



ST. MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC GRAMMAR SCHOOL

AS Preparation Into the Sixth Form

2014-2015



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"I'm glad I came to St. Michael's for the 6th Form. It has been a good learning experience. The teaching is great and the atmosphere is friendly with a good sense of community."

"The school is very supportive and ambitious for its students. It makes them believe in themselves and that they can achieve their goals."

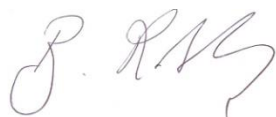
"There is a wide range of subjects and the school tried to accommodate whatever subjects we wanted to do."

Introduction

This booklet has been designed to prepare you for life in the Sixth Form at St. Michael's. Each Head of Department has prepared a page which includes recommended reading on and around the subject and/or useful websites. In each subject you will have a task to complete before the beginning of term in September.

Enjoy exploring the links and embracing your chosen AS subjects.

We all look forward to seeing you in September.



B. Roberts

Head of Sixth Form

Art

To begin the AS art course we want you to show us your creativity, inventiveness and skills. Please undertake the following tasks which we hope you will enjoy doing.

Go on an adventure with no money. Document this in an inventive way.

Also we expect you to be aware of what is happening in the world of art.

Visit galleries and museums over the summer break. In an A5 sketchbook document your visits by responding to at least one piece of art in each show. This can be written as well as practical. Say what interests you about the art you see.

We would like you to see at least 3 exhibitions

Bring this with you to your first art lesson where you need to be prepared to share/show your work.

Potential galleries for visits

Tate Gallery <http://www.tate.org.uk/>

The National Gallery of Art <http://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/>

The Serpentine Gallery <http://www.serpentinegallery.org/>

The Barbican Gallery <http://www.barbican.org.uk/artgallery>

Hayward Gallery <http://www.southbankcentre.co.uk/venues/hayward-gallery>

The White Cube <http://www.whitecube.com/>

Iniva (Institute of International Visual Arts) <http://www.iniva.org/>

Camden Arts Centre <http://www.camdenartscentre.org/home/>

Jerwood Space http://www.jerwoodspace.co.uk/gal_00.html

The Design Museum <http://designmuseum.org/>

Gargosian Gallery <http://www.gagosian.com/>

Biology

The Edexcel AS and A2 course is designed to follow on from double or triple Science GCSE. This means that you do not need to read any specific books before you start the A level course. However, we do strongly recommend that you familiarise yourself with the websites listed in the guidance that follows. We also urge that you order Biological Sciences Review and we will give you details on how to do this shortly after you start your course.

Essential preparation

Before you start you should download the specification from the Edexcel website <http://www.edexcel.com/quals/gce/gce08/biology>

Past papers and specimen materials can also be downloaded from this site.

Every student will need a text book – Edexcel AS Biology Students Book (ISBN 978-1-4058-9632-0) A number of students have bought the following book as well and have found it very helpful: GCE AS Biology Students Book (Salters-Nuffield)

Wider reading and preparation

We would like you to visit both the Natural History Museum and the Wellcome Collection before you start. Entrance to these Scientific Institutions is free for students. If possible also visit the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew or at Wakehurst Place (RH17 6TN) to find out about their role in conservation. A visit to the MRC National Institute for Medical Research at Mill Hill is also highly recommended.

The Wellcome Trust

Website <http://www.wellcome.ac.uk>

There are interesting publications to download and you can sign up for future free publications.

The Wellcome Collection itself is at 183 Euston Road, London, NW1 2BE

Natural History Museum

For full details of free events and lectures explore their website <http://www.nhm.ac.uk>

The Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

<http://www.kew.org> for full details

The MRC National Institute for Medical Research at Mill Hill

<http://www.nimr.mrc.ac.uk>

Pre-course assignment

Find three biology based stories that have appeared in the press in the last 18 months. Research the biology behind these stories. You will be asked to do a presentation to the rest of your class based on one of these pieces of research in the first term.

Chemistry

1. Recommended reading for Chemistry students-

A Short History of Nearly Everything by Bill Bryson
(Witty, engaging, a truly impressive book)

2. Text book required in September

AS Chemistry by George Facer (2nd edition) ISBN 978-0-340-95760-8
Published by Philip Allan Updates

3. Pre-course Assignment

As you know, there is a significant jump from GCSE to A level. To help you prepare for your AS studies you should do some 'bridging' work before September.

