



YEAR 10 COURSE INFORMATION EVENING

OCTOBER 2016



HIGHDOWN SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM CENTRE

Surley Row • Emmer Green • Reading • RG4 8LR

Tel: 0118 901 5800

Fax: 0118 901 5801

E-mail: office@highdown.reading.sch.uk

www.highdown.reading.sch.uk



KS4 COURSE INFORMATION, ADVICE AND GUIDANCE

For September 2016





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For September 2016



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Summer
2018

Today!

GCSE PERFORMANCE MEASURES

**GCSE COHORT
2016-2018**

GRADING...

- For your cohort, almost all GCSEs are now graded 9-1 ... replacing A*-G
- Grade 9 is the highest and is expected to be typically harder than what was the A*.
- Grade 5 is now widely regarded as the national expectation of a 'good pass' replacing the C grade.
- It is intended that a 5 will be more challenging to reach than a C.
- GCSEs in Business Studies and Technology subjects remain graded at A*-G

FUTURE AND SIXTH FORM

- The grade required for Sixth Form progression for many courses is very likely to be a 5 in 2018.
- A grade 5 (or higher!) in Maths and English will be an important measure for Sixth Form progression.
- Any student not achieving a grade 5 in English and/or Maths will be required to retake the qualification until they achieve a grade 5.

WHAT IS IMPORTANT ...?

PROGRESS!

**THE MAIN PERFORMANCE
MEASURE THAT SCHOOL'S
ARE JUDGED AGAINST.**

**WHAT MAKES
YOU
SUCCESSFUL?**

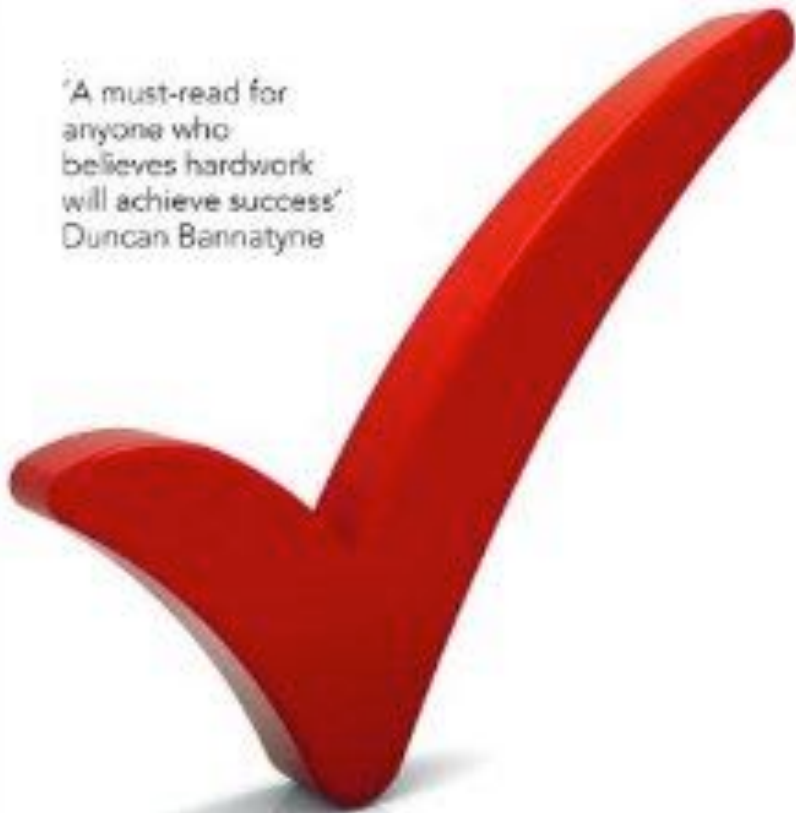
REVISING
HARD?

EXAM

PREPARATION?

A TUTOR?

'A must-read for
anyone who
believes hardwork
will achieve success'
Duncan Bannatyne



Matthew Syed
Bounce
The myth of talent
and the power of practice

HARD
WORK?

