

# HELSBY

## Sixth Form



### **Year 13**

### **Subject Specific Revision**

### **Information for the**

### **Y13 PPE**

### **Autumn 2026**

## **OCR National in IT**

Due to the nature of this vocational course, students have not currently covered enough of the theory in Unit F200 to be assessed in any depth at this stage.

## **Art & Photography**

Students will be assessed on their portfolio work in Art and Photography. During the PPE window students should continue to work on their individual portfolios. All students have been given individual targets and deadlines which they need to work towards. Students will not be having a formal PPE at this time.

## **Biology**

2 papers 1 x 2 hour and 1 x 1 hour.

**Students should bring:** Pen, Pencil, Ruler (with millimetre measurements), eraser and scientific Calculator

### **Topics to be covered:**

**Paper 1:** All AS Content

**Section 1** (Biological Molecules, Nucleic Acids)

**Section 2** (Cells, Membranes, Immune system)

**Section 3** (Exchange of substances, Mass transport)

**Section 4** (DNA, Protein Synthesis, Genetic diversity, Biodiversity)

- General How Science Works skills.

### **Paper 2:**

- Respiration, Photosynthesis, Nerves and muscles.
- Selected other A2 content (further information will follow in class)
- General How Science Works skills

### **Revision resources:**

- Practice papers and mark schemes
- Guide on preparation for examinations
- Links to past papers
- YouTube revision sites
- Revision notes + summary grids

All will be shared via Class Charts

## **Business Studies**

1 x 2 hour paper. (Paper 3 longer case study)

**Students should bring:** pen, pencil, ruler, rubber, and calculator.

**Topics to be covered:** Students should focus on their recent learning, 3.7 and 3.8 Strategy as well as the following topics

- Methods of promotion
- Copyright
- Gearing, Liquidity ratios and Debt Factoring
- Leadership Styles and Strategies
- Stakeholders and Takeovers
- Strategic planning including Ansoff, Porter's Five Forces and Porter's Generic Strategies

### **Resources provided:**

- Case Study, question paper and lined paper

## **Chemistry**

**Paper 1:** Inorganic & Physical Chemistry 90 marks / 1hour 45mins.

**Paper 2:** Organic & Physical Chemistry 90marks / 1hour 45mins.

**Students should bring:** Pen, pencil, ruler (with millimetre measurements), eraser, scientific calculator.

**Paper 1:** Inorganic & Physical Chemistry - Atomic Structure Amount of Substance Bonding Energetics Chemical Equilibria & Le Chatelier's Principle Equilibrium Constant Kc Oxidation, reduction & redox equations Periodicity & Group 2 Group 7, The Halogens Thermodynamics

**Paper 2:** Organic & Physical Chemistry - Amount of Substance Bonding Chemical Equilibria & Le Chatelier's Principle Equilibrium Constant Kc Introduction to organic chemistry Alkanes Halogenoalkanes Alkenes Alcohols Organic analysis Rate Equations

These topics are common to Paper 1 & Paper 2. Amount of Substance Bonding Chemical Equilibria & Le Chatelier's Principle Equilibrium Constant Kc Introduction to organic chemistry Alkanes Halogenoalkanes Alkenes Alcohols Organic analysis Rate equations

**Resources we will provide:** Practice papers and mark schemes. Guide on Preparation for Examinations

### **Revision resources:**

- Allery Tutor Chemistry Videos link to play list  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPtWS4fCi25YHw5SPGdPz0q>
- A level Chemistry revision notes. <https://www.docbrown.info/page13/page13.htm>
- A level Chemistry notes. <http://www.knockhardy.org.uk/sci.htm>
- A level Chemistry notes and activities <https://s-cool.co.uk/a-level/chemistry>
- A level Chemistry notes and activities. <http://www.chemguide.co.uk/>
- A level Chemistry notes and activities. <http://www.chembook.co.uk/>

**Additional Information: These topics are common to paper 1 and paper 2:** Amount of substance Bonding Chemical Equilibria & Le Chatelier's principle Equilibrium Constant Kc

## **Computer Science**

**Paper 1:** 1 hour 30 minutes - Programming to be completed on the computer (MGR material)

### **Topics to be covered:**

- 4.1 Fundamentals of Programming
- 4.13 Systematic approach to problem solving
- 4.2 Fundamentals Data structures
- 4.3 Fundamentals of algorithms

**Paper 2:** 1 hour 30 minutes - Theory (MDA material)

### **Topics to be covered:**

- 4.5 Fundamentals of data representation
- 4.6 Fundamentals of computer systems
- 4.7 Fundamentals of computer organisation and architecture
- 4.8 Consequences of uses of computing

### **General Revision Resources:**

- Class Notes
- Revision book
- Isaac Computing
- Craig 'n' Dave YouTube website - [AQA A-Level Computer Science Revision | Craig 'n' Dave](#)

## **Criminology**

No PPE - Students will complete a Controlled Assessment utilising draft documentation they have prepared during lessons.