If you go to the school website (www.st-michaels.barnet.sch.uk) you will find work in 'Into the 6th form' of the Pupils section. You can also find a link by going to Curriculum, KS5 and scroll down to the end of the page for 'Chemistry – Into Year 12'.

This link will take you to a copy of a workbook. You should use the workbook for reading the sections shown below and for tackling the questions indicated.

You can check your answers with the answers section at the end of the work book. **There will be a test to see if you understand the work covered in Exercises 1, 2 and 3 in the third week of the autumn term.**

Reading – from GCE Chemistry Work Book	Questions to do
1. Section 1 Atoms, structure of the atom (pages 1-3)	Exercise 1 Calculation of molar mass of compound (even numbered questions, pages 5-7)
2. Section 2 Chemical formulae (pages 9-11)	Exercise 2 (even numbered questions pages, pages 13-17)
3. Section 3 Naming of compounds (pages 19-22)	Exercise 3 (All questions, pages 23-25)
4. Reading only The Mole (pages 27-29)	Exercises 4a and 4b You should attempt Q 5,10, 15, 20,etc (pages 33-39)

Don't forget to check your answers with the answers section at the end of the work book.

Classics

Suggested reading and websites for those starting Classical Civilisation AS.

CIV1F The Life and Times of Cicero

Romans Usborne (2009) 9781409509523

Bradley, P. *Ancient Rome: Using the Evidence* Cambridge University Press (2000) 978-0521793919

Harris, R. *Imperium* (Various publishers) (2006) and *Lustrum*

Holland, T. *Rubicon: The Triumph and Tragedy of the Roman Republic* Little, Brown Book Group (Abacus) 978-0349115634

Rawson, E. *Cicero: A Portrait* Duckworth Publishers (2007) 9780862920517

Stockton, D. *Cicero: A Political Biography* Oxford University Press (1970) 978-0198720331

Taylor, D. *Cicero and Rome* Gerald Duckworth & Co Ltd (Bristol Classical Press)(1998) 978-1853995064

Wiedemann, T.

Cicero and the End of the Roman Republic Gerald Duckworth & Co Ltd (Bristol Classical Press) (1998) 978-1853991936

CIV2B Homer *Odyssey*

Clarke, H.C. *The Art of the Odyssey* BCP (1994) 978-1853990526

Finley, M.I. *The World of Odysseus* Pimlico (1999) 978-0712665735

Griffin, J. *Homer, The Odyssey: A Student Guide* CUP (2003) 978-0521539784

The Odyssey, translated by Rieu, E.V (Penguin Classics) 978-0140449112

Websites

www.classicpage.com

www.perseus.tufts.edu

www.rdg.ac.uk/classics/Link/index.php

Tasks:

- Read and enjoy the Penguin version of the *Odyssey* (see ISBN above)
- Create a timeline on one page of what you consider to be the most important events in Rome's history from 202 BC (Defeat of Hannibal) to 117AD (Death of Emperor Trajan).

Design and Technology

PRE-COURSE SUMMER PROJECT

Research work to be done prior to the start of the course:

Visit the New Designers Part 2 exhibition at the Business Design Centre, 52 Upper Street, N1 0QH near the Angel Islington. It is open from 2nd to 5th July 2014. Opening times - Thursday Friday and Saturday 10am – 6pm. For more information, check their web site www.newdesigners.com. It costs £10.00 + £1.50 booking fee. It's worth it.

- This is a show of the work by students graduating from a wide range of design courses throughout the UK. While there, talk to the students about their work and the course – they are friendly!
- Look at the design models and also the drawings.
- During your visit, select about four products that you find interesting or innovative. Sketch them and write brief notes to explain them and what you think makes them interesting to you. You can take photographs, but ask the students first.

Investigate personal music systems from record players through to I-pods, with sketches, annotated photographs and notes; show how the technology for reproducing music has changed. Explain changes in manufacturing processes, style, function, sustainability and the way it is used. Include your own experience of how music systems and the way we use them has changed in your life.

