Understanding your child’s education

Understanding GCSEs

GCSE stands for General Certificate of Secondary Education; these are public qualifications usually taken in Year 11 between the ages of 14 and 16. Typically, students will study the curriculum for between 2 and 3 years before sitting their final exams.

In England, in 2016 the 9-1 grading system replaced the A*-G grading system. The new linear examinations means many subjects no longer have coursework and students will take their exams at the end of the course, with grade 4 being a ‘standard pass’.

Students are required to take three core subjects: English, Maths and Science. Students in Wales are also required to take Welsh. Students are expected to achieve a ‘standard pass’ in English and Maths and will continue to study these subjects post-16 if they do not attain a grade 4 first time around. On average, students take around 10 GCSEs, but this varies depending on schools and ability, with most 6th forms accepting between 4 and 6 GCSE qualifications.

Understanding Vocational Qualifications

Vocational qualifications may be taken as an alternative to GCSEs between the ages of 14 and 16, or as an alternative to A-levels between 16 and 18. Beyond 16, many professional qualifications and apprenticeships are available to support students who are taking their first steps into the world of work and often include practical-based learning and work-experience.

We publish support materials for qualifications and apprenticeships from City & Guilds, CACHE, Cambridge Nationals, Cambridge Technicals, BTECs and NVQs.

Understanding A-levels

A-level examinations are taken at the end of Year 13 between the ages of 16-18 after two years of study.

Following the curriculum change which began in 2015, A-level exams are no longer made up of units and AS levels do not count towards students’ final A-level grades. If they wish, students can still take AS exams as an additional qualification for their CV. A-level exams will be taken at the end of the two years of study and will cover all the material studied in Years 1 and 2.

Understanding exam boards

Exam boards, officially known as awarding bodies, develop and award qualifications such as GCSEs and A-levels. These bodies must be recognised by and adhere to the conditions and principles of Ofqual (England), CCEA (Northern Ireland) and Qualifications Wales.

Each exam board decides what topics and skills students need to learn for a particular subject and list the requirements in the specification. Your child will follow a different specification for each subject; for example, they might study the AQA specification for GCSE Science and the Pearson Edexcel specification for GCSE Maths. To find out what specification your child is studying for each subject, get in touch with their teachers.
Dear Parent/Guardian,

Welcome to the Hodder Education Parent Guide.

At Hodder Education, we publish a range of textbooks, revision guides, practice questions and workbooks to support students as they study for their GCSEs, A-levels and vocational qualifications. All our resources are written by experienced teachers, many of whom have examining experience, ensuring our books are up to date and cover exactly what students need to know.

In this guide you can browse our range of study and revision resources. We publish lots of different series to support students through every step of their GCSEs and A-levels,

With plenty of support material, advice on revision, links to free content and jargon-busting glossaries, this Parent Guide has everything you need to ensure you and your child are prepared for studying and the exams.

If you have any questions or would like to sign up to our newsletter, don’t hesitate to get in touch at: supportforparents@hoddereducation.co.uk

Best wishes,
The Parent Hub team

Contents

Top tips for revision .................................................. Page 4
GCSE books ................................................................. Pages 5-11
Vocational books ......................................................... Pages 12-14
A-level books .............................................................. Pages 15-25
Extended Project Qualification .................................. Page 26
A-level magazines ........................................................ Page 27
Preparing for University ........................................... Page 28
Jargon-busting glossary ............................................. Pages 29-32
How to order ............................................................... Page 34
Top Tips for Revision
by Steve Stoddard and David Horner

Help your child prepare for their exams with these top tips and suggestions for more effective revision and exam preparation.

1. **Start revising early.** Don’t put it off. Revision will seem easier once you’ve started.

2. **Get organised.** This is an opportunity to put your course notes in order and also to check if there are any gaps in your notes that need to be filled.

3. **Plan your revision.** During the exam period you are likely to have several exams over a 3- or 4-week period and it is essential that you bring your understanding to the highest possible level in your subjects at just the right time. It is not possible to do this at the last minute. Your school may be able to give you a template for you to create your own personalised revision schedule.

4. **Identify the dates** of your examinations as early as possible so that you can prepare your revision plan. You should also include some time that can be used as ‘contingency’ just in case unforeseen events arise.

5. **Create summaries of your notes/textbook.** Perhaps use a single sheet of paper for each topic. You need to decide what form these will take and what works best for you. Some students prefer bullet-pointed or numbered lists, whereas others prefer more pictorial summaries such as tree diagrams. You may wish to use colours to make your notes clearer – for example, highlighting headings and subheadings. Some students find it useful to put summaries on their bedroom wall.

