

Year 11: HT2 Key assessments 2025/26

As a reminder, you are being supported in your performance this summer with a number of key assessments and mock examinations. In outline the calendar looks like this:

HT1	HT2	HT3	HT4
1x English language 1x mathematics	Most subjects (not BTEC)	1x English language 1x mathematics	Most subjects

This document provides you with key information in regards to each assessment you will sit during Half Term 2

Each subject has published some information about the format for your examinations along with some practical information for revision:

Faculty of English & Media

As almost all students take both English Language and English Literature the first assessments in each subject have been scheduled to take place in different fortnights.

GCSE English Language (AQA)	
Paper 2	Writers' viewpoints and perspectives Section A: Question 1 - True or False [4 marks] Question 2 - Summary - Inference [8 marks] Question 3 - Language - 'How does the writer use language to...' - PETAZL [12 marks] Question 4 - Comparison of two texts - PETAZL [16 marks] Section B: Question 5 - Non-Fiction Writing - to revise letter, article, essay and speech writing [Total 40 marks: 24 marks content and organisation, 16 marks VSSPS]

GCSE English Literature (AQA)	
Paper 1	Shakespeare and the 19th-century novel Section A: Macbeth Students will be provided with an extract from the text and a question to evaluate. Students must make links to the whole text in their response. [30 marks + 4 marks for technical accuracy] Section B: Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde Students will be provided with an extract from the text and a question to evaluate. Students must make links to the whole text in their response. [30 marks]
Paper 2	Modern Texts and Poetry Section A: Modern Text JB Priestley - An Inspector Calls [30 marks + 4 marks for technical accuracy] Students get a choice of two questions, they must only answer one. An extract is not provided for this question. Section B: Power and Conflict Poetry Students will be given one poem that they have studied from the power and conflict cluster and asked to compare it with one other poem that they have studied from this cluster Section C: Unseen Poetry Question 1: Students will be given an unseen poem to analyse [24 marks] Question 2: Students will be given another, shorter unseen poem to compare to the poem in Question with a focus on methods only. [8 marks]

Faculty of Mathematics

GCSE Mathematics (OCR)	
<u>Foundation Tier</u> • Paper 2 – non-calculator (100 marks) • Paper 3 – calculator (100 marks) Students can be tested on any content from the Foundation syllabus on any of the three papers. We will post revision topics on Classcharts. Useful websites to help you with your revision: • Videos and Worksheets – Corbettmaths (video clips, practice, model solutions) • Maths Genie • Learn GCSE Maths for Free (video clips, practice, model solutions) • Dr Frost - video clips, practice, model solutions)	<u>Higher Tier</u> • Paper 5 – non-calculator (100 marks) • Paper 6 – calculator (100 marks) Students can be tested on any content from the Higher syllabus on any of the three papers. We will post revision topics on Classcharts. Useful websites to help you with your revision: • Videos and Worksheets – Corbettmaths (video clips, practice, model solutions) • Maths Genie • Learn GCSE Maths for Free (video clips, practice, model solutions) • Dr Frost - video clips, practice, model solutions)

Faculty of Science

For students studying combined science (2 GCSEs):

GCSE Combined Science - Trilogy Biology (AQA)- 70 marks	
Foundation tier	The following areas of content are suggested as key areas of focus for revision: Paper 1 topics 4.2.2- The digestive and circulatory systems, 4.2.3- Plant organ systems, 4.3.1- Communicable disease and preventing transmission
	Paper 2 topics 4.6.1- Reproduction and genetic inheritance, 4.6.2- Genetic modification, 4.6.3- Evolutionary relationships, 4.7.2- Ecosystems and sampling
Higher tier	The following areas of content are suggested as key areas of focus for revision: Paper 1 topics 4.2.2- The digestive and circulatory systems, 4.3.1- Communicable disease and preventing transmission
	Paper 2 topics 4.6.1- Reproduction and genetic inheritance, 4.6.2- Genetic modification, 4.7.2- Ecosystems and sampling
Useful resources: Past papers, videos and quizzes- Cognito	

