

Spring Term 2022 Topics

Functional Skills Maths: Sarah Emson

Main area of study: Students will work on using their number skills to interpret charts and tables. They will also look at working out rates pay and financial information from job adverts. Students will build on the rounding work they have done to help them to make sensible estimates. They will practise checking their answer to see if it seems reasonable.

They will also make practical applications of area and perimeter to DIY and garden projects planning.

How you can help at home: Encourage your young person to discuss graphs and charts and tables or adverts with financial information included. They need to make numerical sense of the world around them. Also work with them to make sensible estimates of mileage or journey times or your total spend in a shop.

Key words: Median, Range, Data, Estimate, Round, Accuracy

Functional Skills English: Leon Sheppard

Main area of study: To develop and extend creative reading and writing ability.

Speaking and Listening- Leading and taking part in group discussions and debates; presenting information to a variety of audiences; formal and informal exchanges. Being aware of what auditory memory is and how to develop it further. Assessment opportunities.

Reading- Reading for meaning from a variety of information sources and extracting relevant information. Being aware of what visual memory is and how to develop it further, especially Mind Maps. Summary and Deduction exercises.

Writing- Formal and informal styles in the form of Letters, E-mails, Leaflets and Application Forms. Compare and contrast. Persuasive, instructional, informative styles. Facts and opinions.

How you can help at home: Show examples of different writing styles in real life situations. Ask the young person what is happening in a piece of text and who is writing the text. Have a little debate where the young person gives an opinion and listens to others viewpoints.

Key words: Author, Dialogue, Theme, Viewpoint, Genre

Employability: Leon Sheppard

Main area of study: To develop their enterprise skills by contributing to the planning, carrying out and reviewing of an enterprise activity. The students will be responsible for creating, providing products and services as part of a company. This will provide them with different roles within the company which will work on their initiative, persistence, communication and problem-solving skills. Students will be given tasks to complete and put into situations where they need to meet their own responsibilities to contribute to the enterprise activity.

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How you can help at home: Encourage the young person to think about what has happened behind the scenes for an event to happen and how everyone has an important role. Link this thought process into work situations and how every job contributes to the final product or service.

Key words: Initiative, Contribution, Outcomes, Responsibilities, Persistence

PSHE: Leon Sheppard

Main area of study: Five Ways to Wellbeing and 10 Keys to Happiness; exploring and evaluating free apps and podcasts available; recognising and naming emotions; attaching other attributes to a set of familiar emotions; connection with others; recognising and sources of help for poor mental health; promoting positive mental

How you can help at home: Discuss what emotions are being shown on different television programmes and/or newspapers. Talk about what can we do to help our own mental health and why it is important to have some time doing activities that keep us calm.

Key words: Mindfulness, Adversity, Resilience, Contentment, Self-Esteem

Work Related Learning: Rachel Dickinson

Main area of study: To learn from outside speakers about different options after they leave post 16 and what is happening in the current labour market. They will find out more about apprenticeships: what they involve and the pros and cons over full-time further education and they will learn about the 'Forwards Employment Service' and what they do to support job seekers with additional needs. They will also benefit from insight from Steve Ackroyd, the school Enterprise Adviser who will talk about trends in the labour market and what employers are looking for.

How you can help at home: Discuss your child's skills and strengths, talk to them about your own experiences of work and how they were affected by changes in the economy or technology.

Key words: Labour Market Information (LMI), Recruitment, Salary.

IT: Rod Naylor

Main area of study: Ingots, at level Entry Level 3-Level 3 or Cambridge Technical Levels 1-3.

Both qualifications are progressive and students' study one or two units per term at their own pace. Ingots students are guided to complete tasks at a reasonable pace and to a level appropriate for their ability. Students are encouraged to take responsibility for their own learning by choosing their route through accreditation to meet their interests and monitor their own progress.

Within the Cambridge Technicals students will be studying and learning about how IT is used to distribute, store and process data within the work place, they will also be studying how to meet the needs of an employer within the workplace, understanding how all workplaces have an expectation on how the worker is expected to perform.

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How you can help at home: Encourage students to discuss their work and allow them access to a computer to teach you how to perform specific tasks within the MS Office Suite.

Key words: Virtualisation, Server, Network, DTP, Mail Merge

GCSE English Language: Coreen Chamberlain

Main area of study:

This term pupils will be continuing to build on their GCSE skills. Initially, we will be revisiting Language Paper 1 and how to approach answering each of the questions within this paper before then delving into Language Paper 2, breaking down the types of questions pupils may be faced with and how to approach writing responses to these. Students will continue to practise their analysis skills throughout as well as practising being able to compare two sources and writing persuasively. We will also then be working towards completing the spoken language element of the accreditation which requires pupils to demonstrate presentation skills in a formal setting; listen and respond appropriately to spoken language and use spoken Standard English effectively.

How you can help at home:

- Encourage students to consider the connotations of different words and to think of more sophisticated alternatives to words to promote their use of ambitious vocabulary.
- Encourage students to engage with a variety of fiction and non-fiction texts and consider the language and structural features of these.
- Engage in light-hearted debate with pupils to encourage the consideration of opposing viewpoints and how to deliver a persuasive argument.

Key words: Language techniques, Compare, Analyse, Perspective, Persuasive writing

GCSE Maths: Sarah Emson

Foundation Level

Main area of study: Students working at foundation level will work on problem solving with space, shape and measures. They will also develop their mathematical reasoning skills using words and the correct mathematical notation. Students will practise how to use their scientific calculators efficiently for complex problems. This technology will help them access the maths in the world around them. Students will use their number skills to interpret charts and tables. They will also look at working out rates pay and financial information from job adverts. Students will build on the rounding work they have done to help them to make sensible estimates. They will practise checking their answer to see if it seems reasonable.