6. **Find yourself somewhere quiet to revise.** Not in front of the TV or near other distractions.

7. **Take short breaks.** Not too many, though! Breaks help to keep your mind fresh and it can be counter-productive to revise intensively for hours without stopping. Make a break your reward for focused, ‘quality’ revision of 30 minutes or an hour.

8. **Revise with a friend.** This can be an effective way to test one another’s recall of facts. You probably won’t want to do all of your revision this way, however.

9. **Practise plenty of past exam paper or specimen exam paper questions.** If past test papers exist for your subjects have a go at some. This will help to build confidence as you approach your exam, as well as identifying any gaps in your knowledge.

10. **Look after yourself.** Eat, drink and rest well so that you can maintain concentration and good health. Try to find time to exercise, too, such as a brisk walk in the fresh air. On the night before your exam, try to get a good night’s sleep so that you’re ready to work hard. Avoid using electronic devices such as your mobile phone late at night as this can interfere with your natural sleep patterns.

Steve Stoddard and David Horner are well respected authors of many titles from the My Revision Notes series
Search My Revision Notes in your web browser to see the series
## GCSE study & revision guides

What’s available for my subject?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>My Revision Notes</th>
<th>Workbooks</th>
<th>Textbooks</th>
<th>Study &amp; Revise English Literature</th>
<th>Essential Skills for Science</th>
<th>GCSE Magazines</th>
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My Revision Notes

Target success at GCSE with this proven formula for effective, structured revision.

- Easily plan revision using the topic-by-topic planner
- Test understanding with topic summaries and regular exam-style tasks
- Get exam ready with practice questions, expert tips and online quick quizzes

Our revision guides are written to match each specification, helping to prepare your child for their exams. Ask your child, or their teacher, which specification they are studying for each subject and visit our website to discover the full range of revision guides.

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- Citizenship & PSHE
- Computing & ICT
- English
- Engineering
- Food Preparation and Nutrition
- Geography
- History
- Maths
- Media & Film Studies
- Psychology
- Religious Studies
- Science
- Sport and PE

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Workbooks

Build, practise and improve exam skills throughout the course to boost confidence and grades with plenty of practice questions in these write-in workbooks.

- Refresh and consolidate knowledge with activities and short summaries for each topic
- Get ready for the exams with practice questions designed to improve exam technique
- Identify topics that need revision with answers to all questions available online

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Amazon reviews:

“A really great resource for anyone doing GCSE English.”
WJEC GCSE English Language Workbook

“Excellent revision tool”
WJEC GCSE Chemistry Workbook

“Just what was needed”
AQA GCSE Geography Workbook

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Approved by exam boards - Be confident that the books cover the full specification with approved/endorsed textbooks.

Accessible, digestible content - We know that GCSEs can be daunting, which is why our textbooks are full-colour with plenty helpful features, such as keywords and knowledge check questions, to make learning easy.

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Help students read, analyse and revise their set texts throughout the course to achieve their best grade in English Literature.

- Develop critical skills with thought-provoking tasks and in-depth analysis
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Amazon review:

“An excellent find, which should prove invaluable for GCSE preparation.”
Romeo and Juliet Study and Revise Guide
Essential Skills for GCSE Science

Build essential maths, literacy and working scientifically skills to boost marks in GCSE Science and ensure that students reach their full potential.

- Sharpen maths skills with plenty of practice questions
- Improve literacy skills with guidance on how to write longer answers
- Develop working scientifically skills so that students can successfully plan, carry out and evaluate practical experiments
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- Develop independent study skills with material to extend learning beyond core resources
- Prepare for success in the new specs with expert exam advice and revision

• Geography
  Wideworld magazine

• History
  Hindsight magazine

“An excellent publication. I often pick up copies when I run training events and will use articles to update or change case studies and examples in particular.”
Geography Teacher, Parkstone Grammar School

“I set articles from Hindsight as homework, revision and flipped learning and all students get something of value from it.”
History Teacher, Severn Vale School, Gloucestershire

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# Study & revision guides for City & Guilds and Cambridge Nationals and Cambridge Technicals

## What’s available for my subject?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vocational</th>
<th>Revision Guides</th>
<th>Textbooks</th>
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» **Expert authors** - You can rely on the expertise of our authors; all our textbooks are written by experienced teachers, many of whom have examining experience

