



ST. AIDAN'S
CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL

Key Stage 4 Parents' Information Evening



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- The Curriculum
 - Chris Ives Deputy Headteacher
- How To Approach GCSEs
 - Ruth McQuire Assistant Headteacher
- English and Maths
 - Sarah Fairburn Head of English
 - Don Walker Head of Maths
- Pastoral Support
 - David Bean Head of Year 10



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What is our curriculum?

"Years ago I came across Parkinson's Law: 'Work expands to fill the time available for its completion.' Since then I've discovered another, more hopeful principle: 'Young people grow to fill the space we create for them.'"

Rabbi Jonathan Sacks



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Reformed GCSEs

- New content
- Reduction in controlled assessment
- Increase in examinations
- New grading



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New Grading 9-1

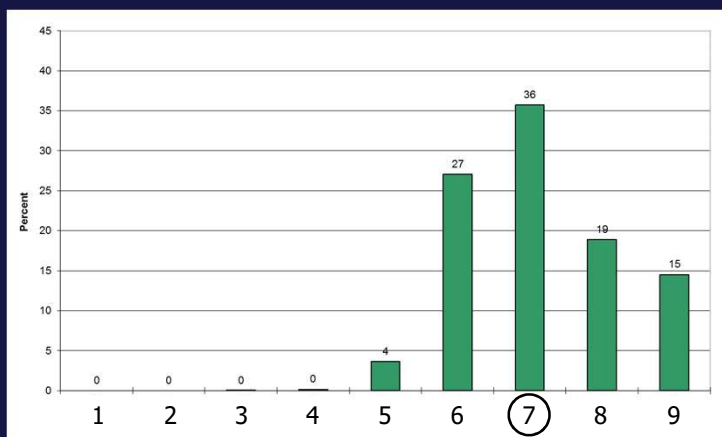
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G	F	E	D	C	B	A	A*
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Forecast Grade





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“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart as though you were working for the Lord and not for people”
Colossians 3:23



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2017 GCSE Results

- In all subjects
 - 91% at 9-4/A*-C
 - 47% at 9-7/A*-A
- In English and Mathematics
 - 89% at 9-4 in both English and Maths
 - 50% at 9-7 in English
 - 44% at 9-7 in Maths



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How to approach GCSEs...

...and love learning



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A marathon not a sprint



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Start of year 10

- New and different



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Communicating progress

- Progress reviews - Wed 8th November
- Parents' evening - Thurs 16th November

- Written report - Thurs 8th March

- Exams – Monday 30th April
- Progress Review – Wed 11th July

- PROJECTED GRADES

Subject	Teacher Projection			CODE for Learning			
	Year 10 Nov 16	Year 10 Mar 17	Year 10 July 17	C	O	D	E
English	6	6	7	3	4	5	5
Mathematics	6	6	6	3	4	3	3
Biology	6	6	7/6	3	3	3	3
Chemistry	6	4	4	3	3	2	3
Physics	6	6	5	3	3	3	3
Religious Studies	6	5	6	3	3	3	3
French	6	6	5	4	3	4	3
Business Studies	6	6	6	4	4	4	4
Music	6	5	6	3	3	4	5
History	6	5	6	3	3	3	3
Physical Education				3	3	3	3

Based on your prior attainment (KS2 and previous years' attainment at St Aidan's) compared with children with similar prior attainment, you are statistically forecast to achieve Grade 6.

Subject	Yr 10 Nov 16	Yr 10 Mar 17	C	O	D	E	Teacher Comment
Mathematics	6	6	3	3	3	3	Jane continues to work hard in lessons and seems to be getting more confident. She should aim to do some more work on rearranging equations and formulae and factoring quadratics.
Biology	6	7	4	4	4	4	Jane works well in class, concentrating on the work and seeming to enjoy the topics we cover. Please continue with careful revision for progress tests.
Chemistry	7	6	3	3	3	3	Jane made a strong start to the year and shows focus in class. However she needs to make sure she practises exam style questions particularly in the maths based topics.
Physics	6	6	3	4	3	3	Jane has set about all tasks this year in a positive and focused manner and is growing in confidence. She should be continually evaluating how well she understands the course content.
Religious Studies	6	6	4	4	4	4	Jane is a quiet and conscientious student who has shown good ability in RS and produces work of a high standard. She must keep up the hard work, paying particular attention to exam skills to gain the highest possible grade.
French	6	6/5	3	4	3	3	Jane is a very pleasant, polite and co-operative student who is working hard. Her targets should be to take a more active part in lessons and to expand her vocabulary by doing extra online reading activities.
Spanish	6	5	4	3	3	3	Jane is a polite, quiet pupil who works hard in Spanish. She should collate a list of high frequency phrases and practise using them in the past, present and future tenses as well as practise vocabulary from each topic at home.
Geography	6	6	4	4	4	4	Jane has made a conscious effort to get to grips with new concepts we have covered and is beginning to develop an evaluative style of writing. In order to progress further, Jane needs to make sure she is concise in her writing of exam style questions, as well as being specific with the evidence she presents.
History	7	7	4	4	3	4	Jane is a lovely student who works hard; her book shows exemplary notes and she always hands her homework in on time. Jane should aim to complete any work that she hasn't finished in the lesson to ensure her notes are complete.
Physical Education			3	3	3	3	In year 10, pupils study a more student centred curriculum designed to facilitate maintaining health and fitness levels while also trying to encourage pupils to lifelong participation in physical activity. These CODE scores show their effort and attitude to learning during these lessons.

