

ETHOS OF EXCELLENCE

From the start of this final academic term, subject staff will no longer be setting classwork for any year 11 groups. Instead, in order to help continue their love of learning, and in the absence of preparation for examinations, we have put together various opportunities for self-study and reflection. The aim is to both help prepare them for their next stage of education and to maintain a thirst for knowledge.

In keeping with our core values, the learning managers, Directors of Learning and pastoral support assistant (PSA) will still be available to offer support and care for all students during this time. The wellbeing of all our students is a priority and we will continue to carry out wellbeing checks and be in regular communication via the Year 11 classroom.

As a school, we encourage a healthy balance between preparing for the next stage in education and looking after their wellbeing. Some ways in which students can support their wellbeing can include exercise, yoga, cooking, baking, keeping a journal or vlog, playing/learning a musical instrument, painting, crafts and many more. Some useful links are listed under 'wellbeing' on the student hub, which they are all familiar with.



Option1: Introductory Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) Course

The EPQ It is a single project that can be chosen to study alongside your 6th form options. It is unique as a qualification because it allows students to choose their own topic and outcome. At the conclusion of the project, there are three pieces of evidence to submit for marking: the completed project, a logbook detailing all planning and evaluation and a presentation. We successfully run it in our 6th form and many other colleges and 6th forms also include it as an enrichment opportunity. This qualification is valuable for all careers as a way of demonstrating high level planning and this introductory course is a great way to get a head start.

Resource	Link
EPQ specification 20/21 Read the AQA specification to find out more about the course.	https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/subjects/AQA-W-7993-SP-15.PDF
5-week introductory course ran by University of Bath This course is free and well structured, with online tutors to help guide through the material. Sign up and get started whenever you're ready.	https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/epq-success

Production log. This is the main page students need to start with to help record initial ideas - and the course helps with this.	https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/projects/project-qualifications/EPQ-7993/administration
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Option 2: Recommended reading and preparation for Post-16 courses

Each subject has created a list of suggested reading and/or preparation tasks for the Post-16 courses. You can also find transition work for each subject on the student hub:

<https://sites.google.com/george-spencer.notts.sch.uk/studenthub/6th-form-hub/transition-work>

Subject	Texts to read	Other preparation ideas
English Language	<p>Read the specification for AQA English Language A Level (Ignore AS level content) https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/english/specifications/AQA-7701-7702-SP-2015.PDF</p> <p>Mother Tongue - Bill Bryson The Etymologicon - Mark Forsyth The Adventure of English - Melvyn Bragg (or watch episodes on YouTube) Deborah Cameron's Gender and Language blog https://debuk.wordpress.com/ Dan Clayton's English Language blog http://englishlangsfx.blogspot.com/</p>	<p>Watch episodes of The Adventure of English - Melvyn Bragg https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K1XQx9pGGd0</p> <p>Look through the A Level English twitter feed for interesting language articles @GSAENGLANG</p> <p>Read articles and watch video clips on the A Level English Language student hub</p> <p>Podcasts to listen to include: Word of Mouth on BBC radio: https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006qtnz/episodes/downloads Lexicon Valley podcast https://slate.com/podcasts/lexicon-valley</p> <p>Lingthusiasm podcast https://lingthusiasm.com/</p>
English Literature	<p>Read the text 'Paradise Lost' Books 9 and 10 only - An online copy can be found at https://www.dartmouth.edu/~milton/reading_room/pl/book_9/text.shtml and you can listen to the Audible version here https://stories.audible.com/start-listen</p> <p>Read the play 'Measure for Measure' by William Shakespeare. An online version of the text can be found at http://www.gutenberg.org/cache/epub/1126/pg1126-images.html</p> <p>Although these are fine to use in the interim, pupils should try to access hard copies of these texts.</p>	<p>Further reading ideas include:</p> <p>The Bell Jar – Sylvia Plath Any poetry by Sylvia Plath (available on the hub or online) Dracula The Castle of Otranto Any articles on in the Gothic section of The British Library https://www.bl.uk/romantics-and-victorians/themes/the-gothic</p> <p>Cat on a Hot Tin Roof - Tennessee Williams Lots more reading and resources can be found on the English Literature area of the student hub</p>
Maths	<p>CGP Book - "Headstart for A Level" Maths Available for free download - https://www.amazon.co.uk/Head-Start-</p>	<p>HegartyMaths tasks to complete: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1RqWvOi6VwuuL_Gos-2rMvUFfox3Mae6C/view?usp=sharing</p>