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- Childcare & Early Years
- Construction & Building Services
- Hair & Beauty
- Health & Social Care
- Hospitality & Catering
- IT
- Sport

Vocational
### A-level study & revision guides • What’s available for my subject?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>My Revision Notes</th>
<th>Need to Know</th>
<th>Essential Maths Skills</th>
<th>Student Guides</th>
<th>Workbooks</th>
<th>Textbooks</th>
<th>Aiming for an A</th>
<th>Exam Practice Books</th>
<th>Study &amp; Revise English Literature</th>
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AQA  OCR  Pearson Edexcel  WJEC  WJEC Eduqas
CCEA  Pearson Edexcel International

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• Answer exam questions more effectively with tips on exam technique, mistakes to avoid and important things to remember

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Edexcel A-level Politics

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Amazon reviews:

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Click on your chosen subjects to find the right revision guides for your child’s specifications.
Workbooks

Build, practise and improve exam skills throughout the course to boost confidence and grades in the final exams with plenty of practice questions in these write-in workbooks.

- Refresh and consolidate knowledge with activities and short summaries for each topic
- Get ready for the exams with practice questions designed to improve exam technique
- Identify topics that need revision with answers to all questions available online

Our workbooks are written to match each specification, helping to prepare your child for their exams. Ask your child, or their teacher, which specification they are studying for each subject and visit our website to discover the full range of workbooks.

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CCEA Pearson Edexcel International

Click on your chosen subjects to find the right revision guides for your child’s specifications.

Amazon reviews:

“Very useful, including a breakdown of the topics along with example exam questions for both AS and A-level.”
AQA A-level Psychology Workbook

“Good for exam practice and revising content with a detailed free answer booklet available online.”
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>A-level</th>
<th>Study and Revise Literature Guides</th>
<th>£8.99</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Help students read, analyse and revise their set texts throughout the course to achieve their best grade in English Literature.</td>
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<th>A Room with a View</th>
<th>A Streetcar Named Desire</th>
<th>Atonement</th>
<th>AQA Anthology</th>
<th>King Lear</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Measure for Measure</td>
<td>Othello</td>
<td>New Selected Poems</td>
<td>Skirrid Hill</td>
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<td>The Duchess of Malfi</td>
<td>The Great Gatsby</td>
<td>The Handmaid’s Tale</td>
<td>Tess of the D’Urbervilles</td>
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<td>The Wife of Bath</td>
<td>Wuthering Heights</td>
<td>The Taming of the Shrew</td>
<td>The Tempest</td>
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<td>Atonement</td>
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“I am interested in how the living world around me works and I want to continually expand my knowledge of biology. The Review magazines are a good opportunity to do this. They provide up-to-date information about current research and events that are taking place around the world.”

A-level biology student
In 2013, speakers at a conference organised by the University of Cambridge Admissions Office gave several suggestions for the characteristics they were looking for in an ideal A-level candidate. The list included the following:

- Commitment to their chosen degree subject
- Interest and aptitude
- Ability to think independently, critically and analytically
- Logical, problem-solving approach
- Enthusiasm for complex, challenging ideas
- Motivation and organisation
- Intellectual flexibility and curiosity
- Perseverance and willingness to collaborate
- Vocational/professional aspirations (where appropriate)

Although these points were identified as especially important to the Cambridge team, they can be regarded as a wish list for all universities and colleges. These are the skills and qualities that universities will be looking for when you apply to them.

When I showed this list to my Year-12 students in an assembly, there was an audible gasp in the hall; students were looking at the list and seeing a mismatch between what was being asked for and what they could offer.

Download our Learning Skills booklet, which addresses these concerns and shows that the learning journey from GCSE through to the completion of A-levels offers many opportunities to set the habits and practise the skills that will give the ‘step up’ needed for success at A-level, and university.

Therefore, this booklet contains advice, guidance, support and examples to enable students to transform their approaches to learning from:

- Dependent to independent
- ‘Spoon-fed’ to self-sufficient
- Accepting to questioning
- Avoiding difficulty to embracing challenges
- Indifferent to curious
- Passive to active
- Attentive to engaged
- Coasting to driven

These transformations provide the basis of a ‘scholarly’ approach to learning that fits in with the objectives, atmosphere and expectations of university education.