10 THINGS THAT REQUIRE ZERO TALENT

1. BEING ON TIME

2. WORK ETHIC

3. EFFORT

4. BODY LANGUAGE

5. ENERGY

6. ATTITUDE

7. PASSION

8. BEING COACHABLE

9. DOING EXTRA

10. BEING PREPARED



I NEVER LOSE.

I win or I learn.



**PASTORAL
CARE AT
HIGHDOWN**

SUPPORT

- HoA
- AHoA
- Mentors
- Star Centre
- Available Staff
- Home Learning Club
- Learning in lessons
- Home learning

HELP FROM HOME

- Routines
- Work space
- Contact with school
- Support the school message

SUCCESSFUL STUDENTS

- Do not argue with your parents, they are just trying to help.
- Do not argue with your teachers, they are just trying to help.
- Know the course you are on and what is expected from it.
- Be at school every day.
- Be punctual.
- Be organised!!!
- Recap your work in your books.
- Work hard.
- Hard work beats talent, if talent doesn't work hard.

ENGLISH

CURRICULUM LEADER: MISS. N. SALMON

GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature



CORE CONTENT

Year 10 English

- **Shakespeare Play**
 - Sets 1 – 3 – ‘The Merchant of Venice’
 - Sets 4 and 5 – ‘Macbeth’
- **19th Century Text**
 - Sets 1 – 3 – ‘Jekyll and Hyde’
 - Sets 4 and 5 – ‘A Christmas Carol’
- **Language Paper 1**
 - 19th Century Literary Fiction Extracts (language and structure analysis, evaluation of ideas)
 - Descriptive and Narrative Writing
- **Language Paper 2**
 - 19th Century – 21st Century Non Fiction Extracts (comparison, language analysis, comparative evaluation)
 - Discursive Writing

Year 11 English

- **Poetry**
 - Power and Conflict Poetry
 - Unseen Poetry
- **Modern Text**
 - An Inspector Calls by J.B. Priestley
- **Revision of Literature and Language**

ASSESSMENT

AQA English Language (8700)

Paper 1 – Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing (50%)

**Paper 2 – Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives (50%)
+ Spoken Language Assessment**

AQA English Literature (8702)

Paper 1 – Shakespeare and 19th Century Novel (40%)

Paper 2 – Modern Texts and Poetry (60%)



SKILLS FOR SUCCESS

- Read, understand and respond to texts
- Analyse language, form and structure
- Use subject specific terminology
- Show an understanding of context
- Communicate clearly, imaginatively and effectively
- Write with technical accuracy



SUCCESSFUL STUDENTS

- Read a wide range of texts
- Keep exercise books revision ready
- Learn short, key quotations from texts
- Make revision visible
- See the importance of year 10



Time + Effort = Success

SUPPORT

- List of recommended resources on SMHW
- Bookmarks for Shakespeare and 19th Century texts on SMHW
- Weekly Home Learning
- Mr Bruff YouTube Videos
- BBC Bitesize
- CGP Workbooks
- Mentor intervention



