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**Headteacher:** Mr J Parr BA Hons

Thursday, 21 December 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

**Re: Year 9 Foundation Examinations - w/b 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2024**

The Foundation Examinations will take place w/b 22<sup>nd</sup> January which gives a clear fortnight after the Christmas holidays before the exams start, this will ensure all students can see each of their subject teachers at least once before their exam. A launch assembly for the Foundation Examinations will be held with Year 9 on the morning of Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January, during which we will explain the importance of revision. The exams will allow you and your child to see where their strengths lie in the Foundation subjects as they begin to think about their GCSE pathways choices, this process will start later in the Spring term. The Foundation Examinations are an important indicator of progress made by students and although there will be preparation taking place in lessons, the expectation is that this is supplemented and supported with revision at home. Our Parent/Carers guide to effective revision can be found on the school website [here](#), and it is full of ways that you can help your child to prepare for their exams.

If your child is ill during the Foundation Examination period, please phone the school office to report their absence in the usual way. We will re-arrange any missed exams for students who are too ill to attend. I would like to reiterate the importance of thorough preparation for these examinations. We have invested in an online revision tool called Seneca Learning; your child has the log in details for this. Please encourage them to use this along with the other signposted revision resources on GO 4 Schools for each subject.

During the revision assembly we will explain to Year 9 how to plan the use of their time and ensure that they can fit in sufficient revision for each subject. There is help, support and guidance on the school website [here](#) covering how to revise, how to deal with stress and useful links to documents such as the topics covered by the exams, a blank revision planner and the exams timetable. A copy of the exam timetable and the topics covered in each subject exam are included at the end of this letter and they have both been shared with students via Go4Schools and their email accounts.

Yours sincerely,

Mr D Bird

Assistant Headteacher

# Spring Term Foundation Exams 2023

## Year 9 Timetable

Week B

Date	Period 1 9:15 – 10:15	Period 2 10:15 – 11:15	Break	Period 3 11:30 – 12:30	Lunch	Period 4 13:20 – 14:20	Period 5 14:20 – 15:20
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January	Normal Lessons	<b>RPE</b> 48 mins (1hr)	Break	Normal Lessons	Lunch	<b>French reading</b> 48 mins (1hr)	Normal Lessons
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January	<b>French writing</b> 48 mins (1hr)	Normal Lessons	Break	<b>Computer science</b> 48 mins (1hr)	Lunch	Normal Lessons	Normal Lessons
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> January	Normal Lessons	Normal Lessons	Break	Normal Lessons	Lunch	<b>History</b> 48 mins (1hr)	Normal Lessons
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>Geography</b> 48 mins (1hr)	Normal Lessons	Break	Normal Lessons	Lunch	<b>DT</b> 48 mins (1hr)	Normal Lessons
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> January	Normal Lessons	<b>Drama</b> 30 mins (38 mins)	Break	Normal Lessons	Lunch	<b>Music</b> 30 mins (38 mins)	Normal Lessons

\*The Y9 Art Exam will be carried out in class where all appropriate resources will be available to students

## Year 9 Foundation Exam information 2023-24

The topics covered in each of the Foundation subject examinations are:

### Computer Science

Year	Topic	Knowledge organiser
7	E-safety Hardware and software Algorithms 1	<a href="#">Year 7 knowledge organisers - KS3 computing</a>
8	Computing systems Developing the web Introduction to Python programming Media - vector graphics	<a href="#">8.1 Computing systems</a> <a href="#">8.2 Developing the web</a> <a href="#">8.3 Introduction to Python programming</a> <a href="#">8.4 Media – vector graphics</a>
9	Cybersecurity Data Science Python programming with sequences	<a href="#">9.1 Cybersecurity</a> <a href="#">9.2 Data Science</a> <a href="#">9.3 Python programming with sequences</a>

### Drama

Students will be asked to describe, explain, and justify using examples from both recent and past practical activities how they would use **staging**, **space**, and **acting skills** to **communicate meaning** through theatre. Topics that are to be revised are from Years 7, 8 and 9 and include - **Mood and Atmosphere** (haunted house), **Physical Theatre** (dragon poem), **Choral Theatre** (the pilgrimage), **Physical Comedy** (newspaper sketch) and **DNA** (script interpretation).

Knowledge organisers and practise questions will be set on Go4Schools for homework.

### DT

Forces

Stresses

Functionality

Aesthetics

Workshop safety

Students will be directed to revision resources such as knowledge organisers and Seneca via Go4Schools.

## French

Highlighted areas are where vocabulary overlaps

<u>Year 7</u>	<u>Year 8</u>	<u>Year 9</u>
Sports	TV programmes + <b>opinions</b>	Weekend activities + <b>perfect tense</b>
School subjects + <b>opinions</b>	Festival activities	Careers + je veux être + <b>opinions</b>
<b>Near future</b>	Holidays + <b>perfect tense</b>	<b>Future plans + near future</b>
Likes and dislikes	Family members	Earning money
<b>Winter sports</b>	<b>Future plans + near future</b>	Jobs at home + <b>perfect tense</b>
Time expressions	<b>Online activities</b>	Pocket money purchases
Days of the week	<b>Sports</b>	Musical preferences
Personality adjectives		Description of myself when I was younger
<b>Technology + activities</b>		Describing life in the past

## Geography

### Year 7 topics:

Map skills - [knowledge organiser](#)

Climate change - [knowledge organiser](#)

### Year 8 topic:

Geology - [knowledge organiser](#)

### Year 9 topic:

Rainforests - [knowledge organiser](#)

## History

You will be asked about:

### Year 7:

[Chronology](#)

[Invaders and Settlers](#)

[The Tudors](#)

### Year 8:

[Crime and Punishment](#)

[The Transatlantic Slave Trade](#)

[Civil Rights](#)

[The Russian Revolution](#)

### Year 9:

[World War One](#)

## Music

- Reggae
- Spirituals
- Twelve bar blues

Students will be directed to revision resources such as knowledge organisers on G4Schools.

## RE

### Year 7 and 8

- Founders of religious faith.
- Key religious terms.
- Birth and coming of age ceremonies.

### Year 9

- Ethics and the law.
- Ethics and the sanctity of life.
- Ethics and the environment, including Creation.