



Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to you with an update on the upcoming WAVE exams that every student in year 11 will be taking place next week.

The focus for all year 11 students has been the WAVE exams. I have temporarily suspended all other homework tasks and asked the core departments to intensify their preparation.

Tutor time has been focusing on the importance of exams, preparation and coping strategies for our students. As we approach the final few days, I thought I would write home to just remind you about the way the exams operate.

This year group are now very experienced in the process of sitting formal exams in the sports hall. Their immaculate conduct during the end of year 10 exams demonstrated that as a cohort, they certainly are close to being exam ready. In order to further prepare them, all exams taken this year will be run following the JCQ rules and regulations. These are the same rules that they sat their year 10 exams under in July. All the exams will take place in the sports hall to allow for maximum space and ventilation.

Students must be responsible for their exam equipment and so I would ask that you double check they have a transparent pencil case with many black ink pens/biros, pencils, rulers, rubbers and a calculator. The only drinks allowed in the exam hall are see through water bottles, without labels. The only drink allowed is water. Mobile phones will need to be switched off and placed in their school bag. These are kept in a secure area. New JCQ guidelines have also forbidden watches to be worn. These must be in school bags too. There are plenty of digital clocks in the exam hall.

For exam 1, students will attend form time as per usual and then line up in the tennis court area. At the end of each exam, students must return to their timetabled lesson.

For exam 2, students will have their break as normal. At 11.20 they should then line up in the tennis court area. At the end of each exam, students must return to their timetabled lesson.

Period 5 runs as a normal lesson as per the timetable.

	9:00am – Exam 1	Duration	11:30am – Exam 2	Duration
<b>Monday 15<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Maths F Paper 1 (non calc) Maths H Paper 1 (non calc)	1hr 30 1hr 30	Biology Combined Science (F) Combined Science (H)	1hr 45 1hr 15 1hr 15
<b>Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Maths F Paper 2 (calc) Maths H Paper 2 (calc)	1hr 30 1hr 30	English Language	1hr 45
<b>Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Maths F Paper 3 (calc) Maths H Paper 3 (calc)	1hr 30 1hr 30	Chemistry Combined Science (F) Combined Science (H)	1hr 45 1hr 15 1hr 15
<b>Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Physics Combined Science (F) Combined Science (H)	1hr 45 1hr 15 1hr 15		
<b>Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Catch up All students who have missed an exam during the week must report to the Exams Office after morning registration			



I am aware that some of our students are making applications for their Post 16 providers (sixth form, colleges etc) and these may require predicted grades. We are purposefully running the English, Maths and Science exams this early on to allow our students the opportunity to achieve the grades they need to apply. The WAVE exams will provide teachers, students and you both the grades achieved and predictions for the summer public exams. These could be significant in any applications.

The purpose of exams is to help prepare our students for 'the real thing' next summer. OfQual and JCQ have confirmed that exams will be taking place with some modifications. We now know that February 2022 will be a significant date in terms of more information being released. I will update you further when we know more. The nature of exams is that they do cause some anxiety and/or stress in some students. This is entirely natural and should cause you no alarm. However, we are aware that some students do struggle to cope with the pressures caused by exams. Should you have concern over the well-being of your son/daughter, please do not hesitate to contact the school where help/support is available.

I wish your son/daughter good luck during the WAVE exams

Pete Whitehouse (Assistant Headteacher – Outcomes)



## The Emmbrook School: English Department Wave 1 Exam Preparation

### **Content:**

During the Wave 1 Exams you will be examined for **English Language Paper 1.**

### **Specification:**

AQA (8700)

Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing.

### **Overview of Paper 1:**

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5: Writing
<b>A01</b> <b>List 4 things....</b> Identify explicit information Identify explicit ideas <b>4 marks</b>	<b>A02</b> <b>How does the writer's use of language...</b> Comment, explain, analyse <b>8 marks</b>	<b>A02</b> <b>How does the writer structure...</b> Comment, explain, analyse <b>8 marks</b>	<b>A04</b> <b>To what extent do you agree?</b> Evaluate texts critically <b>20 marks</b>	<b>A05/A06</b> <b>Descriptive or narrative writing</b> Communicate clearly Organise information Use a range of vocab and sentences Accurate spelling and punctuation <b>40 marks</b>

### **Equipment needed:**

- ✓ Black pen
- ✓ Highlighter pens will also be useful to help you with your annotations in the exam.

### **Revision support:**

Make sure you are fully aware of the actions you need to complete in response to your Y10 PPEs. You should have a Pupil Action Plan in your assessment folders.

Your class teacher will guide you through the appropriate revision required for the exam and will provide you with additional resources that you can complete independently to prepare for the Wave exams.

### **Available Revision Resources:**



- ✓ **GCSE Pod:** Revision of reading and writing skills (you can browse independently or your teacher may assign pods to you? Log in to your GCSE Pod account through Office 365 to access a wide range of English and Literature revision resources and quizzes which have been assigned to you.



- ✓ **10 for 10 videos- aiming for level 4 / aiming for level 5:** These animated videos will guide you through 10 minutes of English Language exam preparation each day. You will also need to access the accompanying resources / extracts. These have been assigned to you via SMHW.

