

Curriculum Overview / Revision Guide

Year 8	Subject – Mathematics	Term – Michaelmas
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Topics covered	<p>Algebra</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formulating equations (Chapter 6) • Graphical algebra (Chapter 14) • Prime factors (Chapters 1 & 4) • HCF and LCM (Chapter 1, p.11) • Simultaneous equations (Chapter 13) • Inequalities - <i>Level 3 only</i> (Chapter 6, p.95) • Standard index form - <i>Level 3 only</i> (Chapter 4, p.63) <p>Geometry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Properties of 2D shapes (Chapter 10) • Bearings (Chapter 10) • Pythagoras' theorem - <i>Level 3 only</i> (Chapter 11) <p>Please use mymaths.co.uk for helpful revision lessons and activities</p> <p>log-in: wccs / password: decimal</p>	
Christmas exam details	Exam format	30 mins – mental maths 1 hour – calculator paper 1 hour – non-calculator paper
	Further revision required	All CE 13+ topics covered so far, including circles, angle laws, frequency tables, pie charts, significant figures, nth term of a sequence
		Please also learn all the formulae and facts on the <i>WCCS Maths Gold Card</i> which every Year 8 boy has in his yellow maths folder

Please note that any topics that are not covered by the time of the exam will not be included in the exam. For more information about mathematics contact Delphine Riviere or Ivor Simpson.

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Curriculum Overview / Revision Guide

Year 8	Subject – English	Term – Michaelmas
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Topics covered	<p>Comprehension Boys will be able to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • find information or ideas • identify meaning beyond the literal • explain the effect of a writer’s choice of words (verbs, adjectives, adverbs etc) and imagery (similes, metaphors, personification etc) • analyse the text as a whole • select short quotations and embed them correctly <p>Composition Boys will be able to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • create a vivid and clear setting • describe characters • base ideas on personal experience • use literary devices (similes, metaphors, onomatopoeia etc) and a broad vocabulary • develop a simple plot with a short time frame • use a range of sentence structures and sentence lengths • be original in their response to a written or visual prompt • demonstrate their ability to correctly use a range of punctuation marks <p>Essay writing Boys should</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • know <i>Great Expectations</i> and <i>Macbeth</i> well and be able to refer to key events, comment on characters and provide some specific quotations • structure essays clearly and offer their own opinions • use a variety of punctuation marks correctly and spell words accurately • be able to answer a range of questions. (The questions will be broad in nature and will focus on what makes the texts enjoyable, on the characters in the text or on its themes) 	
Christmas exam details	Exam format	1 hour 15 minutes – prose comprehension and essay on studied literature 1 hour 15 minutes – poetry comprehension and composition
	Further revision required	There will be a 35 minute punctuation and grammar test and 35 minute comprehension/essay test in Week 5 to monitor progress

Please note that any topics that are not covered by the time of the exam will not be included in the exam. For more information about English contact Ed Graham or Lucinda Higgle.

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Year 8	Subject – Science	Term – Michaelmas
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Topics covered	<p>Textbk: ISEB Biology; ISEB Physics</p> <p>CE 13+ Biology Reproduction in plants Boys will learn:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • about sexual reproduction in flowering plants, including details of the flower structure • that pollination is the transfer of pollen from an anther to a stigma • about the point of fertilisation in flowers <p>Photosynthesis Boys will learn:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the word equation for photosynthesis • the dependence of almost all life on Earth on the ability to photosynthetic organisms • the adaptation of leaves for photosynthesis; the role of stomata • the role of root hairs in absorbing water and minerals from the soil • the factors affecting photosynthesis <p>CE 13+ Physics Light and sound waves Boys will learn:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • about the speed of light • how objects are reflected and refracted, and the transmission of light through materials • white light can be dispersed to give a range of colours • the speed of sound in different mediums • about the relationship between the loudness of a sound and the amplitude of the vibration causing it • about the auditory range of humans and animal, the effects of loud sounds on the ear 	
Christmas exam details	Exam format	<p>40 mins written paper for each subject</p> <p>Multiple choice, short answers and longer answers that rely on both knowledge and understanding</p> <p>Calculators may be required</p>
	Further revision required	All CE 13+ Biology and Physics topics covered so far

Please note that any topics that are not covered by the time of the exam will not be included in the exam. For more information about science please contact Beth Marshall or Claudia Bandini.