## **Economics**

1 x 2 hour paper.

**Students should bring:** pen, pencil, ruler, rubber, and calculator

### **Topics to be covered:**

- Micro Economics.
- All Y12 work covered
- Y13 work covered since we returned in Sept

### **Revision Resources:**

- Revision guide pages as follows: Y12 Micro p5-37; 76-88; 90-106. Y13 Work Market structures P38-56; 58-67. Labour markets P102-117

## **English Language**

**Paper 1** Language variation. 2 Hour 15 minutes

**Paper 2** Child Language 1 Hour 15 minutes

### **Topics to be covered:**

#### **Paper 1**

- How language varies depending upon mode, field, function and audience
- How language choices can create personal identities/constructs meaning
- How language varies over time

#### **Paper 2**

- Spoken language acquisition and how children learn to write between the ages of 0 and 8
- The relationship between spoken language acquisition and literacy skills that children are taught, including the beginnings of reading
- Appropriate theories of children's language development

**Revision Resources:** Have been provided on ClassCharts and in lessons and also on RM Shared

## **English Literature**

1 paper 2 hours 30 minutes **Aspects of Tragedy** – Closed book exam

### **Topics to be covered:**

- Othello
- Poetry of Keats
- Death of a Salesman

### **Revision resources:**

- Classroom notes
- Essays and text annotations.
- Emagazine subscription

## **Further Maths**

3 papers x 1 hour 30 minutes

**Students will need a calculator**

### **Topics to be covered:**

Paper 1 Core:

- Complex Numbers
- Argand Diagrams
- Roots of Polynomials
- Sums of series
- Proof by Induction
- Volumes of revolution
- Matrices
- Vectors

Paper 2 Stats:

#### **Stats:**

- Binomial distribution
- Poisson distribution
- Discrete random variables
- Chi-squared tests
- Contingency tables
- Hypothesis testing
- Geometric distribution
- Negative binomial distribution

Paper 3 Mechanics:

#### **Mechanics:**

- Momentum and Impulse
- Work, energy, power
- Elastic strings and springs
- Elastic collisions in one dimension
- Elastic collisions in two dimensions

**Resources we will provide:** Formula Booklet

**Revision resources:** ActiveLearn, Completed assessments

## **French**

Students will sit two written exams and complete one speaking exam of A Level standard –

**Component 1** - Listening, reading and translation - 2 hours 30 minutes

**Component 2** - Literature exam (2 essays) – 2 hours

**Component 3** - Speaking Assessment 30 minutes to be arranged with MFL Staff during lesson time

### **Topics to be covered:**

- Revise all of the topics covered this year, including A04 facts for the speaking exam
- Practise grammar covered this year and revise key topic vocabulary.
- Revise all the main characters and themes from 'No et Moi', specific vocabulary & short quotes from the book and some phrases to help sequence your ideas. Don't forget to revise compound tenses and learn some key complex vocabulary.
- Revise the work you have done on "La Haine" up until now

### **Resources provided:**

- Printed exam papers & photo card. Lined exercise paper.
- Equipment Required:
- Pen & spare pen Highlighter pen

**Revision Resources:**

- All Languages & grammar notes
- AO4 Fact lists (a few key dates/examples/trends from French or French-speaking countries)
- Translation, listening and reading practice booklets
- Interactive listening & reading tasks on Kerboodle
- Essay example sheets from 'No et Moi' on key themes & characters
- "No et moi" and "La Haine" guides

**Additional Information:**

The two written papers will be scheduled during the exam fortnight. We will make individual appointments with students to sit a speaking exam.

