Academy21 EXAM SUPPORT 2024-25

# General Guidance re Exams

* Academy21 students are prepared for a range of GCSE and Functional Skills courses (see list below)
* KS3 courses, particularly SB2 courses, provide students with a foundation of knowledge and skills needed for GCSEs
* GCSE courses are taught according to the specifications listed in the tables below. Relevant content is taught in manageable chunks during Y10, when parts of exam questions will be considered. During Y11, a range of practice questions are modelled regularly in lessons and set as activities for students to do independently.
* Equally, our sessions remain very useful to students who may be entered for other exam boards covering content and thinking, which helps grow students' confidence in learning and the kinds of subject specific skills they need (e.g. analysing a text in English, core scientific knowledge or applying mathematical functions).
* Our Y10 GCSE Combined/Dual Award Science course prepares students for Paper 1: the Y11 GCSE Combined/Dual Award Science course prepares students for Paper 2. Revision for both papers take place at the end of Y11.
* Practice questions are always marked according to exam specifications’ published criteria, so you have confidence students are working towards recognised criteria.
* We also offer ‘study skills’ sessions that clients can enrol students on to support with specific exam preparation and management techniques.
* Teachers can advise mentors whether maths and science students should be entered for Foundation or Higher: they will be placed in groups according to their ability.
* **Our students remain on roll with the commissioning organisation (e.g. a school), thus mentors/exams officers in the commissioning school are responsible for entering their students for exams and can ensure the correct exams and support are in place. Academy21 can support as mentioned above and recommend which access arrangements might be suitable but we do not enter students for exams and the commissioning school will make the final decision regarding access arrangements.**
* **Academy21 can enter English Language students for the SLE (spoken language exam): mentors are required to respond to the email communication sent in February, giving names of which students they would like to enter. It is recommended that they do so promptly in order to secure a slot.**

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| King’s InterHigh |
| Some students are enrolled into King’s InterHigh via our Academy21 sales team. In the exams folder are the two exams guidance documents shared by Head of Exams Thomas Millington.  If you have any questions at all about exams during the enrolment process please direct these to [exams@kingsinterhigh.co.uk](mailto:exams@kingsinterhigh.co.uk) and ensure the client school or LA has clarity on what we do and we have made sure they are thinking about exams, especially if the student is not in school but based with an LA. It is important schools understand what KIH do offer and the requirement they need to enter students for exams.  The documents in the folder include guidance on:   * Subjects and entry codes * Timetables for June 2024 * Resit options * How/Where to register * Online exams – what can/cannot be sat online * Access arrangements * Fees       As soon as the information is released by the exam boards, after the June 2024 series has ended, the exams team will update to guides. More detail can be found here: <https://kingsinterhigh.co.uk/our-school/exams/>  **If any clients mention online exams, please make sure they have absolute clarity on how the entry for online exams works and there is not an assumption we will handle the process.**  The guidance includes online exams but please refer any questions about online exams to the exams team. We have information on our website for online exams - <https://kingsinterhigh.co.uk/our-school/online-exams> |

# GCSE Courses Specification Codes, Website Links and Relevant Content

## English Language GCSE (9-1)

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| **Course Name** | English Language GCSE (9-1) 1 or 2 yrs |
| **Specification Number** | AQA 8700 |
| **Specification Link** | <https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/english/specifications/AQA-8700-SP-2015.PDF> |
| **Exam session** | Summer 2025 or Summer 2026 |
| **QAN** | 601/4292/3 |
| **Exam entry info** | This is a linear course. It consists of two externally examined components and one non-examination oracy assessment, which must be completed by 15th May.  Paper 1 Explorations in creative reading and writing 8700/1  Paper 2 Writers’ viewpoints and perspectives 8700/2  Spoken Language 8700/C |
| **Entry codes** | Paper 1 Explorations in creative reading and writing 8700/1  Paper 2 Writers’ viewpoints and perspectives 8700/2  Spoken Language 8700/C |
| **NC Year** | 10 and 11 or 11 |