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Year 8	Subject – French	Term – Michaelmas
Topics covered	<p><i>French Vocabulary for Key Stage 3 and Common Entrance (Ellis and Gordon)</i></p> <p>Vocabulary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal description • Family and friends • Meeting people • House, home, daily routine, chores • Life and work at school <p>Tenses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present tense of regular verbs and common irregular verbs • Future tense with aller + infinitive • Perfect tense (passé compose) of both regular and irregular verbs including the list of verbs using parts of être as their auxiliary <p>Grammar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gender and plural of common nouns • Definite and indefinite articles • Agreement and position of adjectives • Common adverbs • Possessive articles (mon, ma, mes) • Common prepositions and conjunctions 	
Christmas exam details	Exam format	<p>Speaking A role play with lines written in English to translate into French, performed with the examiner. Ten minutes preparation time with a dictionary, but no written notes. The candidate will then speak on two prepared topics uninterrupted, and answer questions</p> <p>Listening Simple comprehension exercises including matching pictures to vocabulary, choosing applicable statements from a list of options and filling in gaps</p> <p>Reading Multiple choice, filling the gap, matching words to pictures. Elimination techniques will be needed</p> <p>Writing Six sentences describing a picture followed by a longer passage requiring bullet points. A range of tenses, vocabulary and conjunctions must be used. Marks are given for content, quality and accuracy</p>
	Further revision required	Boys need to know <i>avoir</i> and <i>être</i> and basic vocabulary.

For more information about French please contact George Hyde.
Email ghyde@choirschool.com

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Year 8H	Subject – Classics	Term – Michaelmas
Topics covered	<p>Textbook - <i>Latin for Common Entrance Three</i> by N.R.R. Oulton</p> <p>Curriculum</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verbs: passive present, imperfect, future, perfect and pluperfect tense • Expressions of place • Relative pronoun: <i>qui, quae, quod</i> • Emphatic pronoun: <i>ipse, ipsa, ipsum</i> • Nouns: 5th Declension, <i>res</i> • Adjectives: 3rd Declension, three termination (e.g. <i>celer, acer</i>) <p>Vocabulary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapters 1 – 4 of <i>Latin for Common Entrance Three</i> by N.R.R. Oulton <p>Classical Civilisation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Trojan War 	
Christmas exam details	Exam format	<p>1 hour</p> <p>Question 1 (15 marks): Candidates will be asked a series of questions to test comprehension of the first paragraph (45 words or so) of a passage</p> <p>Question 2 (30 marks): Candidates will be asked to translate into good English the second paragraph (about 50 words) of the passage</p> <p>Question 3 (20 marks): Candidates will be asked a series of grammar questions. They will also be asked to perform some simple manipulation of the language and some translation into Latin</p> <p>Question 4 (10 marks): This section will offer a choice of questions on non-linguistic studies, of which one must be answered</p>
	Further revision required	Level 1 and Level 2 grammar and vocabulary. Greek mythology topics from Y7

Please note that any topics that are not covered by the time of the exam will not be included in the exam. For more information about classics contact Matthew Wright.

Email mwright@choirschool.com

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Year 8S	Subject – Classics	Term – Michaelmas
Topics covered	<p>Textbook - <i>Latin for Common Entrance Two</i> by N.R.R. Oulton</p> <p>Curriculum</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nouns: 3rd declension • Verbs: Future tense, all conjugations and <i>sum</i> • Pronouns: <i>ego, tu, nos, vos; is, ea, id; hic; ille</i> • Verbs: Pluperfect tense • Numerals 1-20 • Adjectives: 3rd declension, <i>tristis, ingens</i> • <i>nonne/num; nemo/nihil</i> • Comparison of Adjectives: comparatives; superlatives; irregular comparison • Adjectives: 3rd declension in <i>-er</i> and <i>-ilis</i> <p>Vocabulary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapters 1 – 7 of <i>Latin for Common Entrance Two</i> by N.R.R. Oulton <p>Classical Civilisation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Trojan War 	
Christmas exam details	Exam format	<p>1 hour</p> <p>Question 1 (15 marks) – Boys will be asked a series of questions to test comprehension of the first paragraph (45 words or so) of a passage</p> <p>Question 2 (30 marks) – Boys will be asked to translate into good English the second paragraph (about 50 words) of the passage</p> <p>Question 3 (20 marks) – Boys will be asked a series of questions to test their knowledge of grammar, based on the final paragraph of the passage. They will perform simple manipulation of the language and translation into Latin, using vocabulary provided</p> <p>Question 4 (10 marks) – This section will offer a choice of three questions on classical civilisation topics. Boys are to attempt one of these questions.</p>
	Further revision required	All grammar and vocabulary for Common Entrance Level One. Greek mythology topics from Y7

Please note that any topics that are not covered by the time of the exam will not be included in the exam. For more information about classics contact Matthew Wright.