OR

Investigate packaging for a particular product e.g. cosmetics or confectionary, with sketches, annotated photographs, real life examples and notes, show how packaging has changed and developed over the last century. Explain changes in manufacturing processes, style, function, sustainability and the way it is used. Include your own experience of how packaging, including its information has changed in your life time.

IF

If you travel to another country over the holiday, collect photographs of products that you see that are different to those in this country. They can be anything at all, common or unusual items, products, packaging, etc

Drama and Theatre Studies

Go to the Theatre.....

See everything you can. Try and see different styles of theatre, go to small scale theatre venues as well as big west end productions. See what is available at local theatre schools; they often have high standard productions with cheaper tickets.

Find out more about the role of the director and the designer.....

Many productions will have a specific performances where there is the opportunity to talk to the director, actors or designers.

During the course you will be studying plays by Henrik Ibsen, Oscar Wilde, Federico Lorca and others. If you can see any of their plays it will be a beneficial start to the course.

Visit the National Theatre bookshop on the South Bank. Widen your knowledge of a variety of different Theatre Practitioners.

Recommended Reading

- An Actor Prepares by Constantin Stanislavski
- Building A Character by Constantin Stanislavski

These books outline the theory of acting and are essential reading to help you develop your naturalistic acting skills.

Useful websites

<http://www.stevenberkoff.com/>

<http://www.complicite.org>

<http://www.kneehigh.co.uk/>

<http://www.nationaltheatre.org.uk/>

http://web.aqa.org.uk/qual/gce/arts/drama_noticeboard.php?id=06&prev=06

Economics

DO all of this before the end of August!

Step 1: Understand why you want to study economics

Most students have never studied this subject prior to AS level so it is really important to answer this obvious question. Economics is about how our society provides us with most of the things which we want but it also explains why we can't have everything that we want or even need. You won't be interested in this as an academic subject unless you are already interested in current affairs. You must watch the news (Newsnight BBC2) and read The Economics Editorial in the Business section of The Sunday Times regularly as the subject is concerned with explaining recent and current economic events. Usually economists are also interested in politics in order to understand how decisions are made. You should be interested in answering questions like the following examples:

Why are some countries much richer than others?
Why is there unemployment?
Why should we worry about a persistent Trade deficit?
Should we join the Euro?
What can the government do to tackle inflation and unemployment?
Do we need economic growth and how can we achieve it?

Look at the following websites:

<http://whystudyeconomics.ac.uk/>

<http://www.edexcel.com/quals/gce/gce08/economics/Pages/default.aspx>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MdlrpCqdcVo&feature=related>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iWgMGRHbytE&feature=related>

Step 2: Read at least one of the following:

Only do this if you have fully completed Step 1!

So far so good. You should have decided that you are now interested in this subject. Now you need to prepare some of the background knowledge that will help you get off to a flying start once you start your AS level. Select one of the following books to read. If you find the first one a little boring change to another and try again. If you find them both boring then choose to study another subject when you register at the start of term.

1. Everlasting Light Bulbs - John Kay
2. The Undercover Economist or The logic of life -Tim Harford
3. The State We're In - Will Hutton
4. Freakonomics - Steven D Levitt & Stephen J Dubner

**Step 3: You are now ready to start studying Economics at St. Michaels.
See you in September.**

English Literature

A booklet is issued to all Year 12 students but you will also find an electronic copy on the English section of Fronter. The booklet is filled with useful information about the course content, approaches to reading and writing at A level, enrichment within English, and the study of Literature in general.

We expect you to take your academic work seriously. You must attend all your lessons and participate in after school tutorials, theatre and residential trips, study days and conferences as well as keep up to date with coursework. There are strict deadlines for handing in essays and coursework.

Provided you study well and keep up with the work, you should enjoy your course immensely. Teachers have chosen exciting and stimulating texts for you to develop your reading skills as well as provide a wide range of texts, some of which may be of your own choosing, that will prepare you for undergraduate study especially should you intend to read English at University.

In preparation of your AS and A2 course, we have provided both an example of our general reading list for 6th formers as well as a more specialised one in preparation of the Gothic genre which will commence in the third term of the AS course.