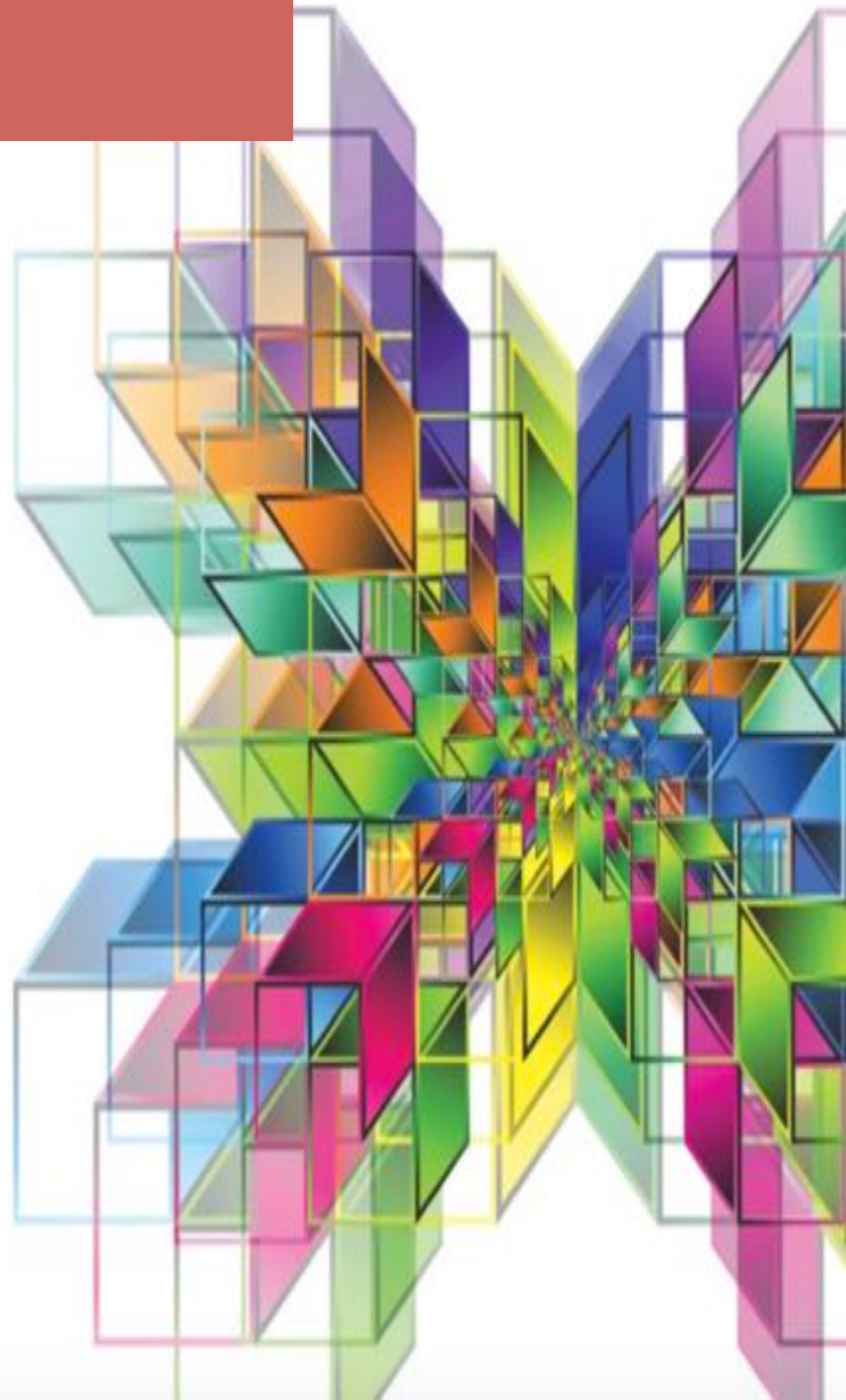
HELPING AT HOME

- Reading a range of texts together
- Watch plays and adaptations of texts together
- Use SMHW to check/support home learning
- Encourage students to revise actively
- Encourage excellence rather than just completion



GCSE MATHEMATICS

CURRICULUM LEADER: **MR M. GUNBIE**



CORE CONTENT

GCSE Mathematics has a Foundation tier (grades 1 – 5) and a Higher tier (grades 4 – 9).

Topic Area	Foundation Tier (%)	Higher Tier (%)
Number	25	15
Algebra	20	30
Ratio	25	20
Geometry	15	20
Probability and statistics (combined)	15	15

Students are expected to know the formulae included in the course content; they will not be given in the exam. For example:

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{(b^2 - 4ac)}}{2a}$$

$$\text{Total accrued} = P \left(1 + \frac{r}{100} \right)^n$$

$$\text{sine rule: } \frac{a}{\sin A} = \frac{b}{\sin B} = \frac{c}{\sin C}$$

$$\text{cosine rule: } a^2 = b^2 + c^2 - 2bc \cos A$$

$$\text{Area} = \frac{1}{2}ab \sin C$$

$$v = u + at$$

$$s = ut + \frac{1}{2}at^2$$

$$v^2 = u^2 + 2as$$

A level content has moved into GCSE Higher and GCSE Higher content has moved into GCSE Foundation.