**Geography**

1 paper 2 hours and 30 minutes

**Topics to be covered:**

- Water and cycles unit
- Coastal systems and landscape unit
- Changing places unit

**Resources provided:** Time for independent revision

**Revision resources:**

- Classroom notes.
- A level textbook: AQA Geography, Skinner et al (2016).
- A level revision guides: ·
- My Revision Notes: AQA A-level Geography: Second Edition (2021),
- AQA Complete Revision & Practice, CGP A-Level Geography, (2021)
- AQA past papers <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/geography/as-and-a-level/geography-7036/assessment-resource>

**Health and Social Care (Level 3 Cambridge Technical)**

**\*Unit 4 – LO6 Assessment will be sat in lesson time just after the PPE window**

Unit 4 – LO6 The Sensory Systems

6.1 Structure of the eye

6.2 Structure of the ear

6.3 Malfunctions of the eye and ear

6.4 monitoring, treatment and care needs for malfunctions of the eye and ear

Resources: Lesson Pack; Exam Pack; Independent Study Pack

Revision Resources: My Revision Notes textbook

**History**

1 paper 1 hour 45 minutes

Civil Rights – African Americans 1865-1992

1 x 30 mark interpretation question

1 x 25 mark essay (from a choice of two)

**Revision Resources:**

Weekly revision tasks to be completed in class and at home to help structure revision and preparation

<https://www.hoddereducation.co.uk/subjects/history/products/16-18/my-revision-notes-ocr-as-a-level-history-england-1>

## **Maths**

2 papers x 2 hours

**Pure** – 2 hours

**Statistics and Mechanics** – 2 hours

**Students should bring:** Pen, Pencil, Calculator, and Ruler.

### **Topics to be covered:**

All AS Topics

#### **Pure:**

Argument and Proof, Index Laws, Surds, Quadratic Functions, Lines and Circles, Simultaneous Equations, Inequalities, Differentiation, Rates of Change, Tangents and Normals, Turning Points, Integration, Area under a Curve, Trigonometry, Sine and Cosine Rules, Polynomials, Binomial Theorem, Algebraic Division, Vectors, Curve Sketching, Laws of Logarithms, Exponential Functions, Exponential Processes, Curve Fitting

#### **Mechanics:**

Forces and Newton's Laws, Units and Kinematics

#### **Stats:**

Probability, Binomial Distribution, Hypothesis Testing, Collecting, Representing and Interpreting Data, The Large Data Set

### **Resources we will provide:**

Past exam papers already being completed and marked.

Past exam questions as starters in lessons

**Revision resources:** ActiveLearn textbook

## **Media Studies**

1 x full Component One paper; Media Products, Industries and Audience 2 hours 15 minutes

### **Topics to be covered:**

All Component One texts must be revised\* as at least four of them will appear on the paper, just as in the real exam.

### **Topics to be covered:**

- Newspapers/news websites (The Times & The Mirror)
- Music videos ('Formation' & 'Riptide')
- Film (I, Daniel Blake & Black Panther)
- Advertising (SuperHuman, Tide & KOTV poster)
- Radio (Woman's Hour)
- Computer Games (Assassin's Creed)

\*All theorists and terminology covered in Y12 – Subject handbook final sections (theorists in a nutshell and glossary of terms) are especially useful. Also, be prepared to respond to "unseen" audio-visual and print texts.

**Resources provided:** 'Unseen' audio-visual and print texts.

**Revision resources:** class notes, Eduqas fact sheets, Zig-zag e-revision, Mrs Fisher and Media Insider Youtube videos and all the free digital resources on the Eduqas website.

## **Performing Arts**

1 x paper 70 minutes

Students are to pick on piece of live theatre that we have explored in lesson. Students will complete research and produce notes and a bibliography within lesson time and they will bring these into the PPE with them.

In the exam, they will explore question two of the Unit 1 exam which focusses on analysing theatre techniques and conventions in line with a theme. Students will have 70 minutes to complete this question, on laptops, and using their pre-prepared notes.