GCSE Combined Science - Trilogy Chemistry (AQA)- 70 marks	
Foundation tier	The following areas of content are suggested as key areas of focus for revision: Paper 1 topics 5.1.1- The atomic model, 5.2.1- Bonding, 5.4.2- Reactions of acids, 5.4.3- Electrolysis
	Paper 2 topics 5.6.1- Rate of reaction, 5.7.1- Organic chemistry
Higher tier	The following areas of content are suggested as key areas of focus for revision: Paper 1 topics 5.2.1- Bonding, 5.4.1- Extracting metals, 5.4.2- Reactions of acids, 5.4.3- Electrolysis
	Paper 2 topics 5.6.2- Reversible reactions, 5.7.1- Organic chemistry
Useful resources: Past papers, videos and quizzes- Cognito	

GCSE Combined Science - Trilogy Physics (AQA)- 70 marks	
Foundation tier	The following areas of content are suggested as key areas of focus for revision: Paper 1 topics 6.1.1- Energy changes, 6.2.1- Current, potential difference and resistance, 6.3.3- Pressure, 6.4.1- Atoms and isotopes, 6.4.2- Nuclear radiation
	Paper 2 topics 6.6.1- Waves
Higher tier	Paper 1 topics 6.1.1- Energy changes, 6.2.1- Current, potential difference and resistance, 6.3.3- Pressure, 6.4.1- Atoms and isotopes
	Paper 2 topics 6.6.1- Waves, 6.6.2- Electromagnetic spectrum
Useful resources: Past papers, videos and quizzes- Cognito	

For students studying separate sciences (3 GCSEs):

GCSE Biology (AQA)- 100 marks	
Foundation tier	The following areas of content are suggested as key areas of focus for revision: Paper 1 topics 4.1.2- Cell division, 4.2.2- Coronary heart disease, 4.3.1- Defence systems
	Paper 2 topics 4.6.1- DNA and the genome, 4.7.1- Studying ecosystems and land use
Higher tier	The following areas of content are suggested as key areas of focus for revision: Paper 1 topics 4.1.2- Cell division, 4.1.3- Osmosis, 4.2.2- Digestive and circulatory system, 4.2.3- Plant organisation
	Paper 2 topics 4.6.1- Genetic inheritance, 4.6.2- Genetic modification, 4.7.4- Biomass
Useful resources: Past papers, videos and quizzes- Cognito	

GCSE Chemistry (AQA)- 100 marks	
Foundation tier	The following areas of content are suggested as key areas of focus for revision: Paper 1 topics 4.1.1- Atomic model, 4.1.2- Metals, 4.2.1- Polymers, 4.2.3- Carbon structure and bonding, 4.2.4- Nanoparticles, 4.4.2- Soluble salts, 4.4.3- Electrolysis
	Paper 2 topics 4.6.1- Rate of reaction
Higher tier	The following areas of content are suggested as key areas of focus for revision: Paper 1 topics 4.1.1- Atomic model, 4.1.2- Metals, 4.4.2- Soluble salts, 4.4.3- Electrolysis, 4.5.1- Energy changes
	Paper 2 topics 4.6.1- Rate of reaction, 4.6.2- Dynamic equilibrium
Useful resources: Past papers, videos and quizzes- Cognito	

GCSE Physics (AQA)- 100 marks	
Foundation tier	The following areas of content are suggested as key areas of focus for revision: Paper 1 topics 4.1.1- Energy changes, 4.2.1- Current, potential difference and resistance, 4.2.5- Static electricity, 4.3.1- Density
	Paper 2 topics 4.6.1- Waves, 4.6.2- Electromagnetic spectrum, 4.8.1- Solar system
Higher tier	The following areas of content are suggested as key areas of focus for revision: Paper 1 topics 4.2.1- Current, potential difference and resistance, 4.2.3- Domestic electricity, 4.2.5- Static electricity, 4.4.2- Nuclear radiation
	Paper 2 topics 4.6.1- Waves, 4.6.2- Electromagnetic spectrum, 4.8.1- Solar system
Useful resources: Past papers, videos and quizzes- Cognito	