All GCSE exams in mathematics must include questions that allow students to draw on elements from within and across different topic areas, and questions that allow students to provide extended responses.

At Highdown due to our previous involvement in the Linked Pair pilot all my team is well versed in the new content.

ASSESSMENT

Paper 1: Non Calculator Weighting 33⅓% 1 hour 30min 80 Marks	Paper 2: Calculator Weighting 33⅓% 1 hour 30min 80 Marks	Paper 3: Calculator Weighting 33⅓% 1 hour 30min 80 Marks
Content from any part of the specification may be assessed	Content from any part of the specification may be assessed	Content from any part of the specification may be assessed
A mix of question styles, from short, single-mark questions to multi-step problems.	A mix of question styles, from short, single-mark questions to multi-step problems.	A mix of question styles, from short, single-mark questions to multi-step problems.
The mathematical demand increases as a student progresses through the paper.	The mathematical demand increases as a student progresses through the paper.	The mathematical demand increases as a student progresses through the paper.

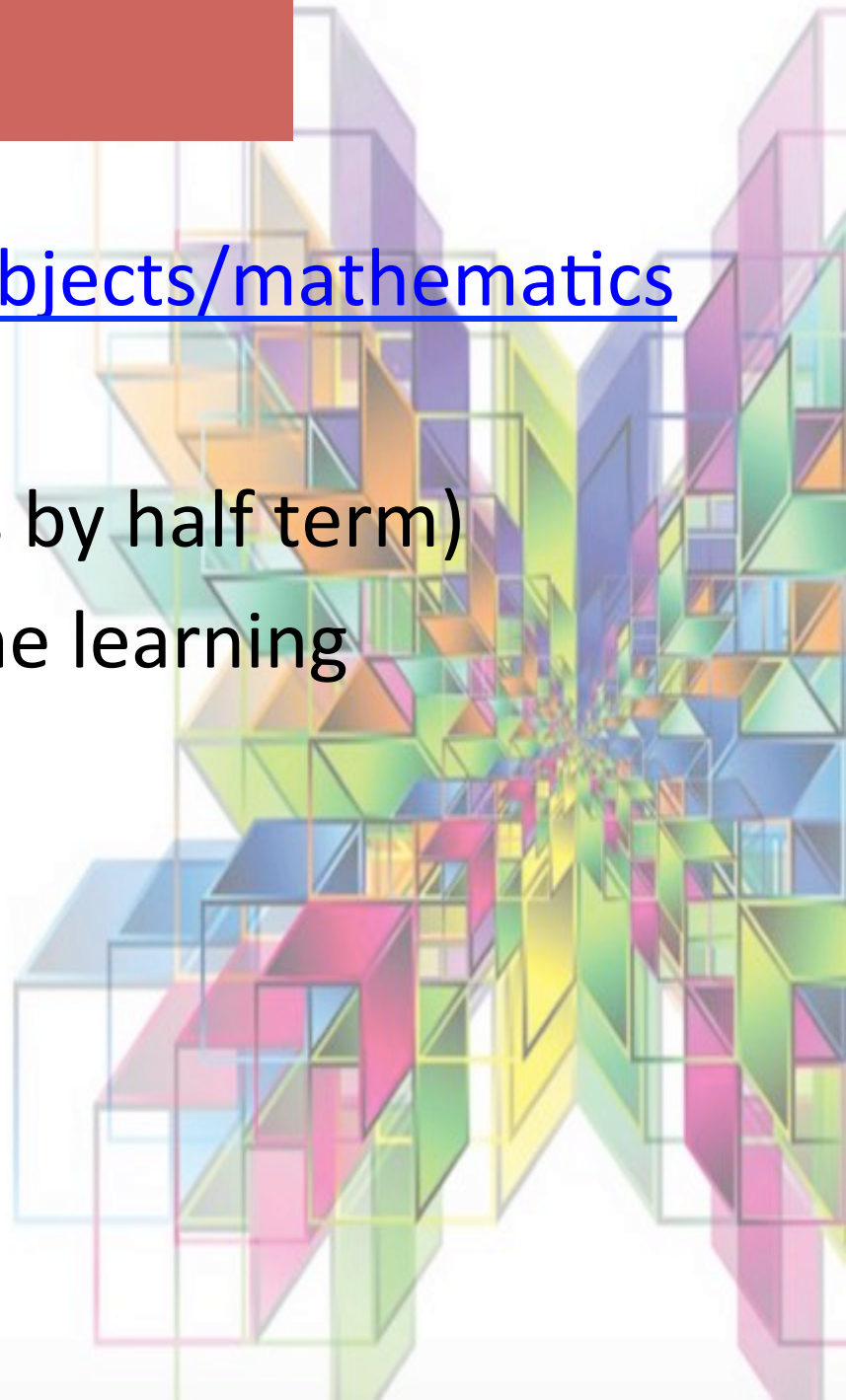
SUCCESSFUL STUDENTS

- Practise, practise, practise
- Complete all home learning set
- Attend help sessions when offered
- Ask for help when stuck
- Revise by DOING not by reading
- Respond to their EBIs
- RTQ!