## English Literature GCSE (9-1) 1 or 2 year A21 course

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| **Course Name** | English Literature GCSE (9-1) 1 or 2yrS |
| **Specification Number** | AQA 8702 |
| **Specification Link** | <https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/english/specifications/AQA-8702-SP-2015.PDF> |
| **Exam session** | Summer 2025 or Summer 2026 |
| **QAN** | 601/4447/6 |
| **Exam entry info** | Paper 1 Shakespeare and the 19th century novel 8702/1  Paper 2 Modern Texts and Poetry 8702/2 |
| **Entry codes** | Paper 1 Shakespeare and the 19th century novel 8702/1  Paper 2 Modern Texts and Poetry 8702/2 |
| **NC Year** | 10 or 11 |

## Citizenship Studies GCSE (9–1) 1 year A21 course

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| **Course Name** | Citizenship Studies GCSE (9-1) 1yr |
| **Specification Number** | AQA8100 |
| **Specification Link** | <https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/citizenship/specifications/AQA-8100-SP-2016.PDF> |
| **Exam session** | Summer 2025 |
| **QAN** | 601/8595/8 |
| **Exam entry info** | Exam for GCSE Citizenship Studies Paper 1 (8100/1)  Exam for GCSE Citizenship Studies Paper 2 (8100/2) |
| **Entry codes** | GCSE Citizenship Studies 8100  Paper 1 (8100/1)  Paper 2 (8100/2) |
| **NC Year** | 10 or 11 |

## History GCSE (9-1) 1 or 2 year A21 course

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| **Course Name** | History GCSE (9-1) 1yr or 2yr |
| **Specification Number** | AQA 8145 |
| **Specification Link** | <https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/history/specifications/AQA-8145-SP-2016.PDF> |
| **Exam session** | Summer 2025 |
| **QAN** | 601/8217/9 |
| **Exam entry info** | History combination MG Paper 1 Section A Option C Russia 1894–1945: Tsardom and communism Component code: 8145/1A/C  Paper 1 Section B Option B Conflict and tension - the inter-war years, 1918–1939 Component code: 8145/1B/B  Paper 2 Section A Option B Britain: Power and the people: c1170 to the present day Component code: 8145/2A/B  Paper 2 Section B Option C Elizabethan England, c1568–1603 Component code: 8145/2B/C |
| **Entry codes** | Entry code: 8145MG |
| **NC Year** | 10 or 11 |

## Maths GCSE Foundation (9-1)

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| **Course Name** | Maths GCSE(1-9) Foundation/ Foundation Plus |
| **Specification Number** | AQA 8300 or Edexcel (Pearson) 1MA1 |
| **Specification Link** | AQA: <https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/mathematics/specifications/AQA-8300-SP-2015.PDF>  Edexcel: <https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/GCSE/mathematics/2015/specification-and-sample-assesment/gcse-maths-2015-specification.pdf> |
| **Exam session** | Summer 2025 |
| **QAN** | AQA: 601/4608/4  Edexcel: 601/4700/3 |
| **Exam entry info** | Exam title “Mathematics” – No coursework  3 exams: Paper 1 (Non Calculator (33 ⅓%) 1 hr 30 mins)  Paper 2 (Calculator (33 ⅓%) 1 hr 30 mins)  Paper 3 (Calculator (33 ⅓%) 1 hr 30 mins)  Foundation tier grades 1 to 5 |
| **Entry codes** | AQA: 8300F  Edexcel: 1MA1 F |
| **NC Year** | 11 |

## Maths GCSE Higher (9-1)

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| **Course Name** | Maths GCSE(9-1) Higher |
| **Specification Number** | AQA 8300 or Edexcel (Pearson) 1MA1 |
| **Specification Link** | AQA: <https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/mathematics/specifications/AQA-8300-SP-2015.PDF>  Edexcel: <https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/GCSE/mathematics/2015/specification-and-sample-assesment/gcse-maths-2015-specification.pdf> |
| **Exam session** | Summer 2025 |
| **QAN** | AQA: 601/4608/4  Edexcel: 601/4700/3 |
| **Exam entry info** | Exam title “Mathematics” – No coursework  3 exams: Paper 1 (Non Calculator (33 ⅓%) 1 hr 30 mins)  Paper 2 (Calculator (33 ⅓%) 1 hr 30 mins)  Paper 3 (Calculator (33 ⅓%) 1 hr 30 mins)  Higher tier grades 4 to 9 |
| **Entry codes** | AQA: 8300H  Edexcel: 1MA1 H |
| **NC Year** | 11 |

