



HARTFORD

**CHURCH OF ENGLAND
HIGH SCHOOL**

Year 10 Assessment Preparation

Monday 2nd to Friday 6th November 2026

Student Name: _____

Ready, Revise, Together

*Information, advice and guidance for students, parents and carers to
support success in assessments*

A Message from your Head of Year

As your first Key Stage 4 assessments arrive, it's important to reflect on this significant step of your academic journey. As you settle into Key Stage 4, these assessments represent one of the first opportunities to demonstrate the knowledge, skills and habits that will become increasingly important as you work towards your GCSEs.

Taking this next step up can seem like a huge challenge, particularly as revision begins to ramp up and homework increases. However, I want you to reframe the way you think about these assessments. They are not simply something to worry about or endure; they are an opportunity.

An opportunity to demonstrate the progress you have already made. An opportunity to put your revision strategies into practice. An opportunity to identify what you know well and where you still need to improve. An opportunity to practise managing the demands of GCSE-style examinations. An opportunity to demonstrate discipline, resilience and determination. Most importantly, an opportunity to take another step towards achieving your ambitions.

Making the most of these opportunities is something you are responsible for. Work hard and engage fully in lessons. Prepare thoroughly at home and make revision a regular part of your routine rather than something you leave until the last minute. Organise your time carefully. Ask questions when you are unsure. Make use of the support available from your teachers, carers and friends. Small, consistent efforts will make a significant difference.

However, it is also important to remember that finding this period challenging is completely normal. You are not expected to have everything figured out immediately. GCSEs represent a significant step up in responsibility and independence, and learning how to manage that challenge is part of the process. If you feel overwhelmed, do not struggle alone. Our school value of "Together" is particularly important during this period. Staff, fellow students and carers are here to support you, encourage you and help you find your way forward.

These assessments are an early opportunity to take stock of where you are at the beginning of your GCSE journey. They will provide useful information about your strengths, the areas you need to develop and the progress you have already made. Your results do not define you, but the attitude you bring to these assessments matters enormously.

Mr Merryweather
Head of Year 10

Ready, Revise, Together

Preparing for your assessments



Ensure you have a quiet space to work

This enhances concentration, improves information retention, and reduces stress. By minimizing distractions, a quiet environment allows the brain to focus on learning, leading to better academic performance and the development of long-term study habits.



Revision Timetable

Plan a revision timetable. Break down your revision into manageable chunks and allocate specific times for each subject. If you have commitments like sports etc then build these in and plan around them.



Remove Distractions

Make sure your mobile phone is out of sight and out of mind so that you can concentrate fully on your revision.



Be Organised

Make sure you have all of your revision resources to hand so you can use your time effectively to revise rather than wasting time looking for stationery and notes, etc.



Stay Healthy

Eat a balanced diet to keep your energy levels up. Exercise regularly as this is good for reducing stress and improving concentration. Sleep well (7-8 hours a night) to ensure your brain is well rested.



Seek Help

If you're struggling with a particular topic, don't hesitate to ask teachers, friends, or family for help.



Stay Positive

Break your revision into small, manageable tasks and reward yourself when you achieve them.

My Exam Timetable

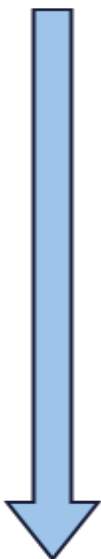
You need to take responsibility for asking your teachers when your assessments are so you can record the dates in your exam timetable below:

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
Lesson 1					
Lesson 2					
Lesson 3					
Lesson 4					
Lesson 5					

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
Lesson 1					
Lesson 2					
Lesson 3					
Lesson 4					
Lesson 5					

Revision Techniques

Low Cognitive
Demand



High Cognitive
Demand

Flash Cards	Useful for focusing on simple recall of facts, key words and definitions.
Revision Clocks	Useful for structuring and summarising content around a topic.
Cornell Note Taking	Useful for summarising and identifying key ideas, using your class notes, revision guides or information on reliable websites.
Mind-maps	Useful for organising, connecting and synthesising ideas across a topic.
Self Quizzing	Useful for active retrieval of information from memory without prompts and strengthening recall and understanding.
Practice Exam Questions/Papers	Useful for developing application, analysis and evaluation of knowledge in unfamiliar contexts. Develops real exam thinking and problem-solving.

Weekly Revision Planner

Check list of things to do:

- Make a list of all your subjects
- Add any non-school commitments for the week e.g. leisure activities, going out, seeing friends and time to relax, into your weekly revision planner
- Write into your revision planner when you are going to revise each subject that week
- Try to plan 40 minutes revising, 10 minutes testing, 10 minutes resting, or
- 20 minutes revising, 5 minutes testing, 5 minutes resting
- Tick off when you have completed each subject

Ready, Revise, Together

TIME	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	TIME
						Saturday
						Sunday

TIME	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	TIME
						Saturday
						Sunday

Topic Lists

The Autumn assessments will take place from Monday 2nd to Friday 6th November. A detailed timetable showing when each in-class assessment will take place will be shared with you and your child the week before the assessment period. Students can use this information to create their own exam timetable in this booklet.