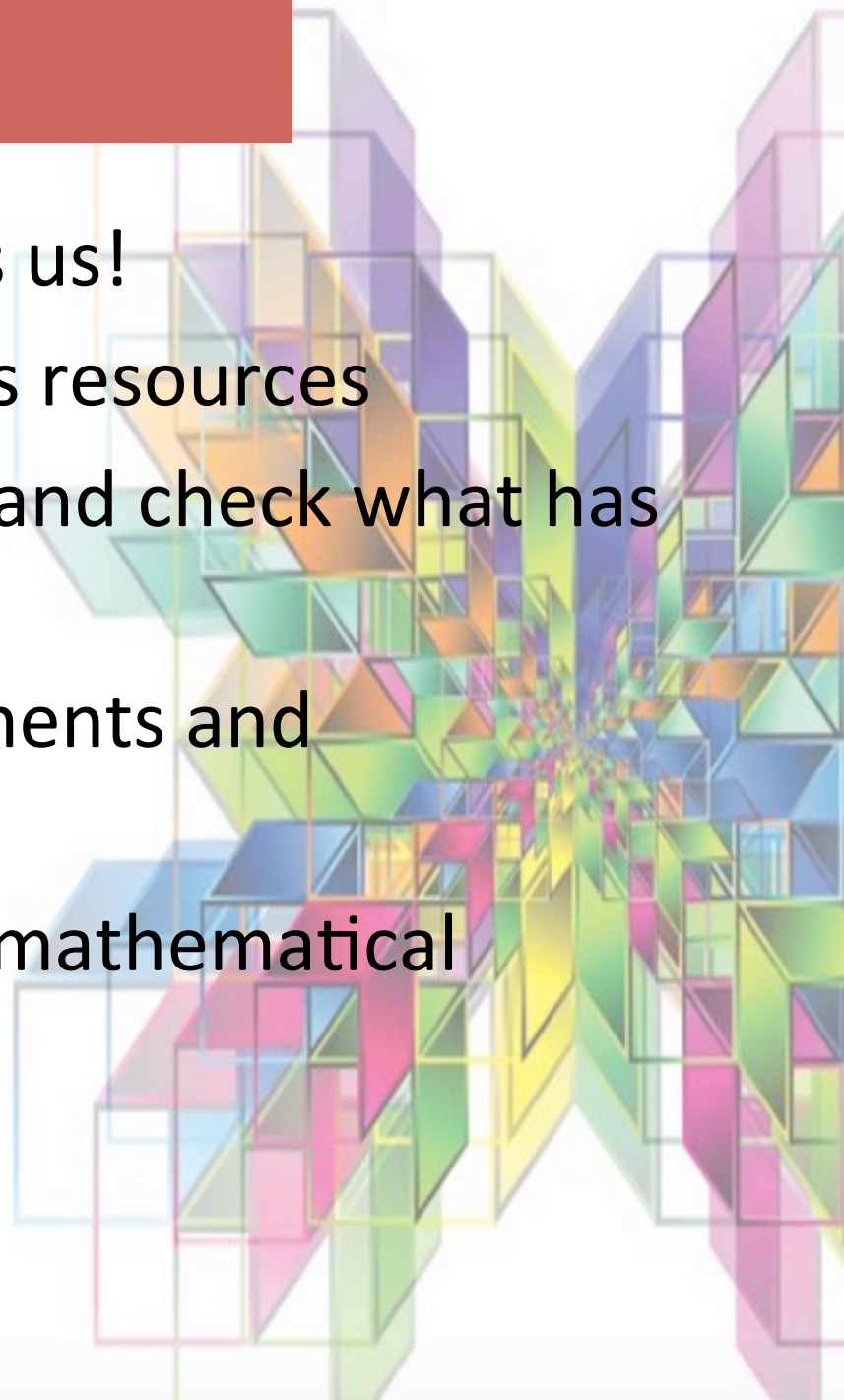
SUPPORT

- <http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/mathematics>
- Show My Homework
- Kerboodle (personal logins by half term)
- Diagnostic Questions (home learning set for all regularly)



HELPING AT HOME

- Please be positive towards us!
- Encourage access of Maths resources
- Encourage home learning and check what has been set
- Read the WWW/EBI comments and encourage MRI responses
- Show an interest in wider mathematical concepts



GCSE SCIENCES

CURRICULUM LEADER: MR G. HASKINS

GCSE Trilogy Science
GCSE Biology
GCSE Chemistry
GCSE Physics



SPECIFICATIONS



<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse>



COURSE CONTENT

- 100 % examination which are all terminal (2 papers for each Science)
- Core Practical content ('Required Practical') examined in the terminal papers
- Core Numeracy content also 10–30 % of final papers.



BIOLOGY CONTENT

- Cell Biology
- Organisation
- Infection and response
- Bioenergetics
- Homeostasis and response
- Inheritance, variation and evolution
- Ecology



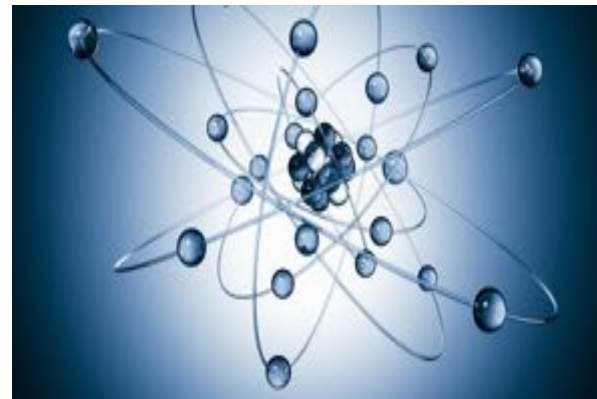
CHEMISTRY CONTENT