	<p>Level-Maths-2017-2018-ebook/dp/B06XD29GX2</p>	<p>Key Topics to work through - Videos https://sites.google.com/site/tlmaths314/home/gcse-to-a-level-maths-bridging-the-gap</p>
Biology	<p>CGP - "Headstart for A Level" Biology available for Free download - https://www.amazon.co.uk/s?k=headstart+for+a+level&ref=nb_sb_noss_1</p> <p>Specification: Edexcel - This is a HUGE document and so you should focus on looking over:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The specification for Biology A (pages 19-37) 2. The Practical Skills assessments (CPAC) (pages 41-42) 3. Assessment summaries (pages 45-47) <p>Transition Work: Again, this is a HUGE document but within it there are some tasks to complete which are GCSE-level but are vital for the foundations of A-Level Biology. The pages to complete are: Pages 7-18. Baseline assessment</p> <p>You will be supplied with textbooks to study the A-Level Biology course in September. However, some students prefer to buy their own so they can annotate the pages. If you wish to do this (though, no obligation), the books we use are:</p> <p>Biology Book 1 - Amazon Biology Book 2 - Amazon</p> <p>Revision guide - Amazon (we <u>do not</u> supply these so they are a recommended purchase)</p>	<p>Magazines and web resources relevant to your course.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Biological Sciences Review. This magazine is written specifically for students of A level Biology. It is highly readable and bridges the gap between your textbooks and scientific journals. magazine's website. 2. Big Picture. This is a free magazine produced by the Wellcome Trust. It is written for post 16 Biology students and explores the innovations and implications of cutting edge biomedical science. Visit the website to access previous issues. <p>Podcasts: Inside Science - Heavily focussed on Coronavirus at the moment but does look at how the scientific community are working to develop a vaccine (very interesting) - Radio 4 - BBC Inside Science - Downloads</p> <p>TED talks on Biology can be found here: Ideas about Biology</p> <p>Biology animation sites (to support understanding)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cells Alive. Animations, images and interactives about cell biology. http://www.cellsalive.com 2. DNA Interactive. Video footage and animations that bring our understanding of DNA replication and expression to life. DNA Interactive: Discovering the DNA Structure and beyond 3. Learn.Genetics. Animations and interactives that bring genetics, bioscience and health to life. Learn Genetics (Utah)
Chemistry	<p>CGP - "Headstart for A Level" Chemistry available for Free download - https://www.amazon.co.uk/s?k=headstart+for+a+level&ref=nb_sb_noss_1</p> <p>Sign up for an account at Chemistry World here</p> <p>It's free, just choose student for your professional status. Check out the podcasts and 'features'.</p> <p>There are a wide range of excellent things to help guide you here at the royal society of chemistry's website for students. Have a look at the 'Thinking about the future' section.</p>	<p>There's a great series of videos on YouTube here Crash Course Chemistry</p> <p>Here's a Ted Talks playlist on Chemistry which is really good</p> <p>Here are some great videos about chemistry research Cisplatin The Chemistry of Pain The Chemistry of addiction</p> <p>Check out any of the Royal Society of Chemistry's starters for ten activities here. I'd start with the transition skills section at the top, but there's more further down. All the answers are there.</p>