During the half terms where students have formal assessments, we launch our 'Ready, Revise, Together' initiative. This initiative is designed to encourage students to proactively manage their own study habits, moving away from last-minute cramming and building strong revision skills and good habits over time. Students will be explicitly taught revision strategies in their lessons which they should then use to revise independently at home. This booklet contains revision support, revision lists and a revision timetable template for students to use to plan their revision.

These assessments are a valuable tool for both teachers and students. They have been carefully designed to evaluate your child's understanding of the curriculum content covered so far and to consolidate their knowledge. The assessments also identify areas of strength and highlight areas that may require additional focus.

This booklet is designed to help parents, carers, and students plan and prepare for the upcoming assessments. Please note that the topic lists provided are not exhaustive; tests will assess both recent classwork and prior learning from previous years.

The results are used to inform the Autumn CRU Grade.

Some subjects will not take a formal Autumn assessment, but will be graded by ongoing assessments; these subjects are:

- Enterprise and Marketing
- Health and Social Care
- Information Technology
- BTEC Sport

Kate Booth
Assistant Headteacher

English Literature

An Inspector Calls: You should revise the following themes and characters:

- Inspector Goole
- Mr Birling
- Mrs Birling
- Sheila
- Eric
- Gerald
- Eva Smith
- Social responsibility
- Social inequality
- Selfishness
- Gender equality
- Justice
- Kindness

Mathematics

Foundation Paper I – Calculator

- Algebra - Brackets/ Factorising / Solving Best value/Exchange rates
- Decimals
- Factors/Multiples
- HCF/LCM
- Indices Powers & Roots Integers and place value
- Order of Operations (BIDMAS)
- Percentages
- Properties of Shapes
- Ratio & Proportion
- Rounding

Higher Paper I – Calculator

- Accuracy and Bounds
- Circumference of Circles
- Error Intervals
- Fractions, Decimals, Percentages Laws of indices
- Percentage Change
- Product of Primes, HCF and LCM
- Product Rule for Combinations
- Pythagoras Theorem
- Recurring Decimals
- Standard Form
- Surds
- Trigonometry

Religious Studies

Component I: Islam – Beliefs and Teachings

Students will have 45 minutes to complete the paper.

- The Qur'an and Other Sources of Authority
- Angels
- Beliefs About Life After Death
- The Oneness of Allah
- The Nature of Allah

Combined Science

Biology

Topic 1 - Key Concepts:

Cell Structure, Enzymes & Osmosis

Topic 2 - Cells and Control:

Cell Division & Reflex Arc

Topic 3 – Genetics:

DNA & Inheritance

Chemistry

Topic 1 – States of Matter:

Features & Properties of Solids, Liquids & Gases

Topic 2 – Separation Techniques:

Filtration, Evaporation, Distillation & Chromatography

Topics 3 & 4 – Atomic Structure & The Periodic Table:

The Structure of the Atom, Atomic mass & Atomic number, Isotopes, The Structure of the Periodic Table

Topics 5-7 - Structure & Bonding:

Ionic & Covalent Bonding, Types of Substances

Physics

Topic 1 – Motion:

Distance/ Time Graphs, Velocity/Time Graphs & Acceleration

Topic 2 – Forces & Motion:

Newton's Laws & Acceleration CORE practical

Topic 3 – Conservation of Energy:

Energy Transfers, Kinetic Energy, GPE & Efficiency

Topic 4 – Properties of Waves:

Types of Waves, Properties of Waves, Wave Calculations

Biology (Separate Science)

Topic 1 - Key Concepts
Cell Structure, Enzymes & Osmosis

Topic 2 - Cells and Control
Cell Division & Reflex Arc

Topic 3 – Genetics
DNA & Inheritance

Chemistry (Separate Science)

Topic 1 – States of Matter

Features & Properties of Solids, Liquids & Gases

Topic 2 – Separation Techniques

Filtration, Evaporation, Distillation & Chromatography

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Topic 4 – Properties of Waves

Types of Waves, Properties of Waves, Wave Calculations

Art

Research and Record

Marine project – students will receive a mark out of 24

Evidence should include:

- A range of drawings in different media related to the theme selected
- Photography/images collected to support the theme
- Annotations to support theme
- Large scale charcoal drawing
- Work should be presented in sketchbooks and on design sheets

Artist research

Marine project - students will receive a mark out of 24

Evidence should include:

- A minimum of two or more artists studied
- Copies made of the artists' work
- Written evaluation and keywords
- Presentation of artists work in both sketchbook and design sheets
Clear link made to media and to the development of the Marine project

Business Studies

Theme 1: Investigating small business

1.1 Enterprise and entrepreneurship

- The dynamic nature of business
- Risk and reward
- The role of business enterprise

1.2 Spotting a business opportunity

- Customer needs
- Market research
- Market segmentation
- The competitive environment

1.3 Putting a business idea into practice

- Business aims and objectives
- Business revenues, costs and profits
- Cash and cash-flow
- Sources of business finance

Citizenship

Life in Modern Britain

- Principles and values that underpin British society
- Identity
- Role of the media and the free

Computer Science

Programming fundamentals

- Input/Output
- String Handling
- Variables
- Data Types
- Selection

Dance

Section A

- Action content: travel, turn, elevation, gesture, stillness, floor work, transfer of weight
- Spatial content: pathways, levels, direction, size of movement, patterns spatial design
- Dynamic content: fast/slow, sudden/sustained, acceleration/deceleration, strong/light, direct/indirect, flowing abrupt
- Relationship content: lead and follow, mirroring, action and reaction, accumulation, complement and contrast, counterpoint, contact, formations.
- Structuring, devices and form: binary, ternary, rondo, narrative, episodic, beginning/middle/end, unity, logical sequence
- Choreographic devices: motif and development, repetition, contrast, highlights, climax, manipulation of number, unison and canon
- Safe working practices
- Performance environments – in the round, proscenium stage, endstage, site-sensitive
- Importance of warming up

Section C

- A Linha Curva

Drama

An Inspector Calls

Students must consider how the text is constructed and how performances create meaning through:

- Genre
- Structure
- Character
- Form & Style
- Language/dialogue
- Stage Directions

Students will need to demonstrate their understanding of the social, historical, and cultural context including the theatrical conventions of the period in which the performance text was created.

Students will also need to be familiar with how meaning is interpreted and communicated through:

- Use of performance space
- Relationships between performer and audience
- Design e.g. lighting, sound, set, costume, make-up
- Actor's vocal & physical interpretation
- Impact of different stage

Engineering

Students will complete a 45 minute in-class examination

Topics to be revised:

- What is Engineering?
- Engineering Sectors
- Key Engineering Skills
- The Design Process
- Technical Drawing including isometric, orthographic, oblique and perspective
- Rendering Techniques including shading, tone, weight of line, hatching and cross hatching

Food Preparation and Nutrition

- Macronutrients Functions (carbohydrates, fats and proteins)
- Micronutrients Functions (Vitamins and Minerals)
- Nutritional Needs through the life stages
- Diet and Disease

Geography

Paper 1: Physical Geography

- Climate Change: Evidence of climate change, natural and human causes of climate change, strategies to manage climate change, adaptation and mitigation
- Ecosystems: components of an ecosystem, producers, consumers, decomposers, food webs and food chains, global biomes
- Tropical Rainforests: Characteristics and adaptation, causes of deforestation (FLERMP), impacts (good and bad) of deforestation, sustainable management strategies

Paper 2: Human Geography

- Global patterns of urbanisation
- Urban opportunities and challenges in Rio
- Urban change in the UK – location and importance of Bristol. Impact that national and international migration have had on a named UK city
- Sustainable cities - how to manage: energy, water, clean air, transport, green spaces

History

Conflict and Tension: The First World War, 1894-1918

Part one:

- The causes of the First World War
- The Alliance System; the Moroccan Crises
- The Bosnian Crisis; Weltpolitik
- The Anglo-German Naval Race
- The assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand
- The July Crisis and the Schlieffen Plan

Music

Students will be assessed on their performance and their listening/appraising/theory skills.

1. Students must ensure that they submit their recording of their final performance for assessment **no later than Monday 2nd November** by email (with the sheet music) to Mrs Reardon-Davies on areardon-davies@hartfordhigh.co.uk

2. Students must revise the following content ready for their listening/theory assessment in the assessment week:

- Rhythm and Metre
- Melody
- Harmony
- Dynamics and Tempo

Physical Education GCSE

Paper 1 – Anatomy & Physiology

These are shorter answers, focusing on your overall knowledge. It will include identify/label, multiple choice and describe stated topics.

- Location of major bones
- Functions of the skeleton
- Types of synovial joints
- Types of movements at hinge and ball & socket joint
- Location of major muscle groups
- The roles of muscles in movement
- Short- and long-term effects of exercise
- Planes of movement and axes of rotation
- Lever systems
- Optimising training
 - Methods of training
 - Warm up
 - Cool down
- Prevention of injury

Spanish

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Hartford Church of England High School
Chester Road
Northwich
Cheshire
CW8 1LH
mail@hartfordhigh.co.uk
01606 786000