



## Year 11 Subject Leader Comments – Term 2

Subject	Subject Leader Comment
Art	In Term 2, students have been concluding their work on the project 'Manmade/Natural Forms' and developing ideas for their mock exam. Students have been exploring a variety of different materials to produce detailed and developmental outcomes to improve their sketchbooks. The mock exam has enabled students to experience a ten-hour period of study whilst developing their ideas to produce individual and experimental final outcomes. The coursework, which is worth 60% of the overall GCSE, will conclude at the beginning of January and students have been informed of the coursework hand in date on 5th January 2026, which is when the 40% externally assessed assignment will begin. The mock results given in this report are based on the 60% coursework only. Students will have no more allocated time to work on their coursework after the hand in date, therefore it is crucial that all next steps are completed by then.
Biology	The Biology mock examination was a 90-minute paper covering all GCSE topics taught so far (please see the exam breakdown on the report for details).
Chemistry	The Chemistry mock examination was a 90-minute paper covering all GCSE topics taught so far (please see the exam breakdown on the report for details).
Computer Science	So far this year, students have been learning about the components of a computer system and their function, including the role of the CPU components, learning about the operating system with coverage of utility and simulation software, the differences between high- and low-level programming languages, the use of an assembler and the functions of a compiler and interpreter. They have also been learning about networks, starting with how the Internet is structured, and what is meant by the World Wide Web. They have also covered wireless networks, network (LAN and WAN) and different network topologies, and the role of different protocols and the layers in the TCP/IP protocol stack. Finally, they looked at network security issues and threats, with a look at different ways our networks can be made more secure.
Design Engineering	Following the mock exams covering the entire Design Engineering exam specification, students have been provided with guidance and feedback on specific areas to develop (shown in their report) to help them prepare for the Summer exam. In lessons, students have completed their research and have then progressed onto their design proposals using a variety of drawing and Computer Aided Design (CAD) techniques. Students will then progress onto designing a printed circuit board, using an iterative design method. This is the used to simulate the full operation their project circuit, ensuring the initial design will control the system that they have designed before



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	producing the PCB using 'real-world' components. All the tasks are being assessed in line with the Design Engineering specification.
Drama	This term's report focuses on the mock exam. In the mock, students sat the full AQA GCSE Drama paper, which is 105 minutes long and is marked out of 80. There are three sections. Section 1 is a short, multiple-choice section on stage types and positions, marked out of 4. Section 2 is on Blood Brothers, the set text, and students answer a series of 4,8,12, and 20-mark questions based on an extract and their wider knowledge of the text. Finally, section 3 is a single essay, marked out of 32, where the students write about The Crucible as a 'Live Theatre' production. It should be remembered by parents and students that the real written paper will constitute 40% of the GCSE in the Summer, the other 60% being made up of their Devised and Scripted NEA practical assessments.
English Language	In English Language, students have completed a full Paper 2 examination. This is a challenging assessment that tests their ability to analyse, evaluate and compare two unseen non-fiction texts, as well as produce a transactional writing piece. This task requires students to demonstrate control of language and structure, adapting their writing to suit different purposes, audiences and genres.
English Literature	This term, students have been completing their mock examinations in English Literature, focusing on Paper 2. This has included comparing poems from the Conflict cluster and producing an essay response on their Post-1914 text, which is either The Empress or An Inspector Calls. Prior to the mock exams, students consolidated their understanding of the poems studied so far, with work on the remaining poems continuing through the rest of this term.
EPR	In Paper 1 (the Study of Religion), students were examined on two topics: Christianity: Practices; Islam: Beliefs and Teachings. In Paper 2 (Thematic Studies) students were examined on two topics: Religion, Peace and Conflict; Religion, Crime and Punishment. Both papers are equally weighted (50% each). Each question was split into five parts and assessed against two equally weighted assessment objectives. Assessment Objective 1 requires students to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of religion and beliefs. Assessment Objective 2 requires students to analyse and evaluate aspects of religion and belief, including their significance and influence.
French	In Term 2, students have studied the topic of 'The Environment', discussing geography, the climate and ways to protect the environment. The grammar focus has been on using the passive voice and revising key tenses. They have also been working on developing their written and spoken French to include more complex grammatical structures. The mock exams consisted of four papers: Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. Skills such as essay writing, translating from French to English and English to French, listening and reading comprehension were all assessed across these exams. Following on from the mock exams, the students have looked at various exam techniques and strategies for success.



