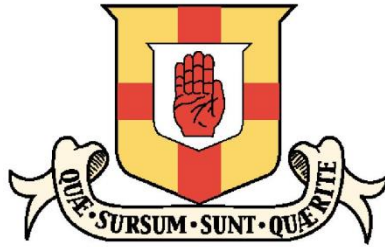


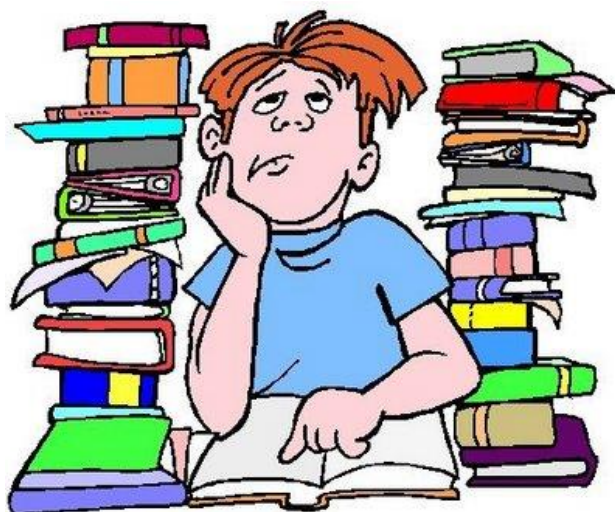
FRIENDS' SCHOOL LISBURN



YEAR 11

**GCSE
ASSESSMENT**

2016 – 2017



ASSESSMENT AT GCSE

As required by the GCSE Specifications, pupils will be preparing to take the first part of their GCSE examinations at the end of Year 11 and Controlled Assessments throughout the year in some subjects.

The subject descriptions in KS4 Information Booklet given to pupils in January last year included specific reference to the number of Examination Papers and Controlled Assessment tasks to be taken in each subject.

You can see on this table a summary of how each subject will be assessed at GCSE.

100% External Exam No Controlled Assessment	75% External Exam & 25% Controlled Assessment	40% External Exam & 60% Controlled Assessment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Economics ○ Religious Studies ○ Mathematics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Business Studies ○ English Literature ○ Geography ○ History ○ Science – Biology, Chemistry, Physics & Double Award Science 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Art ○ English ○ Home Economics ○ ICT ○ Journalism ○ Languages ○ Moving Image Arts ○ Music (30% CA & 35% Performance) ○ Physical Education ○ Technology & Design

Pupils taking Additional GCSEs as part of the Lisburn Area Learning Community (LALC) Initiative will also take some assessments over this year in Engineering and Photography which will contribute to their final GCSE grades.

GCSE Examinations in Year 11

Taking some GCSE papers at the end of Year 11 gives pupils experience at public examinations and provides a good focus for study over Year 11. All pupils will be entered for the first of two GCSE papers in the following subjects in **June 2017**:

SUBJECT	% OF TOTAL GCSE SCORE	DRAFT DATE
Religious Studies	50%	17 May
Mathematics T4 & T6 (Further Maths pupils only)	55%	25 May & 8 June

The marks awarded in these exams will be the percentage of your son/daughter's final score in GCSE shown on the table and therefore will have a direct bearing on the overall grade attained.

Resits of GCSE Public Exams

Pupils may resit examinations at the end of Year 12 to improve their scores in the units taken in Year 11, but parents will be asked to pay the full cost the resit.

Pupils are advised that resits for all GCSE Units taken in Year 11 will take place in May/ June 2017 and pupils wishing to **resit a Unit** should discuss this with their subject teacher and the HOD of that Department when they return to school in September 2017 and have their approval.

Should a parent wish his/her child not to be entered for any of the above examinations at the end of Year 11 they should contact school as soon as possible.

CONTROLLED ASSESSMENTS IN YEAR 11

All pupils taking the following subjects will take Controlled Assessments over Year 11.

