



*Empowered to
Succeed*

2026-2027



Supporting your child with their GCSEs

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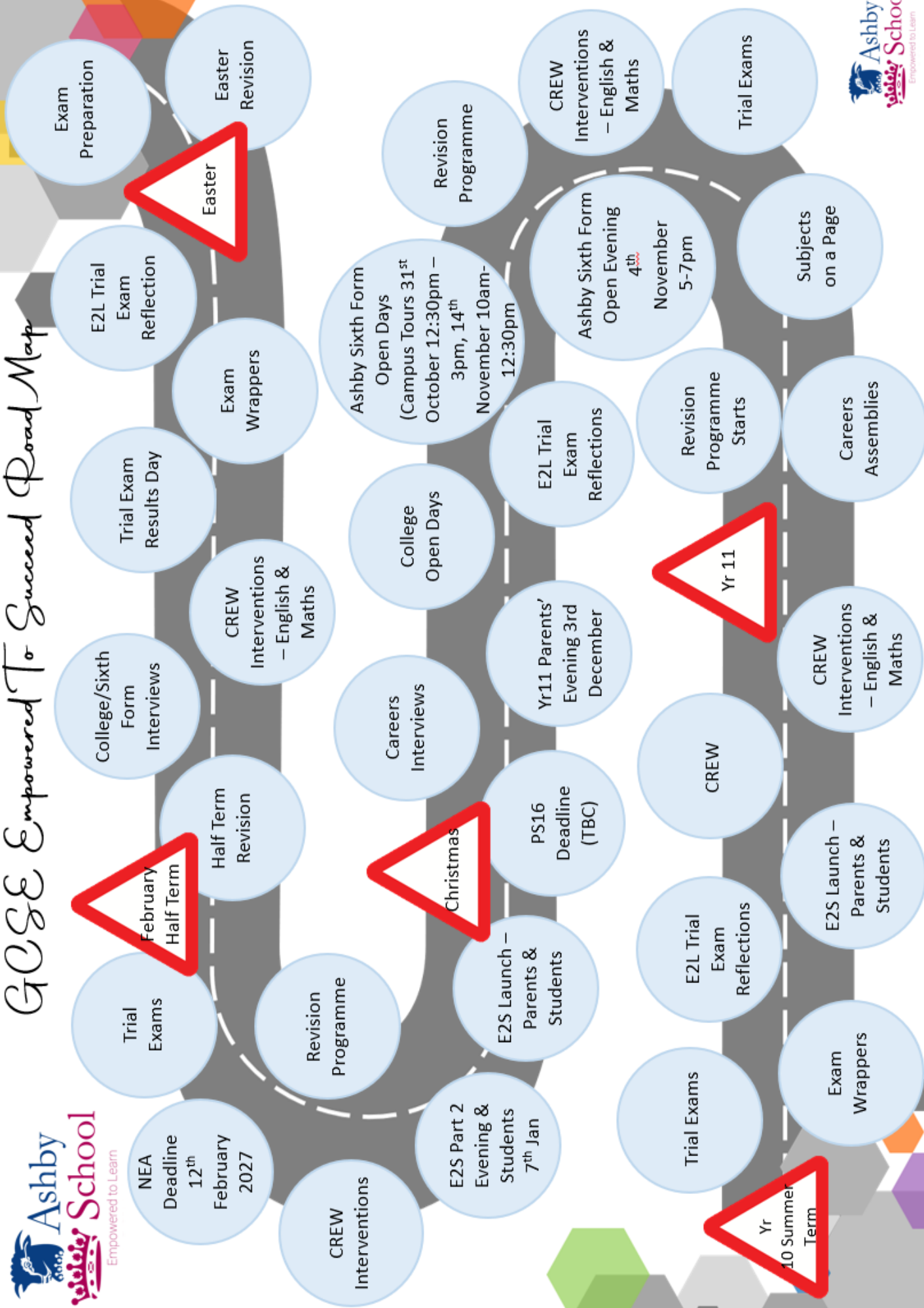
Important Contacts

Mrs Cooper – Year Team Leader
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RSLs Ms Taylor and Mr Griggs
RSL@ashbyschool.org.uk

Exams
Exams@ashbyschool.org.uk





Revision Timetable

Block out time for activities

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday			Saturday	Sunday
16:00							10:00	Sports	
17:00							12:00		
18:00							14:00		See Relatives
19:00		Training			See Friends		16:00		
20:00							18:00		
21:00							20:00		

Choose some after school sessions...