Based on your prior attainment (KS2 and previous years' attainment at St Aidan's) compared with children with similar prior attainment, you are statistically forecast to achieve Grade 6.

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St Aidan's CODE for learning

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CODE for learning
Pupils are encouraged to do the following to help them learn:

C	Community <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work together cooperatively • Have respect for others • Engage positively in their learning
O	Organisation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan and reflect • Meet deadlines • Be ready to learn
D	Determination <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on the tasks • Be resilient in their learning • Be prepared to work hard
E	Enterprise <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take the initiative • Use the resources available intelligently • Think independently and set goals

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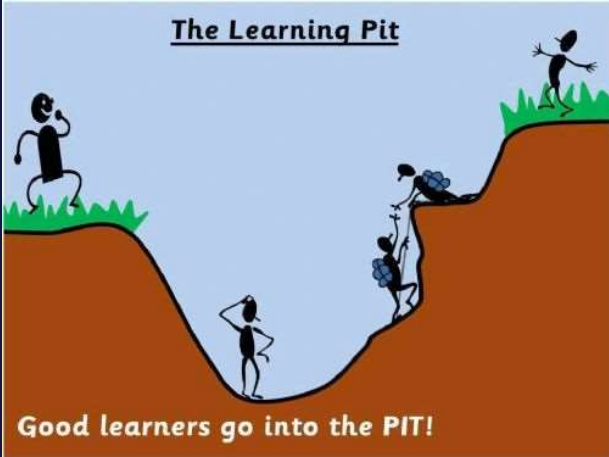
How we assess and feed back to pupils

- Plenty of exercises/tasks/testing
- Significant assessments
- WWW/EBI/Pupil response (green sheets)
- Formal year 10 exams in May

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Growth mindset

The Learning Pit



Good learners go into the PIT!

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Growth mindset – we're not there yet

- Ability is not fixed
- Challenge is routinely given (learning pit)
- Continued effort (responding to feedback) is essential and will reap rewards



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Top tips (enjoy and succeed)

1. Study habit (parent [doc](#))
2. Planners
3. Maintain extra curricular and other interests



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How many school weeks to go?!

- 36 remaining this year
- 30 in year 11



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English

English Language

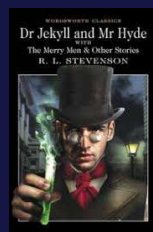
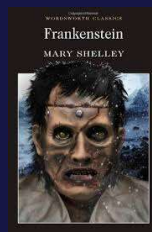
- Paper 1 Creative Reading and Writing (1 hour 45 minutes exam)
- 50% of qualification (extract from 20TH/21ST century fiction and narrative/descriptive writing)
- Paper 2 Writers' Viewpoints (1 hour 45 minutes exam)
- 50% of qualification (non-fiction/non-literary texts and writing to explain a point of view)



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English Literature

Paper 1 Shakespeare/19TH Century Novel
1 hour 45 minutes exam, 40% weighting

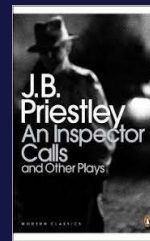
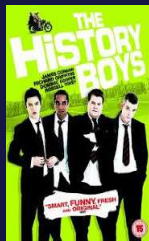




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English Literature

Paper 2: Modern Texts and Poetry Exam
2 hours & 15 minutes, 60% of qualification
(Poetry dominant weighting)



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Mathematics

- GCSE Maths is being taught as a three year course
- 3 exams, each 90 minutes long
- Paper 1 Non-calculator
- Paper 2 & 3 Calculator

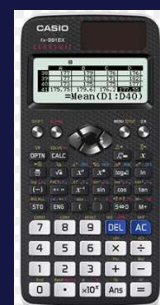
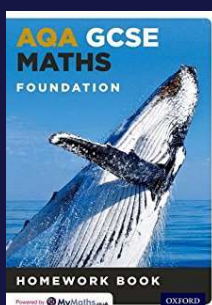
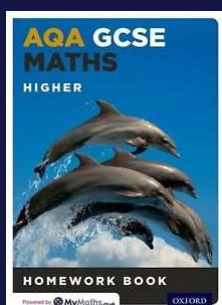




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Mathematics

- What can you do to help and support your child?



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Pastoral Support

- Head of Year is the first point of contact with any pastoral concerns
- Parents' Evening will provide further opportunities for discussions
- The tutorial programme will be informative and support students throughout their GCSE courses
- Encourage a balanced approach in terms of academic work and extra curricular activities