- Atomic Structure and the periodic table
- Bonding, structure and the properties of matter
- Quantitative chemistry
- Chemical changes
- Energy changes
- The rate and extent of chemical change
- Organic chemistry
- Chemical analysis
- Chemistry of the atmosphere
- Using resources



PHYSICS CONTENT

- Forces
- Energy
- Waves
- Electricity
- Magnetism and Electromagnetism
- Particle model of matter
- Atomic structure



MATHEMATICAL SKILLS

- Standard Form and order of magnitude
- Estimates and significant figures
- Averages
- Simple probability
- Algebra skills
- Graphs



SUCCESSFUL STUDENTS

- Ask questions
- Use evidence and make links
- Solve problems (this only comes with practice)
- Understand and use correct terminology
- Know the facts



HELPING AT HOME

- www.kerboodle.com
- https://www.cgpbbooks.co.uk/School/books_gcse_science_aqa
- <http://www.youtube.com/user/myGCSEscience>
- <https://www.youtube.com/user/virtualschooluk>

email

- hgh@highdown.reading.sch.uk















**USING THE
LIGHT FROM
HIS LOCAL
McDONALDS**

**BECAUSE HIS
FAMILY IS SO
POOR.**



**Growth Mindset +
Ethic of Excellence =
SUCCESS!**