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday			Saturday	Sunday
16:00	After school French		After School Geography	After School Design			10:00	Sports	
17:00							12:00		
18:00							14:00		See Relatives
19:00		Training			See Friends		16:00		
20:00							18:00		
21:00							20:00		

Fill in relaxation times....

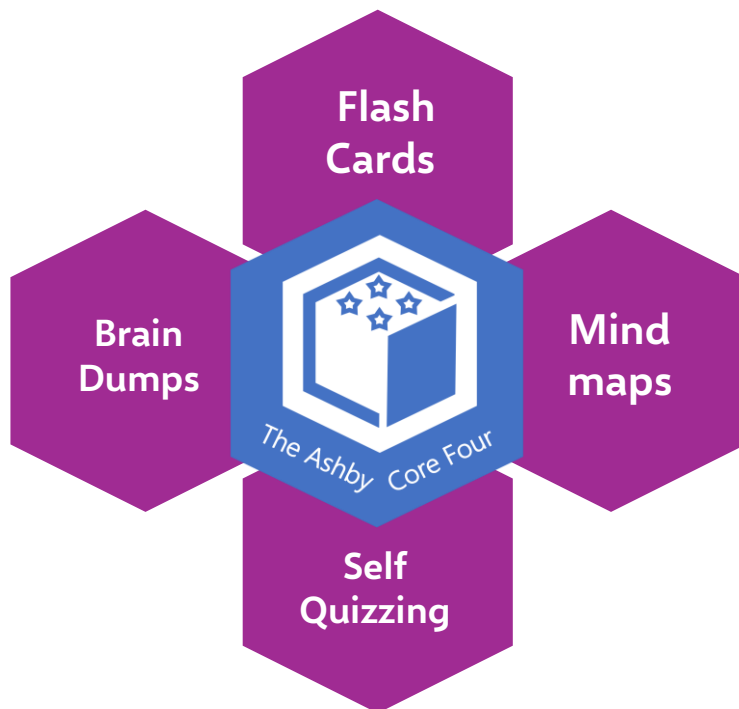
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday			Saturday	Sunday
16:00	After school French		After School Geography	After School Design	Watch TV / Relax		10:00	Sports	
17:00	Eat / Relax	Eat / Relax	Eat / Relax	Eat / Relax			12:00		
18:00							14:00		See Relatives
19:00		Training	Watch TV / Relax		See Friends		16:00		
20:00				Watch TV / Relax			18:00		
21:00	Watch TV						20:00	Watch TV / relax	

Add in revision

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday			Saturday	Sunday
16:00	After school French	Science	After School Geography	After School Design	Watch TV / Relax		10:00	Sports	Geography
17:00	Eat / Relax	Eat / Relax	Eat / Relax	Eat / Relax	Geography		12:00		French
18:00	English	Psychology	French	Business	Science		14:00	English	See Relatives
19:00	Maths	Training	Watch TV / Relax	Science	See Friends		16:00	Maths	
20:00	Business		English	Watch TV / Relax			18:00	Science	Business
21:00	Watch TV	Design	Maths	Psychology			20:00	Watch TV / relax	Psychology

The Ashby Core Four

The Ashby Core Four are Four revision techniques which we teach students to use in school. Students use these in lessons, in CREW time and in PSD. By using 4 core techniques it allows students to become familiar and confident with them. It gives them a go to with revision rather than not knowing how to start.



Pomodoro Revision Technique – A Guide for Parents

Help your child revise effectively using this simple time-management method:

1. Choose a Task

Pick one subject or topic to focus on.

2. Set a Timer for 25 Minutes

This is called one *Pomodoro*. During this time, your child should work with full focus—no distractions.

3. Take a 5-Minute Break

After 25 minutes, encourage a short break—stretch, grab a snack, or walk around.

4. Repeat

After 4 Pomodoros (4 x 25 mins), take a longer break of 15–30 minutes.

5. Track Progress

Use a checklist or planner to mark off completed Pomodoros. It helps build motivation and a sense of achievement.



Summary: How to create flash cards



1.

Identify knowledge

What are you creating flash cards on?

Do you have your knowledge organizer?

Use your book to look at previous misconceptions from whole class feedback.

2.

Colour coding

Use different coloured flash cards for different topics. This helps with organization NOT recall

3.

Designing

1 Question per flashcard.

Making them concise and clear.

Use a one word prompt, so that you can recall as much as you can.

No extended answer questions.

Number your flash cards for self quizzing.

4.

Using

Write your answers down, then check. Or say your answers out loud. This really clearly shows the gaps in your knowledge.

Do not just copy & re-read.

Shuffle the cards each time you use them.

