



## Year 11 Subject Leader Comments – Term 1

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Art	This term, students have been working independently on their chosen themes to focus and develop their ideas before their mock exam in December. Students have been given individual feedback and are using this to explore a variety of materials and techniques to complete their sketchbooks before the exam paper is released at the beginning of January. The mock exam in December is a final opportunity for all students to complete their coursework component (worth 60% of the GCSE) and achieve a final outcome in the ten hours provided.
Biology	Students have finished the 'Ecosystems' topic and have started studying the 'Variation and evolution'. Their attainment grade shown in this report is their current average test score grade.
Chemistry	Students have been studying the 'Dynamic equilibrium' topic in term 1. They will now be working through, or will shortly begin, the 'Earth's resources' topic.
Computer Science	Students have started the year by coding a Virtual Pet using the 'Scratch' programming interface. This provides an opportunity to use the core concepts of variables, loops, conditionals, and functions in a fun way, as students experiment with code and slowly add layers of complexity.
Design Engineering	Over the course of this term, students have completed their research into the contextual challenges sent from the exam board and have then progressed into their circuit design proposals using Circuit Wizard. This is used to simulate the full operation their project circuit, ensuring the initial design will control the system that they have designed before producing the PCB using 'real-world' components. This will then be followed by students designing a variety of different housings and then using computer aided design (CAD) to develop these ideas ready for computer aided manufacture (CAM), using either 3D printing or laser cutting. All the tasks are being assessed in line with the Design Engineering specification.
Drama	This term in Drama, students have been completing their Devising Logs and Portfolios, for their Devised Drama. This work constitutes 30% of the GCSE. In addition, they have begun studying a performance of



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	The Crucible, by Arthur Miller, in preparation for their Live Theatre essay in the forthcoming mock exam. The attainment grade on the report reflects the standard of work seen in the drafts so far, and is not a final grade for that work, which is still in progress.
English Language	Students have written, prepared, and performed speeches for the Spoken Language Endorsement, a supplementary qualification attached to their English Language GCSE. Alongside this, students have been focusing on developing their transactional writing, skills which will be assessed in Section B of their Paper 2 English Language GCSE examination as well as in their upcoming mock examination. Within this scheme of learning, students have been exposed to a range of non-fiction texts to explore how language and structure are manipulated to suit different purposes and genres. Lessons have also focused on teaching students to manipulate register and tone for effects. Finally, students have revised the analytical and evaluative skills needed to complete the reading section of Paper 2 (Section A).
English Literature	In Literature, students have been familiarising themselves with the 'Conflict' poetry anthology which will appear in their Paper 2 English Literature examination. Students have honed their analysis skills to blend comments on language, form, structure, and the impact of historical context with comparison of texts. Lessons have encouraged students to make links between poems across the anthology, and opportunities have been given for practising writing under timed conditions. Anthology poetry comparison will appear on the upcoming mock examination for English Literature, so quotation retrieval and timed essay writing are fundamental revision tasks.
EPR	In the Thematic Studies topics students examine life's ultimate questions and examine key issues/ideas that relate to how we ought to behave from a predominantly Christian perspective and a non-religious point of view. In the Study of Religions topics students explore the beliefs, teachings, and practices of Christianity and Islam. In this term, the students have been preparing for two topics that will appear on the study of religion paper: Islam - Beliefs and Teachings; Islam - Practices.
French	In Term 1, students have studied the topic of 'Social issues', discussing charities and volunteering as well as healthy and unhealthy living. The grammar focus has been on using higher level tenses such as the pluperfect and the subjunctive. They have also been working on developing their written and spoken



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	French to include more complex grammatical structures. The Term 1 assessment consisted of papers assessing listening, reading and writing skills.
Geography	GCSE geographers follow the OCR B Geography for Enquiring Minds (J384) specification. This term students have studied the Changing Climate unit which will be on their Physical Geography paper. This topic examines how the climate is changing and why the climate is changing. Students have examined evidence for climate change and have looked at UK examples and global examples of climate change. This attainment grade is based on their end of unit assessment for Changing Climates. Students will then go on to study a Human topic called Dynamic Development.
German	This term students have covered the topic of travel and tourism. Within the topic they revisited key grammar such as the use and formation of the tenses, prepositions and cases as well as word order in main and subclauses. They further began to revisit exam questions and skills as well as the specification vocabulary.
History	In Term 1, students are learning about Medieval England, specifically the reign of Edward I. They are developing their understanding of the themes which allowed Edward I to grow his royal authority, whilst practising their exam techniques. All students have been given a Handbook, which includes the core knowledge for this module. Students have also been sent revision booklets that they should be using to revise for their mock exams. The attainment grade in this report is based on exam questions completed in class, and practice questions completed for homework.
Maths	This term, work has continued through the GCSE syllabus covering material such as inequalities and 3D shapes. Each topic is studied in class, practised through homework and formally assessed by overarching tests. The attainment grade given represents an overview of their test performance so far and the projected grade represents what similar attaining 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> .



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Music	Students have focused this term on the last of their set work pieces: Beethoven's Pathetique Piano Sonata. They have also been continuing with their performing and composing coursework. The deadline for composition 2 and the solo performance is the end of Term 2, which will then allow time for revision and focus on the ensemble performance.
PE (Core)	Students are given greater freedom in the activities they pursue over the term, opting from those on offer. This term, students have followed a series of lessons from either self-defence, golf or football, as well as the opportunity to choose from games including badminton, table tennis, netball and volleyball. The emphasis has been placed on participation and enjoyment throughout.
PE (GCSE Course)	Since September students have been looking at the basic physiology of the skeletal and muscular systems. Skeletal system: - The names and locations of the major bones of the body; the functions of the skeletal system and joints; and the types of movements that occur at different joints. Muscular system: - The names, locations and roles of the major muscle groups; Antagonistic pairs and movement; the role and function of tendons. The attainment grade for this term has been based solely on a test of key terms and definitions of the work covered to date; the basics of these two units of work. In practical sessions, students have been completing netball.
Physics	Students have been studying the 'Forces and Their Effects' topic. The attainment grade is based on the end-of-topic test for this topic.
Spanish	In Term 1 students have studied the topic of Travel and Tourism. They can talk about past and future holidays, describing accommodation, transport and activities. They can also describe regions in Spain. Our grammar focus has been on the Preterite and Imperfect tenses; fancy sequence expressions; 'estar' + past participle using the passive voice. Students have practised exam skills such as 90 and 150-word essay, role plays, describing the photo card, general conversation questions and translations.
Statistics	Students have studied the final aspect of GCSE Statistics, Probability, which covers simple probability calculations, the use of Venn diagrams, and conditional probability. Students will continue with Probability



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	into next term, where they will study different probability distributions. Please note that the attainment grade is based on an average of all class assessments alongside the End-of-Year 10 Exam.