Faculty of the Humanities

GCSE Geography (Pearson)	
Paper 1	You will be assessed on: Hazardous Earth, Development Dynamics and The Challenges of an Urbanising World. All three sections will have 30 marks worth of questions that will include your knowledge of case studies and maths skills. Each section will contain one 8 mark question that will require you to draw upon case study material.
Paper 2	You will be assessed on: UK Physical Landscapes and UK Human Landscapes. This will examine all content from the Physical Environment section, including Rivers And Coasts and all content from the Human Landscapes, including Newcastle and Rothbury. You will also be examined on your fieldwork, both physical (River Breamish) and urban (Newcastle). There will be three or four 8 mark questions in this paper. The 8 mark questions will require you to analyse a resource for sections A and B. The 8 mark questions for section C will ask about your fieldwork and your evaluation of fieldwork done elsewhere.

GCSE History (Pearson)	
Henry VIII and his Ministers: 1509 - 1540 (paper two)	Topics that could be assessed include: Henry and Wolsey Henry and Cromwell Henry and the Reformation Question styles are as follows: Describe one feature (2) Describe one feature (2) Explain why... (12) How far do you agree (16) Please make sure you understand the structure for each of these.
American West c1835 - c1895 (paper two)	Topics that could be assessed include: c1835-c1862 Indigenous peoples of the Plains: their beliefs and ways of life Migration and early settlement Conflict and tension c1862-c1876 The development of settlement in the West Ranching and the cattle industry

	Changes in the ways of life of Indigenous peoples of the Plains c.1876-c1895 Changes in farming, the cattle industry and settlement Conflict and tension Indigenous peoples of the Plains: the destruction of their ways of life Question styles are as follows: Explain one consequence of... (4) Explain one consequence of... (4) Write a narrative account analyzing the key events in... (8) Explain two of the following for... The importance of... The importance of... (16)
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GCSE Religious Studies (AQA)	
Paper One	This paper will cover Christian beliefs and practices and Buddhist beliefs and practices. You need to understand the key beliefs and practices for these religions, as well as; scripture to support them, an understanding of what the influence of the beliefs are and how important these beliefs are to the believer. This paper will have the full range of GCSE question styles.

Faculty of MFL and Social Sciences

GCSE French (AQA)	
Paper 1: Listening	This will be a Higher or Foundation tier past paper and could cover all topics/vocabulary from the GCSE French course. Section A is comprehension to be answered in English and section B is dictation where students will transcribe short sentences in French.
Paper 3: Reading	This will be a Higher or Foundation tier past paper and could cover all topics/vocabulary from the GCSE French course. Section A is comprehension to be answered in English and section B is translation from French to English.
Paper 4: Writing	Foundation tier: There will be 5 questions in total. These include a written response to a photo, a 50 word task, a grammar task, translation from English to French and a 90 word task. For the 90 word task, there will be a choice of 2 questions, which may cover any of the topics studied so far (Identity & relationships, travel & tourism, media & technology, free time, festivals & celebrations, where people live, celebrity culture, education & work, healthy living). Higher tier: There will be 3 questions in total. These include translation from English to French, a 90 word task and a 150 word task. For the 90 word task and 150 word task, there will be a choice of 2 questions, which may cover any of the topics studied so far (Identity & relationships, travel & tourism, media & technology, free time, festivals & celebrations, where people live, celebrity culture, education & work, healthy living).

GCSE German (AQA)	
Paper 1: Listening	This will be a Higher or Foundation tier past paper and could cover all topics/vocabulary from the GCSE German course. Section A is comprehension to be answered in English and section B is dictation where students will transcribe short sentences in German.
Paper 3: Reading	This will be a Higher or Foundation tier past paper and could cover all topics/vocabulary from the GCSE German course. Section A is comprehension to be answered in English and section B is translation from German to English.
Paper 4: Writing	Foundation tier: There will be 5 questions in total. These include a written response to a photo, a 50 word task, a grammar task, translation from English to German and a 90 word task. For the 90 word task, there will be a choice of 2 questions, which may cover any of the topics studied so far (Identity & relationships, travel & tourism, media & technology, free time, festivals & celebrations, where people live, celebrity culture, education & work, healthy living). Higher tier: There will be 3 questions in total. These include translation from English to German, a 90 word task and a 150 word task. For the 90 word task and 150 word task, there will be a choice of 2 questions, which may cover any of the topics studied so far (Identity & relationships, travel & tourism, media & technology, free time, festivals & celebrations, where people live, celebrity culture, education & work, healthy living).