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Geography	Students have studied five of the eight GCSE Geography topics so far. These were tested in three mock papers: the Our Natural World paper (35%), the People and Society paper (35%) and the Geographical Exploration paper (30%), in the same format as they will be tested in the summer. Therefore, the overall mock grade is a very good reflection of attainment in Geography at present. Students are studying 'Dynamic Development' at the moment and will study the remaining topics - 'Sustaining Ecosystems' and 'Resource Reliance' - over the next few months.
History	Since the start of the academic year, students have completed their study of the reign of Edward I. Students have developed their understanding of the relationship between the King and the Church, the way the economy developed, the sources of finance available to the King, and the historic environment, Caernarfon Castle. All students have been completing weekly practice questions for homework which encourage them to revise content from the two Year 10 modules: America and the First World War. Students were given bespoke revision guides at the start of the academic year, which should be at the heart of their independent study. The Year 11 History Mock assessed all three modules.
Maths	This term, work has continued through the GCSE syllabus covering material such as exact calculations and probability. Each topic is studied in class, practised through homework and formally assessed by overarching tests. The attainment grade given represents solely the result of the mock examination and the projected grade represents what similar students have generally gone on to achieve. Details of the GCSE curriculum can be found on the department website <a href="https://mathematics.bourne-grammar.lincs.sch.uk">https://mathematics.bourne-grammar.lincs.sch.uk</a>
Music	Year 11 have continued to make progress with their coursework, and many of the solo and ensemble performances have now been recorded. Their composing work is ongoing, and they have received specific guidance and model examples to support their approach to the brief composition. In addition, students have completed the Star Wars set work and have begun studying the final set piece, Beethoven's Pathétique Sonata. This term's mock exam focused exclusively on the listening paper and did not take into account the 60% coursework element. This approach is intended to highlight the significance of the listening paper and the impact it has on overall grades. Moving forward, Year 11 students must balance their Music learning carefully, ensuring they produce high-quality coursework while also continuing to develop the analytical skills required for success in the listening paper.
PE (Core)	In Year 11 students are given greater freedom in the activities they pursue over the term, opting from a wide range that includes badminton, table tennis, fitness, netball, football and golf. Whilst the weather has affected the ability to follow the planned programme of activities on occasions, the emphasis has been placed on participation and enjoyment.
PE (GCSE Course)	The Attainment Grade for the mock exam has been based solely on the Paper 2 grade boundaries from the exam last summer. The Projected Grade takes into account the mock exam and expected marks for their NEA (3 x



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	practical activities and written A&E task). This is as close as possible to projecting the final grade at present, combining all aspects that will make up the grade next summer. Students have had detailed feedback on the paper in lessons, and a full mark scheme has been sent to all students to review in further detail should they wish. Once the Year 11 course has been completed in March, students will complete several past papers of the Year 11 work. Later in the year, as more past papers have been completed, a more accurate grade can be projected.
Physics	The Physics mock examination was a 90-minute written paper which included all GCSE topics covered so far (please see the exam breakdown for details).
Spanish	After completing a full mock paper exam for all four skills of listening, reading, speaking and writing, students have reflected on the feedback given in their lessons to help refine their exam strategy and identify gaps in their knowledge. They have also begun studying the topic of town and local area, including an opportunity to consolidate exam skills such as the Picture task and Translation.
Statistics	Students have started the final Statistics topic of Probability in Year 11, covering a simple recap of basic probability, Venn diagrams, tree diagrams, and conditional probability. Students have completed two papers as part of their Mock Exam for Statistics, covering content from Year 10 as well as some aspects of Probability. Students will continue to study Probability, with an aim to finish the course and start past paper practice and other projects in the next term.
Statistics & Further Maths	Students have been studying the Further Maths side of the course, and have recapped numerical calculations involving surds, alongside covering Equations & Functions and Graphing in great depth. Students have sat a Mock Exam paper in Statistics, which covers all topics covered last year, and a Mock Exam paper in Further Maths, covering the previously mentioned topics. Students will move on to cover Sequences and Differentiation, an entry point to Calculus in A-Level Maths, in the coming weeks.