The password to access the vimeo videos is: **english2017!**



- ✓ **Pixl Independence:** Resources have been designed for YEAR 11 to support you with progression and independence. Student booklets have been assigned to you via SMHW.
- ✓ **Revision sessions:** The English department is running a wide range of 30 minute after school revision sessions to help you prepare. The Teams sessions will all be recorded so will be available on demand. The timetable can be found below:

Date	Session	Staff
7 <sup>th</sup> October	Subject Clinic (3pm E1.1)	KEL
	Literature Masterclass (3pm E1.2)	MLL
14 <sup>th</sup> October	Descriptive Writing (4pm Teams)	SPE
21 <sup>st</sup> October	Subject Clinic (3pm E1.1)	KEL
	Paper 1 Question 4 (4pm Teams)	MLL
	Narrative Writing (4pm Teams)	LHA
28 <sup>th</sup> October (Half Term)		
4 <sup>th</sup> November (Yr 11 PCE)		
11 <sup>th</sup> November	Subject Clinic (3pm E1.1)	KEL
	Literature Masterclass (3pm E1.2)	MLL
	Paper 1 Question 2 (4:15pm Teams)	AAL

- ✓ **Recommended Revision Guides:**

Reading and Writing (for papers 1 and 2)  
 Workbook: New GCSE Grade 9-1 English  
 Language AQA: GCSE Grade 9-1 (Collins GCSE  
 9-1 Snap Revision)

Revise AQA GCSE (9-1) English Language  
 Revision Workbook: for the 9-1 exams  
 (REVISE AQA GCSE English 2015)



For more information please contact [kellis@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:kellis@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)



## The Emmbrook School: Maths Department Wave 1 Exam Preparation

### Foundation Tier

Paper Type	Course code	Time	Content
Paper 1 (Non Calculator)	AQA-8300/1F	1h 30 mins	Any topic can appear in any paper.  Please see weightings for each topic area below.
Paper 2 (Calculator)	AQA-8300/2F	1h 30 mins	
Paper 3 ( Calculator)	AQA-8300/3F	1h 30 mins	

### Higher Tier

Paper Type	Course code	Time	Content
Paper 1 ( Non Calculator)	AQA-8300/1H	1h 30 mins	Any topic can appear in any paper.  Please see weightings for each topic area below.
Paper 2 (Calculator)	AQA-8300/2H	1h 30 mins	
Paper 3 (Calculator)	AQA-8300/3H	1h 30 mins	

### AQA Weightings:

The table below shows the approximate weightings of the topic areas for the overall tier of assessment, **not for each individual question paper**. Specific topics for higher and foundation tier candidates will be sent home with the students.

Topic Area	Foundation Weightings %	Higher Weightings %
Number	25	15
Algebra	20	30
Ratio	25	20
Geometry	15	20
Probability and Statistics	15	15

### Revision class information:

Revision classes for year 11 are being held every Tuesday (Wednesday for Mr Parry's class) after school from 3:00pm – 4:00pm. We do encourage all our students to attend in order to prepare for their upcoming exams. Revision classes focus on covering key topics, exam questions and aim to strengthen exam technique.

### Useful Websites for revision:

- 1) vle.mathswatch.co.uk – use the videos and the online questions to revise, a six week revision schedule is attached with this letter
- 2) OnMaths – This site provides an online maths paper for students to get immediate feedback on their grade
- 3) Sharepoint – Choose this for past papers which you can tackle and review with the markscheme
- 4) Corbettmaths.com – topic videos which can be useful for specific areas of difficulty.
- 5) Kerboodle – the online maths textbook is available on this site for question practice and topic review.

For more information please contact [lpansar@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:lpansar@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)



## The Emmbrook School: Science Department Wave 1 Exam Preparation

You will sit three exams, one for each Science.

Exam	Timing
GCSE Physics (11x1)	1 hr 45 mins
GCSE Biology (11x1)	
GCSE Chemistry (11x1)	
GCSE Combined Science: Physics	1 hr 15 mins
GCSE Combined Science: Chemistry	
GCSE Combined Science Biology	

The topics are:

**Biology (Combined and Separate):** Cell structure and transport, cell division, organisation and the digestive system, communicable diseases, preventing and treating disease, non-communicable diseases, photosynthesis & respiration

**Chemistry (Combined and Separate):** Atomic structure, the periodic table, structure and bonding, chemical calculations, chemical changes, electrolysis & energy changes

**Physics (Combined and Separate):** Conservation and dissipation of energy, energy transfer by heating, energy resources, electric circuits, electricity in the home, molecules and matter & radioactivity

### Revision support

- You should all have access to Tassomai; aim to complete your daily goal 4 days a week.
- Classwork and revision materials are available on TEAMS.
- Revision materials and knowledge organisers are available on SharePoint
- The following are links to useful websites and YouTube channels.
  - BBC Bitesize. Follow the link below and search for the correct topics.  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/levels/z98jmp3>
  - The 'Free Science Lessons' channel on YouTube has great videos of most of the topics you need to revise.  
[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqbOeHaAUXw9II7sBVG3\\_bw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqbOeHaAUXw9II7sBVG3_bw)
  - Cognito revision videos – great summary of each topic in Biology, Chemistry, Physics (and Maths!) <https://www.youtube.com/c/Cognitoedu>
  - Cognito revision lessons and practice papers – create a free account and track your revision progress. Select 'AQA' as the exam board.  
<https://cognitoedu.org/login>
  - You can access all of the textbooks as well as some useful revision videos and podcasts on Kerboodle. <https://www.kerboodle.com/users/login>

For more information please contact [ksmith@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:ksmith@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)