We expect all our AS students to have read some of the texts on both lists and be ready to make an oral presentation on one of the gothic texts during the induction period of Year 12.

<u>Some of our General Reading List</u>	<u>Reading List for the Gothic Genre</u>
<p>ACHEME, Chinua : Things Fall Apart CONRAD, Joseph : Heart of Darkness ADICHE, Chimamanda: Half of a Yellow Sun DICKINS, Charles : David Copperfield ADAMS, Douglas : The Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy DOYLE, Roddy : The Barrytown Trilogy ALLENDE, Isabel : The House of Spirits ELIOT, George : The Mill on the Floss AMIS, Kingsley : Lucky Jim ELTON, Ben : Gridlock ANGELOU, Maya : I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings EMECHETA, Buchi : Second Class Citizen ATWOOD, Margaret : The Handmaid’s Tale FAULKS, Sebastian: Birdsong AUSTEN, Jane : Pride and Prejudice FITZGERALD, Scott: The Great Gatsby BAINBRIDGE, Beryl : The Dress Maker FORSTER, E. M. : Passage to India BALLARD, J.G. : Empire of the Sun FORSTER, Margaret : Have The Men Had Enough BANKS, Iain : The Wasp Factory FOWLES, John : The French Lieutenant’s Woman BARKER, Pat: Regeneration trilogy GARDAM, Jane : Crusoe’s Daughter BARNES, Julian : History of the World in 10½ Chapters GASKELL, Elizabeth : Wives and Daughters, Cranford BARRY, Sebastian: A Long, Long Way GIBBONS, Stella : Cold Comfort Farm BERNIERES, Louis de: Captain Correlli’s Mandolin, Birds Without Wings GOLDING, William : Lord of the Flies & The Spire BOYD, William : Brazaville Beach GORDIMER, Nadine : Burger’s Daughter & July’s People HARDY, Thomas : Tess of the D’Urbervilles ISHIGURO, Kazuo : The Remains of the Day LEE, Harper : To Kill a Mockingbird MCEWAN, Ian : Atonement</p>	<p>18th Century Walpole, Horace : <i>The Castle of Otranto</i> Radcliffe, Ann Ward : <i>The Mysteries of Udolpho</i> M. S Lewis : <i>The Monk</i> Hogg, James : <i>Confessions of a Justified Sinner</i></p> <p>19th Century Austen, Jane : <i>Northanger Abbey</i> Bronte, Charlotte : <i>Jane Eyre</i> Bronte, Emily, : <i>Wuthering Heights</i> Collins, Wilkie : <i>The Woman in White.</i> Dickens, Charles : <i>Bleak House</i> Doyle, Arthur Conan, Sir : <i>The Hound of the Baskervilles</i> Hugo, Victor : <i>The Hunchback of Notre Dame</i> James, Henry : <i>The Turn of the Screw</i> Poe, Edgar Allen : <i>The Fall of the House of Usher, Pit and the Pendulum</i> Shelley, Mary Wollstonecraft : <i>Frankenstein, or, The Modern Prometheus</i> Stevenson, Robert Louis : <i>Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde</i> Stoker, Bram : <i>Dracula.</i> Wilde, Oscar : <i>The Picture of Dorian Gray</i></p> <p>20th Century Allende, Isabel : <i>The House of the Spirits</i> Bradbury, Ray : <i>Something Wicked this Way Comes</i> Carter, Angela : <i>The Magic Toyshop, The Bloody Chamber</i> Du Maurier, Daphne : <i>Rebecca,</i> Eco, Umberto : <i>The Name of the Rose</i> Hill, Susan : <i>The Woman in Black</i> James, P. D. : <i>Original Sin</i> Lessing, Doris May : <i>The Fifth Child.</i> Peake, Mervyn : <i>Gormanghast, Trilogy</i> Susskind, Peter : <i>Perfume</i></p>

Geography

The AS/A2 level geography course is an exciting, topical and contemporary subject. You will be following the Edexcel specification, which will include topics such as:

AS	A2
Natural Hazards	Energy Security
Climate Change	Water Issues
Globalisation	Biodiversity
Coastal Issues (Development, erosion, landforms, risks faced by sea level rise and flooding)	Superpowers e.g. USA, Brazil, Russia, India and China
Migration	Economic development of countries (Including trade and aid)
Rural and urban Inequalities	Tectonic Hazards
	Life on the margins (Drought, desertification, malnutrition, food supply)

It is essential for A-level geographers to keep up to date with current happenings in the world. Much of the course is supported by detailed case studies of geographical events or situations and you will be expected to read a quality newspaper as part of your background reading e.g. The Times, the Guardian, The Independent.