## **Physics**

Paper 1 x 2hours Paper 2 x 1 hour 30 minutes

**Students should bring** Pen, Pencil, Rubber, Ruler and Calculator

**Paper 1 - Full A Level paper 1** - 85 Marks split 60 short and long answer questions and 25 multiple choice

### **Topics to be covered:**

- Measurement and errors
- Particles and radiation
- Mechanics and materials
- Electricity
- Circular and Periodic motion

### **Paper 2 – Year 2 content and required practicals**

### **Topics to be covered:**

- Thermal Physics
- Further Mechanics
- Gravitational Fields
- Electric Fields
- Capacitance
- All required practicals completed up to the exam

### **Resources provided:**

- Equation sheet

**Revision Resources:** Information and resources available via ClassCharts

## **Politics**

1 x 2 hour paper on the **UK Government and Politics**

Q 1,2 and 3, 9 marks each

Q4 25 mark extract question

Q5/Q6 Mark essay question (from a choice of 2)

### **Topics to be covered:**

- The Constitution
- Parliament
- Democracy and Participation
- Prime Minister and the Cabinet
- The Judiciary
- Devolution
- Elections and Referendums
- Political Parties
- The European Union

**Revision Resources:**

Students will be provided with a structured revision schedule including weekly tasks to complete both at home and in lessons.

**Product Design**

**Paper 1x** 2 hours and 30 minutes. Written paper 120 marks. Will cover areas of the specification: Technical Principles. This paper will include the following topics:

- Biodegradable polymers
- Finishing techniques
- Vacuum forming
- Thermoplastics vs thermosetting polymers
- Aluminium composite board
- Cumulative frequency graphs
- Exploded diagrams
- Electroplating
- Timber waste / planing
- Polypropylene & injection moulding
- Low-carbon steel & press forming/welding
- Polymer dip coating
- Rotational moulding
- Veneer vs melamine formaldehyde laminate
- Compression moulding
- Laser cutting & CNC calculations
- Manufacturing feasibility studies
- Six Rs of sustainability
- Destructive vs non-destructive testing
- Risk assessments
- FSC-certified timber
- Anthropometric data & ergonomics
- MDF & computer-controlled routing

**Paper 2x** 1 hour and 30 minutes. Written paper 80 marks. Will cover areas of the specification: Designing and Making principles. This paper will include the following topics

- Product Design Specification
- CAD
- Ethical design/manufacture
- Margaret Calvert
- Manufacturing processes & production
- Quality control
- Manufacturing plans
- Low-carbon steel
- Manual wood wasting processes
- Timber/manufactured boards
- Polymers
- Textiles
- Self-assembly furniture & environmental impact
- European Battery Directive
- Lifecycle thinking / sustainability
- Arts and Crafts movement
- Online collaborative working
- Comparison/evaluation skills
- Density, volume & percentage calculations
- Histograms & data interpretation
- Measurement error & dimensional tolerances

**Students should bring:** usual writing and drawing instruments and scientific calculator

**Revision Resources:**

The following text books are useful to support revision for the exam papers:

- <https://www.amazon.co.uk/AQA-AS-Level-Design-Technology/dp/1510414088>
- <https://www.amazon.co.uk/My-Revision-Notes-Technology-Product/dp/151043229>

**Psychology**

2 papers x 2 hours

**Students should bring:** Pen Pencil Ruler Calculator

**Paper 1:**

- Social Influence
- Memory
- Attachment
- Psychopathology

**Paper 2:**

- Issues and debates
- Relationships
- Approaches
- Research Methods

Students should already have their completed booklets/class notes for each topic, alongside previous assessments (with feedback) and some sample answers.

**Revision resources:**

Flash cards for each topic

Past paper questions

Essay plans

<https://www.tutor2u.net/psychology>

**Sociology**

2 x 2 hour papers

**Topics to be covered:**

**Paper 1:**

- Education, Research methods, Methods in context

**Paper 2:**

- Family, Crime and Deviance – Marxist views on crime, Gender and crime, Functionalism and crime

**Revision resources:**

- Students have been provided with flashcards and A3 summary sheets to use for revision
- Use feedback from previous assessments
- <https://www.tutor2u.net/sociology/latest>

## **Sport & Physical Activity (Cambridge Technical)**

1 paper

- 1 x 1 hour

### **Unit 3 Sports Organisation and Development**

#### **Topics to be covered:**

- How sport in the UK is organised
- Sports development
- Measuring the impact of sport development

#### **Revision resources:**

- Folders
- Textbooks
- SharePoint
- OCR website

## The Best Way to Revise for Your A Levels

A Levels are a big step up from GCSEs — they require deeper understanding, stronger analytical skills, and more independent study. Effective revision is about quality, not just quantity. This guide will help you structure your revision to maximise results while staying balanced and focussed.