<p>Physics</p>	<p>CGP - "Headstart for A Level" Physics available for Free download - https://www.amazon.co.uk/?k=headstart+for+a+level&ref=nb_sb_noss_1</p> <p>Specification: https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/physics-2015.html</p> <p>Good all rounders to support A level learning: Advanced Physics - Oxford University Press.</p> <p>Magazines / journals / podcasts: https://physicsworld.com/ https://www.newscientist.com/</p> <p>Websites: http://www.sixtysymbols.com/ http://www.iop.org/careers/i-am-at-school-college/index.html</p>	<p>Good reads for those who are interested in the subject (but not required for the course): Astrophysics and cosmology (links to Year 13 Astrophysics and Cosmology)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A Brief History of Time - Stephen Hawking ● Universe in a Nutshell - Stephen Hawking ● The First Three Minutes - Steven Weinberg ● Just Six Numbers - Martin Rees <p>Quantum Physics (Year 12 Quantum Physics)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● In Search of Schrodinger's Cat - John Gribbin ● QED - The Strange Theory of Light and Matter - Richard Feynman <p>General Physics (Throughout the course)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Six Easy Pieces/Six Not So Easy Pieces - Richard Feynman ● A Short History of Nearly Everything - Bill Bryson ● Why don't penguins' feet freeze? – New Scientist
<p>Geography</p>	<p>Please have a look at the specification which is from Edexcel, this a long document, so focus on the content areas of Coastal Landscapes, Regenerating Places, Tectonic Hazards, Globalisation, Superpowers, Water Cycle and Water Insecurity, Migration, Identity and Sovereignty and the Carbon Cycle, these are the topics we will cover in the course.</p> <p>https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/A%20Level/Geography/2016/specification-and-sample-assessments/Pearson-Edexcel-GCE-A-level-Geography-specification-issue-5-FINAL.pdf</p> <p>Course textbooks - you will be given a copy of the Pearson/Edexcel version of the 2 textbooks below, but should you wish to get your own copy of either of these, both will be used in year 12:</p> <p>https://www.amazon.co.uk/Edexcel-level-Geography-Book-Third/dp/1471856542 - Hodder</p> <p>https://www.amazon.co.uk/Edexcel-Geography-Level-Student-eBook/dp/1292139625 - Pearson</p>	<p>More advanced reading lists on all aspects of Geography can be found on the Geographical Association's websites, much of this is starting to get to degree level though!</p> <p>https://www.geography.org.uk/write/MediaUploads/Geot%20involved/Reading_List_2_Physical_Geography_Climate_Change_and_Maps.pdf - Physical Geography reading list</p> <p>https://www.geography.org.uk/write/MediaUploads/Geot%20involved/Reading_List_1_Human_Geography.pdf - Human Geography reading list</p> <p>Some great general interest podcasts on geographical issues on the BBC website 'Costing the Earth'</p> <p>https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006r4wn/episodes/downloads</p> <p>Again, more advanced, but the Royal Geographical Society have lots of free lectures on a range of contemporary geographical issues from all over the world</p> <p>https://www.rgs.org/all/?categories=FreeToView</p>