The BBC website contains a wealth of information. As well as the BBC online news area, they are various radio shows, which you can download and listen to on your iPod. BBC Radio 4 hosts shows e.g. In our Time, Material World, Costing the Earth and From Our Own Correspondence. You do not need to listen to every show but check the listings beforehand to see if they contain any relevant information.

The following are a selection of magazines, which contain a vast array of relevant articles. All the magazines have websites, which you may be able to download articles from e.g. National Geographic, The Economist, Geographical Magazine, New Scientist. Geography can be represented through TV programmes and travel writing. See below for a selection:

Travel writing/Photography suggestions	TV Programmes
Bill Bryson: Icons of England, African Diary, Neither Here Nor There, Notes from a Small Island	Documentaries: Planet Earth, Coast Men of Rock, History of the British Isles
Michael Palin: Around the World in Eighty Days	Current affairs: Dispatches (Channel 4) and Panorama (BBC 1)
Yann Arthus-Bertrand: The New Earth from Above	

Summer task

Start a folder containing cuttings of any relevant articles. You may find the weekend editions of newspapers have many relevant articles, as they contain a round up of the weekly news.

Government and Politics

Pre-Course Summer Work

It is important that you keep up to date with the news and current affairs over the summer holidays. You should watch high quality programmes such as the Andrew Marr Show on BBC1 (Sundays 9.00am), Question Time (Thursdays 10.30pm), Newsnight on BBC 2 (Weeknights 10.30pm). Programmes such as Panorama and Dispatches also provide coverage of contemporary political affairs. You must also read a broadsheet newspaper daily.

Recommended Reading

Dunleavy, Patrick et al. *Developments in British Politics*. Palgrave Macmillan, 2006

McNaughton, Neil. *Edexcel Government and Politics for AS*. Hodder Education 2008 (more related to the AS course than the others)

Jones, Bill et al. *Politics UK*. Pearson Education 2007

Heywood, Andrew. *Essentials of UK Politics*.

For something more readable and chatty in style, try:

Marr, Andrew. *A History of Modern Britain*. Macmillan, 2007.
(This book includes a review of politics in the UK since 1945)

Crick, Bernard. *Democracy: A Very Short Introduction*. OUP, 2002

Rawnsley, Andrew. *The End of the Party*. Hodder, 2010

Task

For the first Government and Politics lesson in September you will need to produce a PowerPoint presentation on **one** of the following:

- (i) Analysis of the last general election
- (ii) One of the main political parties
- (iii) The electoral system
- (iv) A pressure group

History

AS History at St Michael's

We study the OCR A History syllabus. The topics currently studied are F961 Liberals and Conservatives 1846-1895 and F964 the Origins and Course of the French Revolution.

Preparatory Work

The following is a list of recommended reading. 'A Very Short Introduction to History' by John Arnold. This is an essential buy and will be discussed at the start of the course. Optional titles are 'What is History' by EH Carr and 'In Defence of History' by Richard Evans. All these titles get you thinking about the nature of Historical study, its value to you and society. The ideas contained can be applied to your studies but may also make you look towards the study of History at University. Books with good introductory texts for the AS courses and will serve as accompanying titles throughout Y12. They are 'A Very Short Introduction to the French Revolution' by William Doyle and 'A Very Short Introduction to Nineteenth Century Britain' by Christopher Harvie and HGC Matthew. Reading these prior to and during your course will help you be familiar with the course topics and help you participate confidently to your studies.

Another preparatory task is to read a lengthy article in a broadsheet newspaper, especially a strongly opinionated article. Make a list of points about the main arguments which the article contains. Identify how the language and tone of the article helps to convey the views of the writer. Write a brief article which challenges the writer. Bring both your and the original article to the course start.