SUBJECT	% OF TOTAL GCSE SCORE
English	25% January & March
French/German & Spanish	15% mid-June
Geography	1 day compulsory fieldwork – 15/16 or 17 June
GCSE ICT	30% - 3 tasks-Oct, Jan' & March
Home Economics	20% - January to mid –May 2/3 periods per week
Moving Image Arts	20% - 4 tasks running October to May
Music	15% - Feb – June – 2 periods per week
Technology	20% March/April

GCSE Controlled Assessments in Year 12

All pupils taking the following subjects will take Controlled Assessments over Year 12.

SUBJECT	% OF TOTAL GCSE SCORE
Art	60%
Business Studies	25%
English	15% + 20% Speaking & Listening
English Literature	25%
Geography	25%
History	25%
Home Economics	40%
ICT	30%
Journalism	60%
Languages (French/German & Spanish)	45%
Moving Image Arts	40%
Music	15% & 35% Performance
Physical Education	60%
All Sciences- Biology/Chemistry/Physics & Double Award	25%
Technology & Design	40%

Controlled Assessments

- ✓ Controlled Assessment is a form of internal, continuous assessment completed largely in class time.
- ✓ It replaces Coursework.
- ✓ In most subjects it will assess a Unit or Topic of work.
- ✓ **It is essential for your son/daughter to understand the assessment requirements for each subject as the levels of control; input by the teacher during the preparation time and the ability to work at home on assessment tasks will differ from one subject to another.**
- ✓ The teaching towards and most pupil preparation for Controlled Assessments will take place during class time and during this time pupils will be able to take work home to develop and research work done in class more fully.
- ✓ The final writing up of most Controlled Assessments will be done in **class time** under **formal supervision** over a length of time that will vary from one subject to another. For instance in Languages pupils will complete their writing assessments in a one hour slot; English over one and a half hours and Technology over five hours. Supervision during the final writing up time will be formal, **just as in an exam**, and pupils will not be able to consult with either the teacher or another pupil for advice.
- ✓ In a few subjects, Art & Music, for instance, will continue to complete much of their project work in class and at home.
- ✓ Marks awarded in Controlled Assessments will be a percentage of your son/daughter's final score in GCSE and will have a direct bearing on the overall grade attained.
- ✓ Pupil work in the Controlled Assessments will be marked internally and moderated externally.

Attendance

Full attendance at school is very important to ensure your son/daughter is in class when preparation for Controlled Assessments is taking place.

It will be the responsibility of the pupil to catch up on all preparation missed through absence.

Full attendance is a **prerequisite**, however, when the pupils are taking a **formal Controlled Assessment test** as this is effectively a public GCSE examination that will contribute to the final scores in GCSE.

The grid at the end of the booklet highlights when attendance is compulsory.

Absence during these times will require a pupil:

- ✓ to attend a catch up session under formal supervision – permitted only if absence is deemed an exceptional circumstance

and supervision:

- ✓ is unlikely to be with the pupil's own subject teacher
- ✓ and will be arranged after school, at a time convenient to staff

Resitting Controlled Assessment

Another important thing to bear in mind is that if a pupil feels he/she has not given of his /her best in a Controlled Assessment, he or she **is not permitted to resubmit or retake** the same task at a later stage. Pupils are, therefore, advised to give their best effort in each task.

Results in Controlled Assessments

While teachers will mostly be able to advise pupils on their performance in Controlled Assessments, marks will be subject to moderation and therefore exact marks will not be known before completion of the full GCSE.

Managing Controlled Assessments

Pupils' ability to manage their work is central to their success in Controlled Assessments.

They will need to be:

- ✓ well organised in the taking and storing of notes during teaching and preparation time
- ✓ ensure they catch up on all work that is missed through absence
- ✓ keep up to date with all home works and
- ✓ make effective use of the resources given by subject teachers to assist with preparation.

Parents can support their son/daughter by helping them to file and organise their work on a frequent basis and checking with them that homework, notes and preparation for assessments are completed according to the instructions given by subject teachers.

