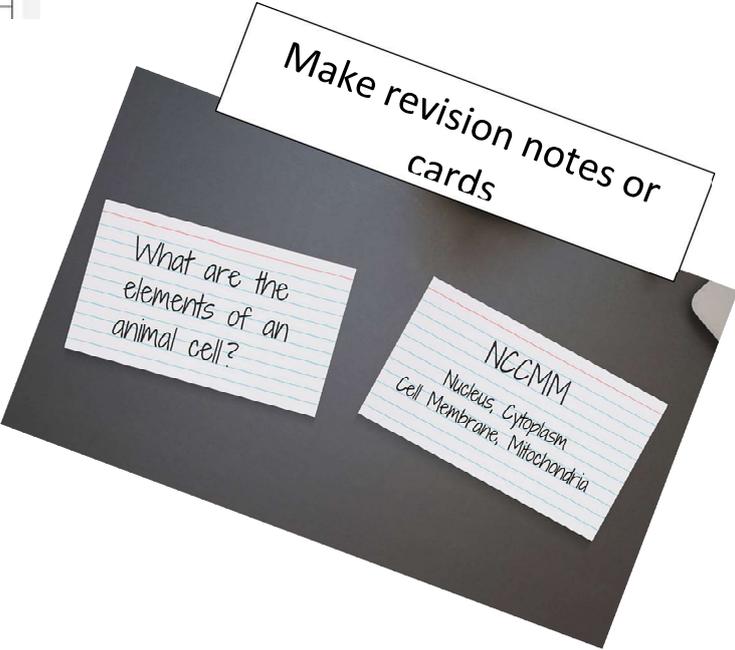
My Weekly Revision Timetable

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
8:00 am							
9:00 am							
10:00 am							
11:00 am							
12:00 pm							
1:00 pm							
2:00 pm							

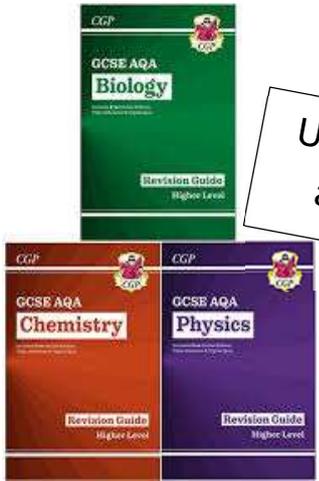
Create a revision timetable



No distractions



Make revision notes or cards



Use revision guides and past papers



Its never too early to start revising

Useful websites

Careerpilot



UCAS



success
at school 



Useful tips from our Post 16 students!

“Start early - it’s better to start now and do little bits than leave it until Easter next year.”

“Little and often works best, try spending a little bit of time each night or a few times a week instead of leaving it to one day.”

“Homework is important as it gives you extra time to learn and teachers will give you feedback on how to improve.”

“Try to fit in revision during school days so you can have the weekend off.”

“Take breaks - don’t burn yourself out for working for too long.”

“Make sure you still have time for a social life - it’s important to still see friends and do things that you enjoy for your mental health.”

“Keep organised - make a timetable.”

“Reward yourself - give yourself goals and little treats if you achieve it.”

“Only give yourself one thing to do a night.”

“Stay determined in your lessons, and listen from start to finish!”



Parent Guide – Mental Health Support

Exams are a stressful time for any young person

Mood swings and outbursts are more likely to occur during this period. Look out for other signs that your child may be struggling, including poor sleep patterns or a change in appetite or behaviour.

It's worth preparing ways of supporting your child during exam weeks and thinking about how you will react and respond on the day if they don't get the result that they, or you, are hoping for.

Things that can help your child in the lead up to exams

- Work with your child to find what revision style works for them.
- Encourage your child to take revision breaks and find a balance between studying and doing things they find enjoyable and relaxing.
- Make sure they are eating and drinking at regular intervals.
- Encourage them to take some time after revising to wind down.
- Reassure them – reinforce that you are and will be proud of them no matter what happens.
- Remain positive and hopeful!
- Plan a treat or an activity together to mark the end of the exams.
- Set aside one to one time so that they can talk to you about any worries.
- Let them know their feelings are valid and normal but also offer support and solutions where possible.
- Anxiety is often worst at night, and this means it is useful to encourage a good bedtime routine.
- Work with them to develop relaxation techniques.
- If anxiety and stress start impacting their day-to-day life, seek help from your GP.

Help with exam preparation practicalities

Helping your child to plan a realistic revision timetable, which breaks the days and subjects down into manageable chunks, will reduce their anxiety by increasing their sense of control and confidence. It will also help ensure everything is covered.

Discuss different revision techniques and help your child to identify which suit them best. It could be making flashcards or mind maps, watching online revision videos or talking questions through. If there are topics your child finds particularly difficult, make sure their revision plan targets these. And offer support by listening to a recap or testing them on what they have learned, if they find this is helpful.

Do ensure your child has a distraction-free place to study too. This could be a school or public library if there isn't a suitable space at home.

Encourage healthy routines

Sleeping well, eating regular healthy meals and relaxing are important for everyone's wellbeing. Encourage your child to stick to healthy routines and to make some time for activities they enjoy – such as exercise, doing something creative, getting fresh air, seeing friends playing in person or online – as these help reduce stress.