The OCR website contains a specification for F961 Liberals and Conservatives (p27) and F964 The French Revolution (p60) which outlines the key themes covered as part of these studies.

F961 Conservatives and Liberals 1846-1895

This is an essay based paper. It is planned that it will be examined in January, 5 months after the start of the course. The essays require knowledge of the topics as a prerequisite for a good answer. However, high level answers must contain strong supported judgments about the pattern of historical change, the significance of individuals or periods of government and the link between individuals, events and the broader historical context.

The 19th Century was a time of economic, social and political transformation in Britain. The society of the time and its political classes faced immense challenges and generated very distinct governmental approaches in response to these challenges. The study of this topic tests your ability to make sense of this interaction between broad societal trends and the actions of different governments.

Essays are set regularly and reading of the set textbook as well as additional reading of school library books is essential for developing your ability to apply your own understanding to the topics studied. Guidance is given as to what is the 'right answer' but you are quickly expected to offer your own judgments and analysis of history.

F964 Origins & Course of French Revolution 1775-1795

This is a documents based paper. The exam paper will present you with 5 sources. You will be expected to evaluate the sources with discrimination and reach judgments about how to apply them to particular enquiries. Doing this requires you to take into account the totality of the evidence. Also, you must look at the sources individually but also as a collection which gives rise to a particular debate about a view or interpretation of history. This is a demanding skill and will be developed and practiced throughout the year. Your knowledge of the topic, its events and what drove that sequence of events must be integrated into your study of the sources. That said that is not the central consideration of the course. Its core requirement is the ability to think critically about a given set of sources in relation to a given enquiry.

The French Revolutionary events were momentous and for some sickeningly shocking. The events of these years in some senses created a new country. They certainly reverberated for decades to come. They were anything but the evolving political and social pattern of history experienced by Britain. They demand understanding.

Regular source based assessments will help develop and practice the skills of source evaluation needed for success in this course.

Latin

Suggested reading and websites for those starting Latin AS.

- Refresh your memory of the major features of the Latin language at the link below:

www.jact.org/downloads/2007LatinHandouts

- Familiarise yourself with new words by looking at the defined vocabulary list for AS Latin:

www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/type/gce/classics/latin/index.html

- Buy yourself a copy of Robert Harris' *Imperium* and acquaint yourself with Cicero and the shady politics of the Late Roman Republic (ISBN 978-0099527664)

- Any visit to a museum with a Greek or Roman section will be a source of inspiration, especially the collections at the British Museum. Also very interesting is Sir John Soane's Museum (13 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London) – a treasure trove of antiquities and artifacts from the ancient world. Explore the website below:

www.soane.org/history

- Wander around the National Gallery (it's free!) and view some masterpieces of renaissance art with classical themes; in particular, Titian's *Bacchus and Ariadne* and Botticelli's *Venus and Mars*.

www.nationalgallery.org.uk

Mathematics

In order to access the challenges of A-Level Mathematics it is important to be prepared. We require you to have a number of basic key skills that you will have learnt during your GCSE course and will be called upon during your time in both AS and A2 Mathematics.

To help you prepare for your AS studies you should do all of the following key skills exercises before September. See website (www.st-michaels.barnet.sch.uk) for the PDF document. Either go to 'Into the 6th form' of the Pupils section, or, Curriculum, KS5 and scroll down to the end of the page for 'Mathematics – AS Preparation.

1. Law of indices
2. Straight Line graphs
3. Algebraic fractions
4. Manipulating algebraic expressions
5. Changing the subject of the formula
6. Linear equations, inequalities and simultaneous equations
7. Solving Quadratics Equations
8. Graphs –sketch and recognise common graphs
9. Transformations of graphs
10. Trigonometry
11. Vectors
12. Statistics
13. Probability

If you are not sure of any topic, use a GCSE textbook for reference or look at <http://www.cimt.plymouth.ac.uk/projects/mepres/step-up/default.htm> or at www.mymaths.co.uk.

The questions must be completed and you should bring any concerns to your Maths' teachers in the first few weeks in September (maths clinics are held every Mondays from 3.50 pm until 5.30 pm in J12). Don't forget to mark your work using the answers provided at the back.