	<p>The following books give a great level of contextual knowledge about the world and many issues that will be drawn upon throughout the course:</p> <p>Prisoners of Geography - Tim Marshall Factfulness - Hans Rosling The Almight Dollar - Dharshini David</p>	
History	<p>Anglo-Saxon History: 3 short bits of reading that given excellent insight into the period 'How England Rode the Viking Storm' / 'Great Viking Terror' / 'Settlers in England'</p> <p>Russia: Have a read of this Article on the Russian Revolution</p>	<p>Watch this Michael Wood Documentary on Alfred the Great - it is really good! (You will need your school login): https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B2Gc2b3mJE4CMGx5U280T1lGaHM/view?usp=sharing</p> <p>The following documentary on Russia's last Tsars is also worth a watch: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QpWyFch-1tE</p>
Spanish	<p>Have a read of the AQA specification for Spanish A Level: https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/spanish/specifications/AQA-7692-SP-2016.PDF</p> <p>Watch the film 'Volver' by the Spanish film director Pedro Almodóvar. The DVD is available to buy at: https://www.amazon.co.uk/Volver-Almodovar-DVD-Penelope-Cruz/dp/B000KFOVXA</p> <p>Read the play 'La Casa de Bernarda Alba' by Federico García Lorca. Use an English translation alongside your reading of the play in Spanish. Online copy in Spanish: https://docs.google.com/viewer?a=v&pid=sites&srcid=ZGVmYXVsdGRvbWFpbXNwY2FsaW5ndWF8Z3g6NDM4MjM5MjZmZDQ1NDQ5ZA</p>	<p>Do some background reading about the Spanish film director Pedro Almodóvar and his film 'Volver'. Do some background reading on the playwright and poet Federico Garcia Lorca and his play 'La Casa de Bernarda Alba'.</p> <p>Keep up your grammar and vocabulary knowledge by using the websites that work well for you e.g. Seneca.</p>
Computing	<p>All students should focus their attention on developing their knowledge of Python programming. Like all languages this requires practice. Please see links to youtube videos.</p> <p>Reading Material: Learn to Program in Python Textbook - Includes OOP, Interface and Databases https://www.pgonline.co.uk/resources/computer-science/gcse-aqa/learning-to-program-in-python/</p> <p>(£13.00 but is a great investment long term as students will need a reference guide at home)</p> <p>Theory Videos: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aJyx-Cnfutl&list=PLCiOXwirraUDUYF_qDYcZV8</p>	<p>Youtube Videos: Python Programming for Beginners Course - 4 Hours https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rfscVS0vtbw</p> <p>Pygame for Python (Interface) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K5F-aGDIYaM&list=PL6gx4Cwl9DGAjkwJocj7vlc_mFU-4wXJq</p> <p>Advanced Python Course (OOP) - 4 Hours https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZDa-Z5JzLYM&list=PL-osiE80TeTsqhluOqKhwlXsIBIdSeYtc</p> <p>Python SQL Lite (Databases): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pd-0G0MigUA</p>

	Hce8dsE_Ho Notes for each area of the course: https://www.physicsandmathstutor.com/computer-science-revision/a-level-aqa/	
Business	NETFLIX Documentaries The Founder Steve Jobs - Billion Dollar Empire The Social Network Inside Bill's brain AMAZON PRIME Documentaries: Generation start-up Pepsi vs Coke Jobs vs Gates Starbucks unfiltered	AMAZON PRIME Documentaries: Facebook - cracking the code The Internship Trump - What's the deal? Learn from the Experts - Jeff Bezos, Amazon Founder NETFLIX Documentaries: American Factory Fyre - the greatest festival that ever happened The big short The Great Hack
Economics	AMAZON PRIME Documentaries: Trump - What's the deal? NETFLIX Documentaries: American Factory Fyre - the greatest festival that ever happened	
Drama	*Set texts* - helpful to read ahead of course Hedda Gabler-Henrik Ibsen Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime- Mark Haddon Accidental Death of an Anarchist-Dario Fo	Initial research into the following practitioners/styles (who will be covered in the course) Brecht - Boal - Berkoff - Stanislavski - Artaud - Kneehigh - Splendid - Frantic Assembly - Gecko -Commedia Dell'Arte - Verbatim
Product Design	3 Key Traits of Successful Product Designers - interesting read. Specification: Design and Technology AS and A-level Design and Technology: Product Design - course at a glance and in greater detail. A Level Design Technology textbook - All aspects of the course are covered in detail throughout the book. The Design Museum - lots of interesting information on design and iconic products. Sample question papers and mark schemes. Design in a Nutshell - snappy video clips on 6 Design Periods.	Various sites with background information and resources: Royal Academy of Engineering STEM Learning The Institution of Engineering and Technology Various magazines: Dexigner Blueprint Design Week Core77 Wired
Philosophy	https://www.hoddereducation.co.uk/magazines/magazines-extras/rs-review-extras - Magazine about issues covered in Philosophy. http://www.rsrevision.com/Alevel/ - Website covered some summaries of topics we study http://www.mel-thompson.co.uk/Ethics.htm - Ethics	https://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/242913-specification-accredited-a-level-gce-religious-studies-h573.pdf Use the specification to help research key ideas and scholars. Some key people to research = Plato, Aristotle, Aquinas and Kant