## Combined Science GCSE Foundation and Higher (9-1)

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| **Course Name** | Combined Science, 1yr if started in Y11, 2 yrs if started in Y10 |
| **Specification Number** | AQA 8464 |
| **Specification Link** | <https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/science/specifications/AQA-8464-SP-2016.PDF> |
| **Exam session** | Summer 2025 or Summer 2026 |
| **QAN** | 601/8758/X |
| **Exam entry info** | Both Foundation and Higher options. Must enter for Paper 1 and 2 in all 3 sciences at either Foundation OR Higher tier – no mixing. |
| **Entry codes** | AQA Combined Science: Trilogy  June 2025 Series 6G22  Entry code 8464F or 8464H |
| **NC Year** | 11 or 10 and 11 |

## Science Triple Top-Up GCSE (9-1)

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| **Course Name** | Science Triple Top-Up |
| **Specification Number** | 8461, 8462 and 8463 - all three needed |
| **Specification Link** | Biology: <https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/biology/specifications/AQA-8461-SP-2016.PDF>  Chemistry: <https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/chemistry/specifications/AQA-8462-SP-2016.PDF>  Physics: <https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/physics/specifications/AQA-8463-SP-2016.PDF> |
| **Exam session** | Summer 2025  or Summer 2026 |
| **QAN** | 601/8752/9; 601/8757/8; 601/8751/7 |
| **Exam entry info** | Candidates should be entered for the three separate GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Please note that these cannot be entered at the same time as Combined Science GCSEs. We anticipate students enrolled on Triple Science would ordinarily sit H tier papers, but please consult before entry to confirm tier of entry for individual candidates and subjects (claire.semple@academy21.co.uk) |
| **Entry codes** | Biology GCSE (GCSE91) 8461  Chemistry GCSE (GCSE91) 8462  Physics GCSE (GCSE91) 8463 |
| **NC Year** | 11 |

# WJEC GCSE Courses (Wales entrants only)

## English Language GCSE WJEC (A\*-G)

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| **Course Name** | English Language GCSE WJEC (A\*-G) |
| **Specification Number** | WJEC 3700QS |
| **Specification Link** | <https://www.wjec.co.uk/media/krviytuc/wjec-gcse-english-language-specification-2015-24-10-14-branded.pdf> |
| **Exam session** | Summer 2025 or Summer 2026 |
| **QAN** | 601/4943/7 |
| **Exam entry info** | This is a linear course. It consists of two externally examined components and one non-examination oracy assessment.  Unit 1: Non-examination assessment – Oracy 20%  Unit 2: External assessment – Reading and Writing: Description, Narration and Exposition 40%  Unit 3: External assessment – Reading and Writing: Argumentation, Persuasion and Instructional 40% |
| **Entry codes** | WJEC GCSE English Language, Subject code: 3700 |
| **NC Year** | 11 or 10 and 11 |

## Maths/Numeracy (Foundation) GCSE WJEC (D to G)

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| **Course Name** | Maths/Numeracy (Foundation) GCSE WJEC (D to G) |
| **Specification Number** | WJEC 3300 (Mathematics) 3310 (Maths-Numeracy) |
| **Specification Link** | Mathematics: <https://www.wjec.co.uk/media/u3rbzz1p/wjec-gcse-maths-spec-from-2015-r-e.pdf>  Numeracy: <https://www.wjec.co.uk/media/4wjg3krk/wjec-gcse-maths-numeracy-spec-from-2015-r-e.pdf> |
| **Exam session** | Summer 2025 |
| **QAN** | Maths: QN 601/4907/3 Numeracy: QN 601/4908/5 |
| **Exam entry info** | Foundation Entry Advised  Students have to be entered for both Mathematics and Mathematics-Numeracy.  Academy21's WJEC Maths GCSE course is written for the students to be sitting both sets of exams in the summer of year 11. |
| **Entry codes** | Maths (English) 3300 PF  Maths (Welsh) 3300 LF  Numeracy (English) 3310 PF  Numeracy (Welsh) 3310 LF |
| **NC Year** | 11 |

