



7 September 2026

Dear Parent,

Year 10 support programme

I am writing to provide you with some useful information to help support your child as they embark on their GCSE journey. This is an exciting time for them and we as a school want to support them as much as possible so they can achieve their best now and in the future.

As well as subject-specific support, they will also have year group assemblies and activities to support them in developing their revision skills and career aspirations.

Key dates for your diary:

- Wednesday 7 October – Careers Fair (during school day)
- w/c 2 November – revision skills session 1
- **w/c 18 January review week- an opportunity to meet with your child's tutor**
- w/c 22 February – revision skills session 2
- 19 April – 30 April – Year 10 mock exams
- **Tuesday 25 May - Parents' evening 4-7pm in the main hall – to receive subject specific feedback**
- Friday 11 June – Y10 mock interview day
- 14-18 June - Work experience
- w/c 21 June – revision skills session 3
- 26 July – Activities day
- Tuesday 27 July – end of summer term

We'd like parents to engage as much as possible in attending the events listed above so that you are fully informed about your child's progress and are provided with materials to support them in maximising their achievement. **Please diarise the events in bold as attendance to these is vital.**

Essential skills development:

To achieve well, students need to know how to revise effectively. We plan to deliver a range of sessions to support your child in developing these essential skills for success.

- **Revision skills sessions** – in-class sessions to support your child in developing these skills as they go through Year 10 and into their final GCSE year. Each session will focus on 2 revision techniques which are research based and best practice. Students will then apply these techniques in lessons to develop their memory and recall skills as they progress through their GCSE courses.
- **Boost Your Grade (BYD)** – Year 10 students will be invited to attend fortnightly after school sessions across all subjects to boost their grade and support their learning. A timetable will be provided after Christmas and students will be able to attend any sessions they like to receive free tuition.
- **Mastery sessions** – students do this as a whole cohort in Year 11 weekly, however, we are introducing 'mastery do nows' into lessons every 3 weeks to check their understanding and close any learning gaps. This will link to a homework of questions students need to revise to consolidate learning.
- **Resilience** – through year group assemblies and high quality teaching.
- **Careers** – students will have the opportunity to attend a careers fair at the start of October. In addition, they have work experience in the summer term. Please ensure your child is proactive in arranging their placement to make it a worthwhile experience.



Subject support materials:

Subject areas have provided the following information to support your child in developing their foundational knowledge in their chosen GCSE subjects. It's recommended that students use these resources to support with their learning and deepen their understanding and it will also support with homework completion throughout their course.

Subjects have their own revision space on the school website – click on the link to access the folders for each GCSE subject <https://www.oakwoodacademy.org.uk/gcse-exams-central> Other resources include:

- **English** – students study Macbeth, A Christmas Carol, An Inspector Calls and Power and Conflict Poetry. Revision guides are available to borrow. Useful online resources include: YouTube = Mr Bruff <https://www.youtube.com/user/mrbruff>; Physics and Maths Tutor <https://www.physicsandmathstutor.com/english-revision/gcse-aqa/power-and-conflict>; BBC Bitesize <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zqxc7hv>
- **Maths** – resources are on the school website. Other online resources include: <https://vle.mathswatch.co.uk/vle> all pupils have a login and password for this. <https://thegcsemathstutor.co.uk/> <https://mathsgenie.co.uk/> <https://corbettmaths.com/> <https://revisionmaths.com/gcse-maths-revision> <https://www.drfrust.org/>
- **Science** – all students will be provided with a CGP Higher revision guide or foundation knowledge organiser. Online resources include: Cognito – <https://www.cognitoedu.org> Excellent topic-by-topic videos, quizzes and exam-style questions for Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Free Science Lessons – <https://www.freesciencelessons.co.uk> Short, clear free videos covering all GCSE Science specifications. BBC Bitesize – <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize> Comprehensive revision notes, quizzes and videos matched to GCSE courses of all subjects. Seneca Learning – <https://senecalearning.com> Free interactive revision courses with retrieval practice and progress tracking.
- **Spanish** – Duolingo app on smart phones; <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z4dqxb>
- **French** - Duolingo app on smart phones; students will be provided with knowledge organisers; <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zkhvkxh>
- **History** - students will be given copies of revision guides when they begin each new topic at GCSE and a folder to keep this in. The school also subscribe to Seneca Learning and Pearson Revise, which can be used to support homework and revision, as well as the resources available on the Student Drive.
- **Geography** - GCSE Revision Guide - Oxford Revision Guide <https://global.oup.com/education/product/aqa-gcse-geography-revision-guide-second-edition-9781382029148/?region=uk&srsId=AfmBOori7bDaYyN05PxaP5k7UU1eU6UOSg7RubWnIoUf27SO05SsHPi> Websites - Internet Geography, BBC Bitesize, Seneca, Oak National. YouTube channel - Mr B - <https://www.youtube.com/@MrBowater> Tutor2U <https://www.youtube.com/@tutor2u-official#>
- **Art** - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zjymp9q>
- **Drama** - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zbckjxs>, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ju3c70Om7pY> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=clKMhuEpGls>
- **Health & Social Care** – students do not start exam content until year 11; homework is revision focused and further resources will be handed out in year 11.
- **Child care** - students will complete 9 units, each unit has a revision booklet which will be handed out during the course of the year in preparation for an end of unit test.
- **Music** – course information can be found here <https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-tech-awards/music-practice-2022.html>
- **Business** – all students receive a revision guide plus can log on to Pearson Revise (a free revision platform). In addition the following



The
Oakwood
Academy

The Oakwood Academy

Bewcastle Road

Warren Hill

Nottingham

NG5 9PJ

0115 9539323

admin@oakwoodacademy.org.uk

www.oakwoodacademy.org.uk

Headteacher: Mr A Gilbert

Executive Headteacher: Mr T Croft

websites are useful: <https://www.tutor2u.net/students/gcse/edexcel-gcse-business>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/z98snbk>

- **Computing** - key coding tasks will be set on an online platform called Codebash. Please encourage your child to login in at home and to complete as many tasks as possible. Coding is better done on a "proper computer", with a physical keyboard. If your child does not have access to their own computer, please let the school know so that we can put something in place to best support them. All lesson resources are accessible online. Additional support is available during the period 6 lessons and Year 10 are welcome and can practice whatever topic they find challenging with the help of their teacher.
- **DT** – students are provided with a revision guide and exam practice workbook
- **Hospitality & Catering** - students are given a revision guide and a practice exam workbook at the beginning of Year 10.
- **Cambridge National Sport Studies** – all students receive a copy of the revision guide, online resources include: <https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/cambridge-nationals/sport-studies-level-1-2-j829/assessment/>
- **PE** – all students receive a copy of the revision guide, online past exam papers: <https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse/physical-education-j587-from-2016/assessment/>
<https://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/234827-gcse-guide-to-non-exam-assessment-final-assessment-2026.pdf>
BBC Bitesize <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/ztrcg82>

I hope you find the information useful and we look forward to seeing you at the events throughout the year. If you need any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you in advance for your support in working with us to maximise your child's success in their GCSE studies.

Yours sincerely,

Ms S Byrne
Deputy Head Teacher