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Year 8	Subject – Religious Studies	Term – Michaelmas
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Topics covered	<p>Section 2 of the Common Entrance Paper</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The sacraments <p>Section 3 of the Common Entrance Paper</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The birth and life of the Church • Community life in the Church • The liturgical year and devotion • Advent and Christmas 	
Christmas exam details	Exam format	<p>1 hour</p> <p>Section 1 – The Old Covenant Boys will choose one topic from a choice of four. Each question comprises four parts (a-d)</p> <p>Section 2 – Jesus Christ and the sacraments Boys will choose one topic from a choice of four. Each question comprises four parts (a-d)</p> <p>Section 3 – The Church Boys will answer three questions from a choice of five, worth 6 marks each (N.B. only topics covered will be included in the exam)</p>
	Further revision required	<p>Boys will be expected to know all topics covered in Year 7. Please see online ISEB Religious Studies Syllabus B for a full list of topics included in the CE exam</p> <p>For revision</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Old Covenant, The New Covenant and the Church</i> textbook • Bibles to ensure they know the key Bible stories

Please note that any topics that are not covered by the time of the exam will not be included in the exam. For more information about Religious Studies please contact Emily Auger or Ivo MacGreevy.

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Year 8	Subject – History	Term – Michaelmas
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Topics covered	<p>The Tudors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Henry VII • Henry VIII • Sir Thomas More and Renaissance England • The Reformation Parliament • The Dissolution of the Monasteries <p>The Children of Henry VIII</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Edward VI and the Book of Common Prayer • The restoration of Catholicism under Mary Tudor and Cardinal Pole • Elizabeth I • Mary, Queen of Scots 	
Christmas exam details	Exam format	<p>1 hour</p> <p>Section 1 – evidence question, divided into three time periods; choose one time period and answer the evidence question</p> <p>Section 2 – essay questions, answer one essay question</p>
	Further revision required	Boys will be expected to know all topics covered in Year 7. They should use their Year 7 exercise books and text books to revise these topics

Please note that any topics that are not covered by the time of the exam will not be included in the exam. For more information about history contact Ivo MacGreevy.

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Year 8	Subject – Geography	Term – Michaelmas
Topics covered	<p>Industry Theory</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can economic activities (jobs) be classified? • What is an employment structure? • How do employment structures change with economic development? • What factors determine the location of economic activities? <p>Case study 1 – the textile industry in Halifax</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How did the industrial revolution allow the textile industry to develop in Halifax in the 19th century? • What advantages and disadvantages did the textile industry bring to Halifax? <p>Case study 2 – Nike and globalisation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is globalisation? • Where does Nike operate? • Why does Nike operate on a global scale? • What are working conditions like in Nike’s factories? • What advantages and disadvantages does Nike bring for the countries where it has factories? • How can economic development be made more sustainable? 	
Christmas exam details	Exam format	<p>1 hour</p> <p>Short-answer questions with some paragraph-long answers based on the case studies</p>
	Further revision required	<p>All previous Common Entrance topics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location knowledge • Map skills • Settlement and population • Weather and climate • Rivers and coasts

Please note that any topics that are not covered by the time of the exam will not be included in the exam. For more information about geography contact Jon Jenkins.

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Year 8	Subject – Music	Term – Michaelmas
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Topics covered	<p>Music history</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Music form and structure • Early polyphony – Dufay, Taverner, Ockeghem, Josquin • Music & recusancy • Willcocks, Rutter & ‘Carols for Choirs’ <p>Listening and analysis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impressionist – Debussy and Ravel • Modernist – Stravinsky and Shostakovich • Serialist – Schoenberg and Berg • Nationalist – Elgar and Parry • 20th century - Sinatra <p>Carol composition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Words to rhythm • Melodic writing • Chords and counterpoint 	
Christmas exam details	Exam format	No exam
	Further revision required	None

For more information about class music contact Nick Morrell.

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