### 1. Start Early and Plan Ahead

A Levels cover a lot of material, so starting early is key. A good plan reduces stress and ensures you have enough time to cover everything thoroughly.

#### Steps to build a strong revision plan:

- **Begin weeks before exams** to avoid last-minute cramming.
- **List all subjects and topics**, breaking them into small, manageable chunks.
- **Prioritise your weakest topics first** while still revising stronger areas regularly.
- **Set realistic daily and weekly goals**, balancing study with rest.
- **Include regular review sessions** to reinforce what you've learned.

#### Example weekly timetable:

| Day       | Morning (9:00–11:00) | Midday (11:30–1:30)   | Afternoon (2:30–4:30)  |
|-----------|----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Monday    | Biology – Genetics   | Chemistry – Organic   | Maths – Mechanics      |
| Tuesday   | History – Cold War   | Biology – Practice Qs | Chemistry – Equilibria |
| Wednesday | Maths – Pure         | History – Source Qs   | Biology – Essay Plans  |

### 2. Focus on Understanding, Not Just Memorising

A Levels test **critical thinking and application**, not just recall. You need to **understand concepts deeply** so you can apply them to unfamiliar questions.

#### How to achieve this:

- **Ask yourself "why?"** when revising – don't just accept facts.
- **Summarise in your own words** to check your understanding.
- **Teach someone else** – explaining a topic proves you truly understand it.
- **Use real-world examples** to connect abstract concepts to practical situations.

### 3. Use Active Revision Techniques

Active revision keeps your brain engaged and improves retention far more than passive reading.

#### Highly effective active methods:

- **Past Papers & Exam Practice:**
  - Do at least one paper a week per subject.
  - Time yourself to simulate exam conditions.
  - Mark carefully using the official mark scheme to understand what examiners want.
- **Flashcards (Digital or Paper):**
  - Use apps like Quizlet or Anki for spaced repetition.
  - Focus on key definitions, formulas, and concepts.
- **Mind Maps:**
  - Create visual diagrams to link ideas and spot connections.
  - Especially useful for essay-based subjects like History or Psychology.
- **Blurting Technique:**
  - Write down everything you know about a topic from memory.
  - Compare to your notes and fill in gaps.
- **Active Note Condensing:**
  - Rewrite notes into concise summaries or bullet points.
  - Aim to reduce each topic into a single side of A4 paper.

#### 4. Space out Your Revision (Spaced Repetition)

Spacing your revision helps move information into long-term memory and avoids last-minute cramming.

##### Example spaced repetition cycle:

- **Day 1:** Learn a topic.
- **Day 3:** Review it briefly.
- **Day 7:** Test yourself without notes.
- **Day 14:** Revisit and refine your understanding.
- **Final weeks:** Focus on weaker areas and exam technique.

#### 5. Balance Study and Wellbeing

Your brain works best when you look after yourself.

- **Sleep:** Aim for 7–8 hours per night – no all-nighters.
- **Exercise:** Even light activity boosts focus and mood.
- **Diet:** Eat balanced meals with slow-release energy foods (oats, nuts, whole grains).
- **Breaks:** Use the *Pomodoro Technique* – 25 minutes work, 5 minutes rest.
- **Avoid burnout:** Take a full day off occasionally to recharge.

#### 6. Exam Technique Matters

Even if you know the content, poor exam technique can cost marks.

##### Tips for success:

- **Always read questions carefully** and highlight key words.
- **Answer the question, not the topic** – stay focused and relevant.
- **Plan essays briefly before writing** to stay structured.
- **Time management:**
  - Don't spend too long on one question.
  - Leave a few minutes at the end to check answers.

#### 7. Useful Resources

Here are some free, reliable resources to boost your revision:

- **Seneca Learning:** <https://www.senecalearning.com>
- **Physics & Maths Tutor:** <https://www.physicsandmathstutor.com>
- **BBC Bitesize A Level:** <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>
- **Revision Science:** <https://revisionscience.com>
- **Past Papers:** From your exam board's official site (AQA, Edexcel, OCR, etc.).

#### 8. Final Advice for A-Level Success

- Start early and stay consistent – little and often beats cramming.
- Use active techniques to make revision more effective.
- Practice past papers regularly to perfect exam technique.
- Stay calm, take care of yourself, and trust the process.
- Remember: progress comes from persistence, not perfection.