Faculty of PE & Health

GCSE PE (AQA)	
Paper 1	1hr 15mins (78 marks) • Applied anatomy and physiology • Movement analysis • Physical training • Use of data A mixture of multiple choice/objective test questions, short answer questions and extended answer questions.

Faculty of Creative Arts

GCSE Drama (EDUQAS)	
C3	Written paper Noughts and Crosses Section A - 45 marks Questions based on a scene from the set text with either a focus on acting/directing or design. Section B - 15 marks Live Theatre Performance Evaluation on Shrek
C1	Completion of C1 - practical devised assessment Portfolio of Supporting evidence /30 Performance /15 Evaluation /15
GCSE Art, Craft and Design (Fine Art) or (Textiles) (AQA)	
Component 1	The mock exam will take place over five hours (one full day). To succeed, students must arrive well-prepared, with a clear intention or aim for their artwork. They should have developed their skills and techniques through studying artists, experimenting with materials, and reviewing and refining their work. Students are expected to have a clear plan for how to use the five-hour session effectively, including incorporating visual research through both drawings and printed images. All materials should be planned and organised in advance to ensure the most effective use of their time. During the exam, the main focus is to improve their work in one or more of the following areas: • AO1: Developing ideas – responding to their chosen theme and research of artists/designers, showing or explaining how these have influenced their work. • AO2: Experimenting with materials – trying out, reviewing, and refining different techniques, media, and processes to find the most effective approach. • AO3: Recording observations – drawing or annotating to document progress and clarify their thought process. • AO4: Presenting a final outcome – producing a finished piece during the timed exam that brings together all their preparation.
GCSE Music	
Component 3	Listening paper - 2025 Section A - 68 marks Questions 1 to 6 - Set Works Question 7 - Musical Dictation Question 8 - Unfamiliar Listening Section B - 12 marks Extended writing between a familiar and unfamiliar piece. <i>NB All Set Work Analysis has been shared with pupils on Google Classroom</i>

Faculty of IBT

GCSE Business (AQA)	
Paper 1	Business in the Real World Influences on Business Business Operations Human Resources

GCSE Computer Science (AQA)	
Paper 1	3.1 - Fundamentals of algorithms 3.2 - Programming
Paper 2	3.3 - Data Representation 3.4 - Computer Systems 3.5 - Networks 3.6 - Cyber Security 3.7 - Relational Databases 3.8 - Ethics

GCSE DT: Product Design (AQA)	
Paper 1	Section A Core: 10% multiple choice questions 20% overall 3.1.2/ 3.1.6 composite materials Manufactured boards - properties 3.1.1 New and emerging technologies 3.1.1 Society 3.1.5 Gears
	Section B Specialist: Pick two material types/ processes to learn. You can use a calculator for the math questions 30% 3.2.6 Math: Standard components calculation 3.2.1 Selection of materials: Aesthetics 3.2.3: Ecological footprint math question data handling 3.2.9 Commercial processes: named material, stock forms and specialist processes. Revise metals, Timbers and Polymers 3.2.8 Shaping and forming: Specialist named tools used to shape/form material 3.2.3: Safety working practices when using tools and equipment 3.2.7 Scales of production. Extended question
	Section C: Design and Make 50% 3.3.6 Prototype development 3.3.1 Primary and secondary data 3.3.2: Ergonomics 3.3.8 Quality control tolerances: links to math calculation 3.3.3 Work of others 3.3.4 Design strategies 3.3.5 Communication of Design 3.3.2 Environmental, Social and economic challenges

GCSE Food Preparation & Nutrition (AQA)	
Paper 1	Section A: 20% Multiple Choice - Food, nutrition and health - Food Science - Food Safety - Food Choice - Food Provenance Section B: Longer written responses - Food, nutrition and health - Food Science - Food Safety - Food Choice - Food Provenance