Independence and original thinking lie at the heart of scholarship and so it makes sense to think about how these qualities can be developed and strengthened at the outset.
## Jargon-busting glossary

Not sure what SEN stands for? Confused about the difference between Academies and Schools? Our jargon-busting glossary helps you get to grips with the terms and acronyms you need to know for when your child starts secondary school.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>Academies</td>
<td>Academies are publically-funded schools that receive funding from the Department for Education. They differ from other state schools, who receive funding from their local councils, in that academies are not required to follow the national curriculum and they are run by a trust. Academies are required to follow the same standards for admissions and special educational needs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>Achievement</td>
<td>Achievement denotes the standard of attainment reached by pupils and the progress they have made to reach that standard. Attainment is typically defined by test and examination results.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>AQA</td>
<td>AQA is an independent education charity and the largest provider of academic qualifications taught in schools and colleges. We set and mark the papers for around half of all GCSEs and A-levels taken every year. At Hodder Education we have worked in partnership with AQA to produce AQA approved textbooks and eTextbooks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>Attainment 8</td>
<td>Attainment 8 is used in secondary schools and records a pupil’s achievement across eight qualifications, including Maths and English.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>Awarding bodies</td>
<td>Awarding bodies, also known as exam boards, develop and award qualifications. These bodies must be recognised by and adhere to the conditions and principles of Ofqual (England), CCEA (Northern Ireland), Welsh Government (Wales) and SQA (Scotland).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>BTEC</td>
<td>BTEC offer professional qualifications for anyone taking their first steps into the world of work, progressing through their careers, or planning to enter university.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>Cambridge Assessment International Education</td>
<td>Cambridge Assessment International Examinations is part of the University of Cambridge. They offer qualifications for 10,000 schools in 160 countries from Cambridge Primary to Cambridge Advanced. Cambridge Advanced – Cambridge Internationals International curriculum, typically for learners aged 16-19, including Cambridge International AS &amp; A Level Qualifications and Cambridge Pre-U. Cambridge Upper Secondary – Cambridge International’s International curriculum typically for learners aged 14-16, including Cambridge IGCSE* and O Levels. Cambridge Lower Secondary – Cambridge International’s International curriculum, typically for learners aged 11-14 Cambridge Primary – Cambridge International’s International curriculum, typically for learners aged 5-11. Hodder Education is one of their core publishing partners which means we provide endorsed textbooks and a number of supporting resources.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>CCEA</td>
<td>CCEA is a unique educational body in the UK, bringing together the three areas of curriculum, examinations and assessment. 1. Advising Government on what should be taught in Northern Ireland’s schools and colleges. 2. Monitoring Standards and ensuring that the qualifications and examinations offered by awarding bodies in Northern Ireland are of an appropriate quality and standard. 3. Awarding Qualifications – as Northern Ireland’s leading awarding body, CCEA offer a diverse range of qualifications, such as GCSEs, GCE A and AS levels, Entry Level Qualifications and Vocational Qualifications.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>City and Guilds</td>
<td>City and Guilds are the leading skills development organisation, providing services to training providers, employers, and trainees across a variety of sectors to meet the needs of today’s workplace. Our qualifications are valued by employers across the world, helping individuals develop their talents and abilities for career progression. Hodder Education produce vocational resources in association with City and Guilds.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>Curriculum</td>
<td>The term curriculum refers to the academic content taught in a school for a specific course or subject. Your child will follow a specific curriculum for each subject, which is dependent on the awarding bodies that their school uses. Ask your school to find out which curriculum your child follows.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level</td>
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<tr>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>DfE (Department for Education)</td>
<td>The Department for Education is responsible for children’s services and education, including early years, schools, higher and further education policy, apprenticeships and wider skills in England. DfE is a ministerial department, supported by 19 agencies and public bodies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>Dynamic Learning</td>
<td>Dynamic Learning is an online platform from Hodder Education for schools and FE colleges that offers a range of subscription products for teaching and learning.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>Edexcel</td>
<td>Edexcel qualifications are world-class academic and general qualifications from Pearson, including GCSEs, A-levels and International GCSEs, as well as NVQs and Functional Skills. Hodder Education produce Edexcel endorsed textbooks and eTextbooks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>Edexcel International</td>
<td>The Edexcel International qualifications are written with the global learner in mind, and are recognised by universities across the world. They offer examinations at GCSE and A-level. Hodder Education work closely with Edexcel International to produce endorsed textbooks and eTextbooks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>Eduqas</td>
<td>Eduqas is WJEC’s new brand, offering Ofqual reformed qualifications to secondary schools and colleges. With over 65 years’ experience in delivering qualifications, WJEC is a leading provider of GCSE, AS, A level and vocational qualifications in the UK. Hodder Education work closely with WJEC/Eduqas to produce endorsed resources.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>Exam board</td>
<td>See Awarding Bodies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>Gifted and Talented</td>
<td>Gifted and Talented is a phrase used to describe high ability children. The gifted are those with high ability in one or more academic subject, and the talented are those with high ability in sport, music, visual arts and/or performing arts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>Independent Schools</td>