Revision is most effective when combined with regular breaks, so make sure that your child does step away from their books. You could suggest a cup of tea and a snack, a quick walk or a TV programme they enjoy.

Relaxation techniques, such as focussing on breathing slowly or shoulder rolling, can reduce stress or help your child sleep if they are finding it difficult to unwind.

Promote a sense of perspective – and don't add to the pressure

Young people can feel overwhelmed by pressure to get high grades in exams. It comes at them from school, peers, social media influences and more. So, while it's normal to want your child to do well, it's really important that you avoid heaping on more pressure, and that you help instil a sense of perspective. Avoid nagging and over-policing their revision.

Encourage your child to focus on realistic goals of their own, rather than to compare themselves critically to their peers or to worry about expectations other people have of them. This applies both to the amount of revision they are doing and to the results they feel they should get. If they are struggling, focussing primarily on the core subjects (maths, English, science) as well as one or two others they enjoy, may reduce stress and allow them to progress to their intended next steps.

Reassure your child that exam results do not define them; that they are far from the only measure of success; and that you are proud of them whatever happens on results day.

Look out for signs that your child is struggling

While some degree of worry or nerves around exams is to be expected, do be aware of signs that anxiety levels may be building. These can include sleep or appetite problems;

difficulties with concentration; or physical symptoms such as nausea, sweating or palpitations.

If your child's anxiety is spiralling, encourage them to talk to you, or perhaps to a teacher, about how they are feeling. If you are worried that your child may be experiencing depression or longer-lasting anxiety, discuss this with the GP.

Be positive

Let your child know that you believe in them and feel positive about their future. Planning a special treat and talking about things they are looking forward to after exams can help them feel positive, motivated and less worried.

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/young-person/blog/exam-self-care/>

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/young-person/coping-with-life/exam-stress/>

<https://www.nhs.uk/mental-health/children-and-young-adults/advice-for-parents/help-your-child-beat-exam-stress/>

Exam Results Helpline

- Specialist careers advice for helping young people and their families decide on options following GCSE, A Level and Nationals exam results days.
- Helpline: 0808 100 8000
- BBC Bitesize: The Mind Set

<https://www.annafreud.org/resources/children-and-young-peoples-wellbeing/self-care/revision/>

Wellbeing and Mental Health

Exercise

- Improve a student's mood
- Reduce symptoms of anxiety
- Provide social skills

Sleep

- Essential to enable students to unwind and recharge
- Improves retention
- Encourage students to have time without revising or using technology one hour before going to sleep
- Researchers recommend 8-9 hours of sleep per night for GCSE students

Diet

- Stay hydrated 6 to 8 glasses of fluid per day
- Leafy green vegetables like broccoli, spinach and kale are packed with vitamin K, which helps build pathways in the brain.
- Excessive sugar consumption leads to a temporary rush of energy which is quickly followed by crashing blood sugar levels.

Wellbeing and Mental Health - Useful websites



YOUNGMiNDS



NHS



Sign up to our **FREE** app and get direct contact with a With Me In Mind worker. Discuss any mental health related issues using instant messaging on your mobile or tablet.



Scan our QR code for a **FREE** direct download:



For further information visit our website: withmeinmind.co.uk

Or follow us on social media on:   

Local College and Post-16 Open Evenings

Rotherham College open day, Eastwood Lane, Rotherham, S65 1EG

Saturday 15th November 9:30 am– 2:00 pm

- **T Levels Talks:** 10:15am, 11am, 11:45am
- **Apprenticeships Talks:** 10:15am, 11am, 11:45am
- **3 Year Skills and Progression Plans Talks:** 10:15am, 11am, 11:45am
Learn more about our tailored 3 year skills and progression plans designed for SEND, High Needs and Vulnerable learners.
- **Momentous Football Academy Talks:** 10:15am, 11am, 11:45am

Other dates

Saturday 24th January 2026 9:30am – 12:00pm

Saturday 14th March 2026 9:30am – 12:00pm

Dearne Valley College, Manvers Park, Wath upon Dearne, Swinton, Rotherham, S63 7EW

Saturday 22nd November 2025 9:30am – 12:00pm

- **T Levels Talks:** 10:15am, 11am, 11:45am
- **Apprenticeships Talks:** 10:15am, 11am, 11:45am
- **3 Year Skills and Progression Plans Talks:** 10:15am, 11am, 11:45am
Learn more about our tailored 3 year skills and progression plans designed for SEND, High Needs and Vulnerable learners.
- **Momentous Football Academy Talks:** 10:15am, 11am, 11:45am

Other dates

Saturday 31st January 2026 9:30am – 12:00pm

Doncaster college Open Day, The Hub, Chappell Drive, Doncaster, DN1 2RF

Thursday January 22nd 2026 4.30pm-7.00pm

Thomas Rotherham College, S60 2BE

Tuesday 4th November 2025 4:00pm to 7:00pm

Thursday 19th March 2026 4:00pm – 7:00pm

Sheffield College, City Campus, Granville Road, Sheffield, S2 2RL

Thursday 23rd October 2025 4:00pm – 7:00pm

Wednesday 12th November 4:00pm – 7:00pm

Thursday 22nd January 4:00pm – 7:00pm

Please research courses using institution websites and contact them for further information regarding specific courses and application information. In school, please contact nraymond@swintonacademy.org