Note: there will be two Key Skills Tests on these topics in September.

Textbook in Year 12

You will need to get two textbooks

- Core 1 and 2 for OCR (Cambridge Advanced Level Mathematics) by Douglas Quadling and Hugh Neill (ISBN = 978-0521548960)
- Statistics 1 for OCR (Cambridge Advanced Level Mathematics) by Steve Dobbs and Jane Miller (ISBN = 978-0521548939)

Wider Reading

Please see the following websites for Maths related articles:

<http://nrich.maths.org/forstudents>

<http://plus.maths.org>

Have an enjoyable and productive summer; we look forward to meeting you in the Autumn.

Modern Foreign Languages

Learning a language is not just about learning vocabulary and grammar, it is also about the whole cultural experience! Therefore, in order to give you a better cultural knowledge of your languages and also develop your independent study skills, you will have to create a scrapbook over the summer holiday.

You will have to show your scrapbook to your classmates and your teacher in the 1st lesson back in September.

The scrapbook must prove to us your commitment to the course you have chosen. The following headings will guide you through your project:

Explore and investigate!

You need to be curious, so include newspaper or magazine cuttings on anything you find which concerns the language and countries you are going to study. Your GCSE topics were mainly limited to personal matters and experiences. The next step is to try to develop a broader knowledge of the target language countries' society, government, history, fashion, art, literature, music, lifestyle and customs. Use these as headings and try to find at least five people or things connected with each.

Read!

Include articles (printed or photocopied, then annotated by you) from foreign newspapers and magazines – you can find some in local libraries, newsagents or online. You can also include information from guide books to gain an understanding of topics such as the geography, main cities and towns, culture and food.

Listen!

Tune in to radio broadcasts and music from the country whose language you are studying. This will not only sharpen up your listening skills, but you will hear names of people who are important. Remember to make notes in your scrapbook, so we can check the listening activities you undertook.

Watch!

Watch television programmes and films in the target language. The BBC website has links to online programmes in a wide range of languages. Again remember we must see some kind of proof in your sketchbook.

Express yourself!

Make a list of all the words and phrases you know which express your opinions and show your feelings. Make a start by writing some in English, such as: "In my opinion..." "I can't accept that...", "I agree..." and find their equivalent. You will then be able to use them in class to express your opinions on various issues.

Useful sites:

The Internet makes the world a very small place and enables you to gain an excellent insight into other cultures and access information quickly and easily. Start making a list of all the websites that will be useful to you for your revision, for your homework and for your personal extra work.

Music

To help prepare for the AS Course, complete as much of the following background work as possible.

Listening:

1. Try to go to at least **one** classical concert or recital of your choice over the summer
2. Get to know a selection of the following:
 - 2 concertos on your main instrument / 2 classical pieces for your voice type
 - A symphony by Beethoven
 - A Bach chorale
 - A concerto by Mozart
 - A lieder by Schubert

To prepare more specifically for the AS Syllabus listen to the following:

3. **Berlioz** – Symphonie Fantastique (March to the Scaffold at least)
4. **Corelli** – A Concerto Grosso of your choice
5. **Schumann** – Fantasie in C Major
6. **Stravinsky** - Pulcinella
7. **Weelkes** – ‘As Vesta was from Latmos Hill Descending’
8. **Haydn** – ‘The Wanderer’ and ‘Sailors Song’
9. **The Beatles** – ‘She’s Leaving Home’ and ‘Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds’

Performing:

Prepare a solo performance in **any** style to share in September. This performance can be in any style, accompanied or unaccompanied and should be no shorter than 1 minute and no longer than 3 minutes.

Theory:

Make sure you are able to recognise and identify the key signatures for all major and minor keys up to 4 flats and sharps. Make sure you are able to quickly identify notes on both the bass and treble clef.

Psychology

The course:

A general definition of Psychology is the scientific study of the mind and behaviour. The course is AQA specification A and comprises of four units. In year 12 the students will study units one and two and year 13 will study units three and four although there is scope to study Psychology as an AS in year 13.