<td>Independent schools are privately funded by a mixture of tuition fees and donations. They are not subject to the national curriculum and managed by a board of trustees or governors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>Key Stage</td>
<td>The national curriculum in England, Wales and Northern Ireland is divided into five key stages Key Stage 1 - Age 5-7 Key Stage 2 - Age 7-11 Key Stage 3 - Age 11-14 Key Stage 4 (GCSE) - Age 14-16 Key Stage 5 (A-level) - Age 16-18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>NQT</td>
<td>NQT stands for Newly Qualified Teachers. These are teachers who are qualified but are still completing their twelve month statutory programme.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>OCR</td>
<td>OCR (also known as OCR A) is an awarding body and not-for-profit organisation which works in partnership with others to provide qualifications that support education in ways which enable all learners to reach their full potential. They provide qualifications for all subjects at GCSE and A-level. Hodder Education work closely with OCR to produce OCR endorsed textbooks and eTextbooks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>OCR B (MEI)</td>
<td>MEI is a registered charity that takes responsibility for the OCR B (MEI) curriculum which is administered by OCR, and provides A-level course textbooks published by Hodder Education as well as Core Maths online resources which are sponsored by OCR.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>Ofqual</td>
<td>The Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation (Ofqual) regulates qualifications, examinations and assessments in England. Ofqual is a non-ministerial department.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>Ofsted</td>
<td>Ofsted is the Office for Standards in Education, Children’s Services and Skills. We inspect and regulate services that care for children and young people, and services providing education and skills for learners of all ages. Ofsted is a non-ministerial department.</td>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>Level 2 Performance Tables (also known as achievement and attainment tables)</td>
<td>The Department for Education publishes performance tables that report achievements for students from Key Stage 2 to A-level. Primary Reports achievements for primary school pupils at the end of Key Stage 2. Secondary Reports achievements at the end of Key Stage 4 (GCSE and equivalent). Reports achievements at A/AS level (and equivalent). Value-added measures are included in the primary and secondary performance tables. These measures focus on the progress that pupils have made from one key stage to the next, whatever their starting points.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>Qualifications and Curriculum Authority (QCA)</td>
<td>The Qualifications and Curriculum Authority (QCA) is an organisation that oversees developments in curriculum, assessments, examinations and qualifications. They are committed to building a world-class education and training framework that meets the changing needs of individuals, business and society.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>SEN</td>
<td>A child or young person has Special Educational Needs (SEN) if they have a learning difficulty or disability which calls for special educational provision to be made for him or her.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>SPAG</td>
<td>SPAG is an acronym for spelling, punctuation and grammar.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>Specification</td>
<td>The specification is the curriculum developed by each awarding body in line with the national curriculum.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>State Schools</td>
<td>State schools are schools which are publicly funded by local councils and are required to teach the national curriculum.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>Syllabus</td>
<td>The syllabus dictates the order in which topics will be taught over a school year, so that the entire curriculum is delivered in preparation for the exams.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>Trust</td>
<td>A charitable organisation that supports one or more schools by holding land on trust and appointing governors. It must be an incorporated organisation, either a charitable company or a body incorporated by Royal Charter. Academies and independent schools are often run by trusts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>Student Webinar</td>
<td>Student webinars are seminars which are broadcast live across the internet. Hodder Education runs revision webinars for students studying for GCSE and A-level. These practical and interactive 90-minute sessions are broadcast live to your screen with the ability for students to ask questions and record the webinar to watch back later.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>WJEC</td>
<td>WJEC is an awarding body providing qualifications and exam assessment to schools and colleges in England, Wales, Northern Ireland and independent regions. With over 65 years’ experience in delivering qualifications, WJEC is the largest provider in Wales and a leading provider in England and Northern Ireland. The organisation employs over 360 people and continues to grow.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-level</td>
<td>Aiming for an A</td>
<td>Aiming for an A is a series for students aiming to improve their performance at A-level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-level</td>
<td>A-level / Level 2</td>
<td>The term A-level refers to the examinations taken in England, Northern Ireland and Wales after GCSE, typically between the ages of 16-18 after two years of study.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-level</td>
<td>AS level / Level 1</td>
<td>The term AS-level refers to the first year of A-levels. It is possible to study a subject for one year and achieve an AS-level qualification.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-level</td>
<td>Extended Project Qualifications (EPQ)</td>
<td>An Extended Project Qualification is a qualification taken by some students in England and Wales, where it is equivalent to an A-level. It is offered by AQA, Edexcel, OCR and WJEC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-level</td>
<td>Higher</td>
<td>Higher  is public qualifications in Scotland typically undertaken between the ages of 16-18.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-level</td>
<td>International Baccalaureate (IB)</td>
<td>An international qualification provider for students aged 3-19, comprised of 4 programmes. PYP – International Baccalaureate’s Primary Years Programme, for students aged 3-12 MYP – International Baccalaureate’s Middle Years Programme, for students aged 11-16 DP – International Baccalaureate’s Diploma Programme, for students aged 16-19 Career-Related Programme – International Baccalaureate’s Career-Related programme for students aged 16-19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Level: Term | Definition
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**A-level** | Key Stage 5 (KS5) Key Stage 5 is the legal term for the two years, commonly known as Year 12 and Year 13, when students are studying for their A-levels, typically between the ages of 16-18.