	<p>website linking theories we study to issues happening in the world today. Sophie's World (Macmillan Press - 1997) = Very useful as a general philosophical tour.</p>	
Psychology	<p>- What is psychology https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OHZfmVtFOFQ (this is from Cardiff Uni, so goes on to talk about degrees at the end, which you don't need to watch)</p> <p>- Access the course textbook and review the modules to be studied https://illuminate.digital/aqapsych1/ Username SGEORGESPENCER Password STUDENT Must use capital letters</p> <p>- Join the following classroom and complete the assignments set. This will introduce the study of mental health, a key area of psychology https://app.senecalearning.com/dashboard/join-class/2zcoxfuq2s</p> <p>- Complete a free introduction to psychology course from the Open University. Download your certificate of completion. https://www.open.edu/openlearn/health-sports-psychology/psychology/starting-psychology/content-section-0?active-tab=description-tab</p>	<p>Review the articles on https://digest.bps.org.uk as it will provide a good intro into psychological research.</p> <p>Watch a TED talk on the top 10 myths of psychology (what people believe that isn't scientifically supported https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vHhn7z6BA0w TED talk given by memory expert Elizabeth Loftus on why we remember things differently to how they actually occurred https://www.ted.com/talks/elizabeth_loftus_how_reliable_is_your_memory A further TED talk on why eyewitnesses report crimes incorrectly - https://www.ted.com/talks/scott_fraser_why_eyewitnesses_get_it_wrong Optional podcasts - BBC All in mind. Episodes all linked to psychology https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006qxx9/episodes/player Optional reading for interest - https://www.tutor2u.net/psychology/blog/what-happens-to-your-brain-when-you-play-fortnite</p>
Sociology	<p>FICTION: How To Be a Woman by Caitlin Moran Saturday Night and Sunday Morning by Alan Sillitoe The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood</p> <p>NON-FICTION Chavs: The Demonization of the Working Class, Owen Jones The McDonaldization of Society, George Ritzer Sapiens by Yuval Noah Harari</p> <p>Websites: British Sociological Association https://www.britisoc.co.uk/what-is-sociology/</p> <p>TED Talks https://www.ted.com/talks?sort=relevance&language=en&q=sociology - choose any you like the look of.</p> <p>Courses: https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/cultures-societies-introducing-anthropology</p>	<p>Crash course sociology: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YnCJU6PaCio Social class comparisons: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c5zjX7cQgNU&t=276s https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8CVK51YlaCY Race: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7EysisikW1t4 Class and race: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bKssiCPUUJs Subcultures: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rFL54R9g5lo&t=646s</p>

	https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/understanding-gender-inequality	
Media Studies	<p>Set texts - watch/ read/ listen in advance of the course</p> <p><u>Stranger Things</u> - series 1 (Netflix)</p> <p><u>Deutschland 83</u> - series 1 (All4)</p> <p><u>The Guardian</u> and <u>The Daily Mail</u> (read online along with their social media feed on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram)</p> <p>Radio 1 <u>The Breakfast Show</u></p>	<p>Read any other UK daily newspapers (most can be read online without a subscription)</p> <p>Listen to <u>The Media Show</u> Radio 4 Podcast</p>
Criminology	<p>What is Criminology - crash course https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tdaqqfFQdTE</p> <p>Why study criminology https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eDhkcDAI_3c</p> <p>Studying criminology: why and how? https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rls883hZ468</p> <p>Criminology textbook section to read https://www.illuminatepublishing.com/samples/WJEC_Criminology_Level_3_Applied_Certificate_%26_Diploma_sample/</p> <p>Complete one or both of the following futurelearn courses https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/forensic-psychology https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/introduction-to-forensic-science</p>	<p>One of the key features of the course will be to look at the wide variety of crimes that exist. There are a large number of other examples on Youtube. The following links have been selected as some of the most visible/high profile cases. Feel free to research others.</p> <p>Word of warning: some of these are quite graphic. Stop watching if you become upset or offended.</p> <p>White collar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o organised o corporate <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AO4CIPuaTJ4&t=608s</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bXTeKtqG25s</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o professional https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3-KVuVjmjmU <p>Moral</p> <p>State</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o human rights https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b36zu02aN4g&has_verified=1 o Technological o e-crime <p>Individual</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o hate crime o honour crime https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qn-VhFHkUoY o domestic abuse https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zu4rP9wureY