Timing

The enclosed timeline of Controlled Assessments is to enable you to be aware as to when your son/daughter is preparing for and taking assessments. The timeline cannot always give the exact date of task completion but is a good general guide. Subject teachers will give more exact advance notification of final task dates as teaching progresses.

Descriptions of the Controlled Assessments and Public Examinations to take place during Year 11

English

Through **Controlled Assessment** pupils will complete **two assessed tasks** in English worth **25%**. There is no opportunity to repeat these tasks. Pupils will also do **three tasks** which contribute to the final Assessment in Talking and Listening which is worth **20%** in English.

Home Economics

Pupils are prepared for one Controlled Assessment task in Year 11, called Consumer Awareness, which is worth **20%** of the total GCSE score.

This is a research-based assessment which will be carried out for the most part in class time from **December to June 2017**.

ICT

In Year 11 pupils will be prepared for **Unit 1** of the GCSE course. The assessment for this unit is in the form of **Controlled Assessment** and will consist of **three tasks**. The tasks will be based on a case study and will account for **30%** of the total **GCSE** marks. The focus of the tasks will be:

- Drawing and Database software
- Spreadsheet software
- Presentation software

The Controlled Assessments will take place during **October, January and March**. Pupils will be required to attend **all** assessment sessions when the control is high and supervision is **formal**.

Further Mathematics

At the end of Year 11 **May 2017** all pupils taking **Further Mathematics** pupils will sit the full GCSE Mathematics exam, Modules **T4 and T6**. **Module T4** consists of a **two hour** written Examination **with calculator** worth 45% of the total GCSE score. Module T6 consists of two 1 ¼ hour examinations. One paper is non-calculator and other is with a calculator. Module T6 is worth 55% of the total GCSE score. Draft dates, to be confirmed by CCEA are: **T4 – Thurs' 25 May 9.15 – 11.15 am & T6 – Thurs' 8 June 9.15 – 12.00 pm**

Modern Languages – French, German and Spanish

Pupils will be prepared for **one Controlled Assessment** writing task, worth **15%** of the total GCSE score.

During **April and May 2017**, a language topic taught in class will prepare pupils for an assessment task which will then be given to them at the end of May. They will be able to prepare their responses to the task over approximately 10 class periods, before writing their answer to the task in formal examination conditions in **June**.

Music

Pupils complete one controlled assessment composition task from February – June during two periods each week. This is worth 15% of their total GCSE score. Parents and pupils are given feedback relating to the progress of this work. Feedback sheets are kept in their music books and a signature is requested intermittently. They also cover half of the set pieces for the listening examination which takes place at the end of Year 12. The final examinations in Music are worth 35% of the total GCSE score.

Religious Studies

There is no Controlled Assessment in Religious Studies

All Year 11 students sit the first of **two GCSE examinations** in Religious Studies. Throughout Year 11 students study 'Christianity through the Gospel of Matthew.' At the end of Year 11 pupils sit an **EXTERNAL** examination in this assessment unit. The examination consists of one paper (1 hour 30 minutes). This examination is worth **50%** of the total GCSE score. The draft date for the **RS Unit 4 – Wed 17 May 1.30 – 3.00pm**.

Technology & Design

Pupils are being prepared for Unit 4 of the GCSE exam which is a **Controlled Assessment** assignment, worth **20%** of the total GCSE score and needs to be submitted by the end of **May 2017**. During **December 2016**, pupils will undertake approximately eight hours of research and preparation for the assignment and will have **five hours** in class time under formal supervision to complete the assignment **between March and the end of April**.

Issue of Results in Public Examinations

Results for the **public exams** taken in May/June will be issued on **Thursday 24 August 2017**. Results may be collected from School from 9.15 am onwards on that day. Results will not be given out over the telephone. Pupils who wish their results to be posted out to arrive on **Thursday 24 August** should leave a stamped, addressed A5 envelope with the Principal's Secretary in advance.