**A-level** | Need to Know These year-round course companions enable students to check content and review their understanding throughout their A-levels, with quick tips for success and improving exam performance.

**GCSE** | 9-1 Grading The 9-1 grading and awarding system replaced the previous A*-G awarding system in 2016. The new linear examinations mean students will take their exams at the end of the course with grade 4 being a ‘standard pass’.

**GCSE** | Foundation tier Foundation Tier is the term used to describe pupils who are entered for grades 1-5 GCSE, with grade 5 being the highest mark achievable as a ‘strong pass’.

**GCSE** | GCSE GCSE stands for General Certificate of Secondary Education and are public qualifications undertaken at Key Stage 4, typically between the ages of 14-16.

**GCSE** | Higher Tier Higher Tier is the term used to describe pupils who are entered for grades 4-9 GCSE, with grade 4 being a ‘standard pass’ and grade 9 being the highest grade achievable.

**GCSE** | Key Stage 4 (KS4) Key Stage 4 is the legal term for the two years, commonly known as Year 10 and Year 11, when students are studying for their GCSEs.

**GCSE** | National 4/5 National 4/5s have replaced Standard Grades stands and are public qualifications in Scotland, typically undertaken between the ages of 14-16.

**GCSE** | Resit Resits are examinations which are taken after a pupil has not reached the expected level of a standard pass for an exam. In order to move on to further education, pupils must achieve a standard pass (grade 4) in Maths and English at GCSE (and equivalent).

**GCSE** | FSMQ Free-standing Mathematics Qualifications are run by OCR and include: The Advanced FSMQ, Additional Mathematics, introducing students to advanced mathematics. The Intermediate FSMQ, Foundations of Advanced Mathematics (MEI), designed to provide access to AS/A Level GCE mathematics, bridging the gap between GCSE and A-level. Hodder Education produce endorsed resources for OCR Additional Mathematics.

**GCSE** | My Revision Notes My Revision Notes is a series of revision guides from Hodder Education, that use proven formulas to provide effective, structured revision that students can rely on to review, strengthen and test their knowledge.

**GCSE** | Student Guides Student Guides are the ideal course companion from Hodder Education, enabling students to instantly revisit content with clear topic summaries. Students can assess their progress throughout the course with sample questions and answers, aimed at improving exam technique to achieve higher grades.

**GCSE** | Workbooks Workbooks are the perfect course companion to help students build understanding and develop exam skills. Students are able to put their skills into practice, using these full-colour workbooks with plenty of activities.

**KS3** | Mastery Mastery describes an approach to learning which focuses on students being able to understand and apply their knowledge.

**KS3** | Key Stage 3 (KS3) Key Stage 3 is taught between the ages of 11-14. There are no official examinations at this level as students prepare for their GCSE courses.

**KS3** | PUMA Progress in Understanding Mathematics Assessment (PUMA) are termly standardised maths tests to assess and predict pupil progress from Key Stage 1 to Key Stage 3 from Rising Stars Assessment for Hodder Education.
Supporting both parents and students, our Parent Hub gives you guidance, revision materials, free content, jargon-busters and handy hints for studying and exams.

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