## Maths/Numeracy (Intermedicate) GCSE WJEC (B to E)

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| **Course Name** | Maths/Numeracy (Intermediate) GCSE WJEC (B to E) |
| **Specification Number** | WJEC 3300 (Mathematics) 3310 (Maths-Numeracy) |
| **Specification Link** | Mathematics: <https://www.wjec.co.uk/media/u3rbzz1p/wjec-gcse-maths-spec-from-2015-r-e.pdf>  Numeracy: <https://www.wjec.co.uk/media/4wjg3krk/wjec-gcse-maths-numeracy-spec-from-2015-r-e.pdf> |
| **Exam session** | Summer 2025 |
| **QAN** | Maths: QN 601/4907/3 Numeracy: QN 601/4908/5 |
| **Exam entry info** | Intermediate Entry  Students have to be entered for both Mathematics and Mathematics-Numeracy.  Academy21's WJEC Maths GCSE course is written for the students to be sitting both sets of exams in the summer of year 11. |
| **Entry codes** | Maths (English) 3300 PN  Maths (Welsh) 3300 LN  Numeracy (English) 3310 PN  Numeracy (Welsh) 3310 LN |
| **NC Year** | 11 |

## WJEC GCSE Science Double Award FT (C-G)

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| **Course Name** | WJEC GCSE Science Double Award FT (C-G) |
| **Specification Number** | 3430QD |
| **Specification Link** | <https://www.wjec.co.uk/media/lknfmp5c/wjec-gcse-science-double-award-spec-from-2016.pdf> |
| **Exam session** | Summer 2025 |
| **QAN** | 601/8236/2 C00/0780/3  QWADN: C00/0780/3 |
| **Exam entry info** | WJEC advise F tier entry for a majority of students; please consult with A21 Science department if there are any queries (claire.semple@academy21.co.uk) |
| **Entry codes** | Year 10 or 11:  Unit 1: Biology 1 (Foundation Tier) 3430U1 (English) or 3430N1 (Welsh)  Unit 2: Chemistry 1 (Foundation Tier) 3430U2 (English) or 3430N2 (Welsh)  Unit 3: Physics 1 (Foundation Tier) 3430U3 (English) or 3430N3 (Welsh)  Year 11 only  Unit 4: Biology 2 (Foundation Tier) 3430U4 (English) or 3430N4 (Welsh)  Unit 5: Chemistry 2 (Foundation Tier) 3430U5 (English) or 3430N5 (Welsh)  Unit 6 Written Paper - Physics 2 Foundation 3430U6 (English) or 3430N6 (Welsh)  *Cash-In: English 3430 QD or Welsh 3430 CD* |
| **NC Year** | 10 or 11 |

# Entry Level Courses

## Everyday Science

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| **Course Name** | Everyday Science (KS4 Entry Level Science) |
| **Specification Number** | 6430QC |
| **Specification Link** | <https://www.wjec.co.uk/media/ybrbkzff/wjec-entry-level-certificate-in-science-spec-from-2016-e-11-06-2021.pdf> |
| **Exam session** | May 2025 for WJEC entry level  Internal assessments for Units 2 & 3 will be completed online from October 2024 and will need to be sent to the exam secretary in April 2025.  Unit 2: 4 x End of unit tests  Unit 3: 2 x Practical assessments |
| **QAN** | WJEC 601/8295/7 |
| **Exam entry info** | Qualifications Wales Designation Number: C00/0792/0 for the entry level certificate.  Unit 1: Written examination 6430QCL-1 |
| **Entry codes** | WJEC Entry Level Certificate in Science 6430QC (6430CC Welsh) |
| **NC Year** | 10 or 11 |