Use the Leitner system to use flash cards everyday.

5.

Feedback

How have you performed when you look back at your answers?

Is there anything you need to revisit in more detail?

Is your knowledge secure? If so, move onto applying knowledge in that area in specific extended exam questions.

Summary: Self Quizzing



1.

Identify knowledge

Identify knowledge/content you wish to cover.

2.

Review and create

Spend around 5-10 minutes reviewing content (knowledge organisers/class notes/text book)

Create x10 questions on the content (If your teacher has not provided you with questions)

3.

Cover and answer

Cover up your knowledge and answer the questions from memory.

Take your time and where possible answer in full sentences.

4.

Self mark & reflect

Go back to the content and self mark your answers in **green** pen.

5.

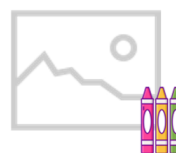
Next time

Revisit the areas where there were gaps in knowledge, and include these same questions next time.





Summary: How to create a mind map



1.
Identify knowledge

2.
Identify sub topics

3.
Branch off

4.
Use images & colour

5.
Put it somewhere visible

Select a topic you wish to revise. Have your class notes/knowledge organisers ready.

Place the main topic in the centre of your page and identify sub topics that will branch off.

Branch off your sub topics with further detail.
Try not to fill the page with too much writing.

Use images and colour to help topics stick into your memory.

Place completed mind maps in places where you can see them frequently.

Summary: Brain dumps



1.
Identify knowledge

2.
Write it down

3.
Organise information

4.
Check understanding

5.
Store and compare

Identify the knowledge/topic area you want to cover.

Take a blank piece of paper/white board and write down everything you can remember about that topic. (with no prompts)

Give yourself a timed limit (e.g. 10 minutes)

Once complete and you cannot remember any more use different colours to highlight/underline words in groups.

This categories/links information.

Compare your brain dump to your K/O or book and check understanding.

Add any key information you have missed (key words) in a different colour.

Keep your brain dump safe and revisit it.

Next time you attempt the same topic try and complete the same amount of information in a shorter period of time or add more information.



English

ENGLISH LANGUAGE GCSE

Exam Board

AQA

Questions matter



Exam Dates

2027

24th May 2027

8th June 2027

Revision

**BBC
BITESIZE**



English Bitesize

SENECA



English Revision

Exam Content

PAPER ONE

Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing:
Reading – one text – an extract of a piece of fiction – four questions
Writing – choice of two questions – descriptive writing based on a picture or write a story (narrative)

PAPER TWO

Writers' viewpoints and perspectives:
Reading – two texts both non-fiction. One recent and one from 1800s – four questions
Writing – Extended writing giving view/opinion



English

ENGLISH LITERATURE GCSE



Exam Board

AQA

Questions matter



Exam Dates

2027

12th May 2027

19th May 2027

Revision



Macbeth



Poetry

SENECA

Exam Content

PAPER ONE

Macbeth and A Christmas Carol
Macbeth – Write about an extract from the play and explore the theme/character in the whole play (34 marks)
A Christmas Carol - Write about an extract from the play and explore the theme/character in the whole play (30 marks)

PAPER TWO

An Inspector Calls, Poetry Comparison and Unseen Comp
Section A – An Inspector Calls – answer a question from a choice of two (34 marks)
Section B – Poetry comparison (30 marks)
Section C – Unseen Poetry (24 marks)
Section D – Unseen Comparison (8 marks)

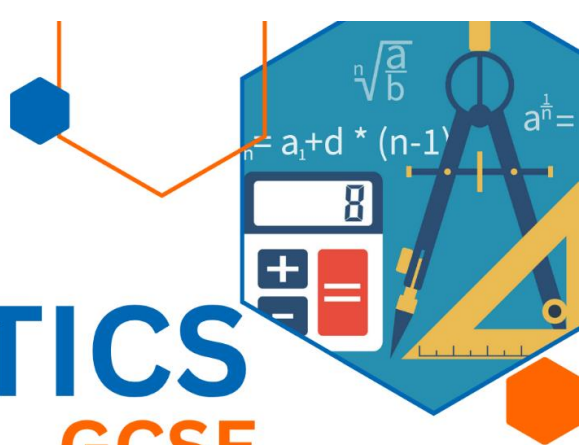


Empowered to Learn



MATHEMATICS

GCSE



Exam Board



Questions matter



Exam Dates

2027

14th May 2027

27th May 2027

14th June 2027

Revision

Sparx Maths

Exam Content

PAPER ONE

Non-Calculator

Algebra, Number, Geometry, Ratio and Proportion, Statistics and Probability

PAPER TWO

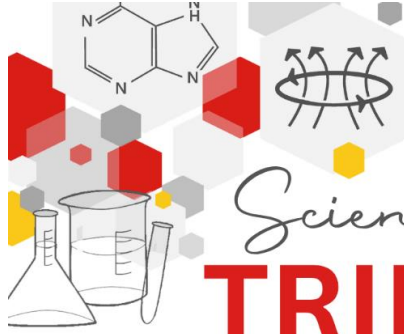
Algebra, Number, Geometry, Ratio and Proportion, Statistics and Probability