How you can help at home: Get students involved in DIY projects such as working out how much paint is needed or measuring up for carpet. Encourage your young person to discuss graphs and charts and tables or adverts with financial information included. They need to make numerical sense of the world around them. Also work with the to make sensible estimates of mileage or journey times or your total spend in a shop.

Students should do a little bit of maths every day to keep their maths fitness up!

<https://corbettmaths.com/5-a-day/gcse/> at numeracy or foundation level.

Key words: Proportion, Scale factor, Percentage change, Angles in polygons, Direct proportion

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Higher Level

Main area of study: Students working at higher level will look at angles in polygons and extend this to circle theorems. They will complete work on ratio and proportional reasoning. Students will see how the work on enlargement can be extended to 3D shapes and the impact it has on area and volume.

How you can help at home: Ensure they complete homework regularly but see that this is not a source of stress. If they have tried a problem thoroughly and cannot get anywhere then ensure they leave it and seek support at school or come back to it with fresh eyes later. They should have a Casio (fx 83 or better) calculator at home to support their learning.

Students should do a little bit of maths every day to keep their maths fitness up!

<https://corbettmaths.com/5-a-day/gcse/> at foundation plus or higher level.

Key Words: Interior, Exterior, Scale factor, Percentage change, Direct proportion.

GCSE Geography OCR Specification A: Chris Bentley

Main area of study: Students will be working on two themes - People and the UK, and UK Environmental Challenges. They will have the opportunity to explore detailed population graphs and carry out some land use field work surveys.

People and the UK

The course will explore diversity patterns, including patterns of employment and average income, as well as life expectancy. We will also explore causes of uneven development in the UK, including economic change infrastructure and government policy. We will look at specific case study examples of cities, including Leeds, and look at the massive changes this city has undergone.

UK Environmental Challenges

Towards the end of the term, we will begin to look at extreme weather in the UK - learning about the impact of extreme weather on the Somerset Levels. We will also look at how humans modify and change ecosystems and environments to obtain food, energy and water. Finally, we will look at renewable and non-renewable energy sources, and look at the strategies for sustainable use at national and local level.

How can you help at home. Ensure that homework is completed regularly.

There is also a selection of GCSE papers available on the OCR Geography A website with Mark Schemes as well as details of the course and recommended books.

<https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse/geography-a-geographical-themes-j383-from-2016/assessment/>

BBC Bitesize also produces some useful resources which can support learning key content.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zkw76sgz>

Key Words: Renewable, Non-renewable, Sustainability, North Atlantic Drift, Precipitation

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AQA GCSE Art and GCSE Photography: Jayne Foster

Main area of study: This term students will be completing their Light and Dark project. They will be applying what they have experimented and tested in their developmental work and applying these to their final ideas. They will link their work to relevant artists and will annotate their sketchbooks to show these links clearly. They will explore a wide range of materials that are relevant to their chosen area of art and complete a final piece of artwork to finish off the project. In Term 4, students will embark on their second project inspired by geometry in art. Students will selectively research and study new styles, methods, materials and processes and begin to apply this to their way of working.

How you can help at home: You can support students at home by asking about their project and discussing aspects of their ideas, as verbally talking about their work will help them with their annotation. Encourage students to record their thoughts and opinions about their work during or after discussions to use in their annotation. Please support students to complete some additional coursework at home such as maintaining their sketchbooks.

Key words: Refine, Develop, Evaluate, Research, Annotate

Biology: Mr Goodchild

Main area of study: Topic 2 Organisation and Topic 3 Infection and Response

Topic 2 Organisation: Revising the work completed last term on cells, tissues, organs and organs systems. This includes the digestive, respiratory and circulatory systems and associated organs. As part of the digestive system students need to revise food tests and how enzymes work. We will then complete work on plant systems and organs in preparation for the mock exams mid-January.

Topic 3 Infection and Response.

Students will study the different types of pathogens that cause disease, how they spread and how they can be treated. This will include work on antibiotics and vaccines and on how new drugs are developed – very relevant at this point in history! Finally we will study diseases in plants and their defence mechanisms.

How you can help at home:

Encouraging homework set from their revision workbooks to be completed

Using BBC Bitesize to reinforce learning and aid revision. The relevant sections are in GCSE-Biology (single science)-AQA-Organisation and Infection and response.

Key Words: Tissue, Enzyme, Pathogen, Communicable, Antibody

Sports Leaders: Mr Hunt

Main area of study: This term in sports leaders students will lead one of their two assessment sessions to pupils in 3G. Students will plan, lead and evaluate the sessions in full, putting everything we have covered into these sessions. They will also learn how to complete a risk assessment and will create a risk assessment for their assessed session.

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After completing this unit students will move onto unit 1 where they will be building their leadership skills. They will be evaluating their current leadership behaviours and skills and will look at developing these to an appropriate standard.

How you can help at home: Students are to explore different leaders and role models around the sporting globe, from football managers to athletes.

Students will also have challenge booklets they are to complete for homework.

Keywords: Communication, Self-Belief, Self-Awareness, Teamwork & Problem Solving

Hospitality and Catering: Ms Mullins

Main area of study: Students will be learning about the Catering and Hospitality industry- in particular, the different types, the services they offer and their customer base. They will look at a range of job roles within industry and begin to understand working conditions and contracts. Students will have opportunities to develop their practical skills by cooking a range of savoury and sweet dishes to develop their cookery skills and techniques.

How you can help at home: Encourage helping in the kitchen with preparing foods, cooking and washing up. Watch cookery programs and discuss the foods. Involvement in menu planning for the shopping list of food for the family.

Key words: Establishments, Commercial, Residential, Contract, Customer