Functional Skills Courses

## English Functional Skills Levels 1 and 2

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| **Course Name** | English Functional Skills Levels 1 and 2 |
| **Specification Link** | <https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/Functional-skills/English/2019/specification-and-sample-assessments/pearson-edexcel-functional-skills-in-english-spec-l1-l2.pdf> |
| **QAN** | QN 603/4289/4 (L1) QN 603/4290/0 (L2) |
| **Exam entry info** | On-demand tests available throughout the year. Suggested exam entry in January and June/July. Speaking, listening and communication component must be assessed externally (not with Academy21) according to guidelines set out on Pearson website shown above. Customers must book tests through Pearson. More information about how to book on-demand tests and how to assess sample exam materials can be found on Excel Online. |
| **Entry codes** | Edexcel Functional Skills qualification in English  Level 1: QN 603/4289/4  Level 2: QN 603/4290/0 |
| **NC Year** | 11 |

## Maths Functional Skills Level 1

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| **Course Name** | Maths Functional Skills Level 1 (Note this is a Level 1 only course) |
| **Specification Link** | <https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/Functional-skills/Mathematics/2019/specification-and-sample-assessments/pearson-edexcel-functional-skills-in-maths-spec-l1-l2.pdf> |
| **QAN** | 603/4267/5 |
| **Exam entry info** | On-demand tests available throughout the year. Suggested exam entry in June. More information about how to book on-demand tests and how to assess sample exam materials can be found on Edexcel Online: <https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-functional-skills/maths-2019.coursematerials.html#%2FfilterQuery=category:Pearson-UK:Category%2FOnscreen-testing>  A21 advise F tier entry for any students progressing to Maths GCSE from this course. |
| **Entry codes** | Pearson Edexcel Functional Skills Qualification in Mathematics at Level 1  QN: 603/4267/5 |
| **NC Year** | 10 and 11 |

## Digital Functional Skills Qualification Level 1

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| **Course Name** | Digital Functional Skills Qualification |
| **Specification Link** | <https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1029751/Digital_Functional_Skills_qualifications_-_subject_content.pdf> |
| **QAN** | 610/3358/3 |
| **Exam entry info** | Assessment: Externally set, on-demand assessment – 105 minutes (Section A – questions; Section B – task)  Grading information: The qualification is graded pass/fail.  Entry requirements: No prior knowledge, understanding, skills or qualifications are required before learners register for this qualification. However, centres must follow the guidance given in the Pearson document – ‘A guide to recruiting with integrity and enrolling learners onto qualifications’ (see Section 7 Access and recruitment for more information). |
| **Entry codes** | Pearson Edexcel Digital Functional Skills qualification at Level 1 QN 610/3358/3 |
| **NC Year** | 7 to 11 |
| **Software requirement** | 1. Email address and software 2. Access to the internet 3. Word processing software 4. Spreadsheet software 5. Presentation software |

Cambridge Nationals IT Levels 1 and 2

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| **Course Name** | Cambridge Nationals IT Level 1/2 |
| **Specification Link** | <https://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/610951-specification-cambridge-nationals-it-j836.pdf> |
| **QAN** | 603/7115/8 |
| **Exam entry info** | R060: Data manipulation using spreadsheets - Centre-assessed tasks, OCR moderated-NEA  R070: Using augmented reality to present information-Centre-assessed tasks, OCR moderated-NEA  OCR-set assignments for NEA units are live for one year. Candidates have one resubmission opportunity. Resubmission of the same work must be in a series that falls in the live assessment dates for the assignment on which the work is based. All resubmissions must be based on the assignment that is live for the submission series.  **Terminal assessment**  R050: IT in the digital world-1 hour 30 mins - Written paper, OCR set and marked  You have to submit all centre-assessed units either **before or in the same series as the final exam is taken.** |
| **Entry codes** | Specification code J836 |
| **NC Year** | 10 and 11 |
| **Software requirement** | 1. Excel Spreadsheet 2. Word processing software 3. Email address and software 4. Adobe Aero software - <https://www.adobe.com/uk/products/aero.html> 5. Blippar - <https://blipps.blippar.com> 6. Access to the internet |