PAPER THREE

Algebra, Number, Geometry, Ratio and Proportion, Statistics and Probability



Empowered to Learn



Science

TRIPLE SCIENCE (SEPARATE) GCSE



Exam Board



Exam Dates

2027

Biology: 11th May & 10th June
Chemistry: 17th May & 15th June
Physics: 25th May & 18th June

Revision



Science Bitesize



Science - Free Lessons



Physics and Maths Tutor



Exam Content

BIOLOGY

Paper 1: 1hr 45 min: Cell Biology; Organisation; Infection and Response; and Bioenergetics
Paper 2: 1hr 45 min: Homeostasis and response; Inheritance, variation and evolution; and Ecology

CHEMISTRY

Paper 1: 1hr 45 min: Atomic structure and the periodic table; Bonding, structure, properties of matter; Chemical changes; and Energy changes.
Paper 2: 1hr 45 min: The rate and extent of chemical change; Chemical analysis; Chemistry of the atmosphere; and Using resources

PHYSICS


Paper 1: 1hr 45 min: Energy; Electricity; Particle model of matter; and Atomic structure
Paper 2: 1hr 45 min: Forces; Waves; and Magnetism and electromagnetism ; and Space physics



Subject Information

Information for all other subjects can be found on our website, under the 'students' tab, GCSE revision





Parents - What can you do?

How to support your child during examinations (and trial exams)

- Students will have an individual timetable for each set of exams or trial exams
- Ensure they know which exam(s) they have that day, including whether it is in the morning or the afternoon
- Check that they have all of the equipment they need for each exam


ANY ISSUES DURING THE EXAMINATIONS

- Illness – Contact the school and make an appointment with your GP
- Pastoral – Contact Mrs Cooper
- Subject concerns – Speak to the class teacher

HOW CAN I HELP MY CHILD?

- Ask if they need help regularly – gentle reminders work best
- Stay calm. Teenagers taking exams can get tunnel vision, and rows can be commonplace during a stressful time. Anger can be a cover for fear
- You can't make them study, but you emphasise why they need to study and the benefits it will bring
- Try to diffuse negative thoughts and remain positive and realistic
- Ensure your child gets fresh air, is eating regular healthy meals and sleeps well

SUGGESTED REVISION TIMINGS

- Suggest they put aside a set period of time each day for revision and support them to stick to this
 - Suggested timings: 25 minutes revision, 5 minutes break (Pomodoro technique)
 - After their break, ask them what they can remember from their last 25 minutes
- 



Common Worries

"There is so much to learn"

- Have a revision timetable
- Divide the day into three sections (morning, afternoon, evening)
- Write exams and key dates on a calendar
- Focus on topic rather than whole subjects
- Have a variety of subjects in a day

"I can't concentrate"

- Concentration levels do vary for each individual
- Begin working for shorter periods and gradually increase
- Introduce the idea of rewards and goals
- Quiet instrumental music in the background

"This is so boring"

- Revision is not always fun
- Get actively involved with the materials
- Use a range of techniques
- Have small, achievable goals

"I like studying in bed"

- Provide a quiet place without distractions
- Insist on no TV, mobile phone, computer games etc. whilst revising
- Ensure the room is well lit – natural light is better than artificial light

"I can't remember any of it"

- This is a panic cry
- Try to recall information immediately after a revision session, and then again later that day
- Use prompts to jog memories

"I don't understand it"

- Contact the subject teacher
- Use a range of resources, including notes from lessons, websites, textbooks
- Examination board specifications have guidance

Next Steps....

- Sixth Form
- College
- Apprenticeship
- What are the entry requirements?
- What grades you are likely to achieve?
- PS16 - <https://www.ps16.co.uk/>



Ashby Sixth Form Open Evening – 4th November
5-7pm

Ashby Sixth Form Open Days (Campus Tours)
31st October 12.30-3pm, 14th November 10 –
12.30pm



Open days TBC



Open days TBC

Notes





Anything is *Possible*