Unit one:	Memory	Child Psychology	Research Methods
Unit two	Stress	Abnormal Psychology	Social Influence

Recommended Reading:

50 Psychology classics	Tom Butler- Bowden
Foundations of Psychology	Nicky Hayes
Oxford Companion to the Mind	Oxford Press
Psychology AS for AQA	Cardwell, Clark & Meldrum
Man Watching	Desmond Morris
People Watching	Desmond Morris

Psychology Review Magazine

Task:

- (1) To familiarise yourself with the various research methods used in Psychology simply sit in a coffee bar and 'people watch' (observe) for half an hour. Watch the people go by and write what you see taking particular notice at how people use body language to communicate messages to others.
- (2) Research the 'History of Psychology' looking at how Psychology has developed from introspection (Wilhelm Wundt) through to Psychoanalysis (Freud). Look at how Psychology has developed in the techniques employed from early research methods through to the methods used in modern society.

Physics

One of the first topics that we will be studying in Year 12 is motion. Some of the work below is designed to get you tuned into the motion topic. Enjoy exploring the links and have a go at the questions. DON'T WORRY IF YOU FIND SOME ASPECTS DIFFICULT, WE WILL SORT OUT ANY PROBLEMS NEXT TERM.

Look at the link below, are you familiar with most of the ideas on motion graphs? Look at The Basics of Linear Motion and Displacement and Velocity Time-Graphs, do you know the key terms?

[S-Cool- A-level Physics](#)

The link below looks at motion time graphs. Try to ensure that you understand how the graphs are drawn from observing the motion of the body.

http://wps.aw.com/aw_knight_physics_1/17/4389/1123675.cw/content/index.html

Work through 1.1 and try to work through 1.2 (you will never have met some of these terms, so do not worry if you find them difficult).

Test your knowledge using this website.

Now try some more questions using the link below; the answers are published at the end of the questions. Mark your own work.

More questions can be found on the School website.

Our School text-book is **EDEXCEL PHYSICS for AS**

by Tim AKRILL & Graham GEORGE

For further reading try the following books:

***Thinking Physics* Is *Gedanken Physics* by Lewis Carroll Epstein**

***The Flying Circus of Physics; WITH ANSWERS* by Jearl Walker**

OCR – Philosophy of Religion and Religious Ethics Syllabus H172 – Advanced Subsidiary

Pre-Course Summer Reading Materials

1. Sophie's World by Jostein Gaarder, Publ: Phoenix ISBN: 9781857992915
2. A Little History of Philosophy by Nigel Warburton, Publ: Yale University Press ISBN: 9780300187793
3. Ethics Matter by Peter and Charlotte Vardy, Publ: SCM Press ISBN: 9780334043911

Tasks:

- Follow the RE Department's Twitter account @ SixthForm RE
- Watch "The Matrix Trilogy"
- Research Richard Dawkins and watch at least TWO clips from YOUTUBE in which he features
- Keep a scrap book of ethical issues which appear in the press over the summer
- Log onto the A Level Ethical Theory and Applied Ethics sections on the website www.rsrevision.com and try out some of their interactive games.

Sociology

The course:

A very broad definition of Sociology would be the study of groups and individuals in society. There is a division between the two major schools of thought Macro Sociology and Micro Sociology. Macro approaches look at the effects of structures on people and the Micro approaches look at the role of the individual in society. The course is divided into four units. Units one and two are studied in year 12 and units three and four are studied in year 13.

Unit one	Culture & Identity
Unit two	Sociology of Education & Research Methods
Unit three	World Sociology or Sociology of Religion
Unit four	Crime & Deviance & Social Theory

Recommended Reading:

Sociology: Themes & Perspectives	Haralambos
Sociology	Anthony Giddens
Dictionary of Sociology	Concise Oxford Dictionary
Being & Nothingness	Jean Paul Sartre
Sociology for AS-Level	Moore Chapman & Aiken

Task:

There are a wide variety of Sociological related programmes such as Question Time, Horizon and many other documentaries. Watch a programme of your choice and analyse the topics with the following categories in mind: race & ethnicity, gender, social class, disability, age, sexuality. Look at how the above categories affect the chosen topic.

Sociology can be seen in action in all manners of life. Investigate an area of choice and look at how it impacts on society.

What role does it play?

Is there inequality in how it is applied?

Do all groups experience the problem in the same way?