

Academy 21

***Exam
Information***

GCSE Courses (excluding WJEC)

English Language GCSE (9-1)

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 2026 or Summer 2027
QAN	601/4292/3
Exam entry info	<p>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.</p> <p>Paper 1 Explorations in creative reading and writing 8700/1</p> <p>Paper 2 Writers' viewpoints and perspectives 8700/2</p> <p>Spoken Language 8700/C</p>
Entry codes	<p>Paper 1 Explorations in creative reading and writing 8700/1</p> <p>Paper 2 Writers' viewpoints and perspectives 8700/2</p> <p>Spoken Language 8700/C</p>
NC Year	10 and 11 or 11

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

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 2026 or Summer 2027
QAN	601/4447/6
Exam entry info	<p>Paper 1 Shakespeare and the 19th century novel 8702/1</p> <p>Paper 2 Modern Texts and Poetry 8702/2</p>
Entry codes	<p>Paper 1 Shakespeare and the 19th century novel 8702/1</p> <p>Paper 2 Modern Texts and Poetry 8702/2</p>
NC Year	10 or 11

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

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 2026
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

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 2026
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

Geography GCSE (9-1) 1 year A21 course

Course Name	Geography GCSE (9-1) 1yr or 2yr
Specification Number	AQA 8035
Specification Link	https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/geography/gcse/geography-8035/specification
Exam session	Summer 2026
QAN	601/8410/3
Exam entry info	<p>Paper 1: Living with the physical environment 1 hour 30 minutes</p> <p>Paper 2: Challenges in the human environment 1 hour 30 minutes</p> <p>Paper 3: Geographical applications 1 hour 30 minutes</p> <p>Pre-release resources booklet made available 12 weeks before Paper 3 exam.</p> <p>Fieldwork is the responsibility of the student centre.</p>
Entry codes	8035
NC Year	11

Maths GCSE Foundation (9-1)

Course Name	Maths GCSE(1-9) Foundation/ Foundation Plus
Specification Number	AQA 8300 or Edexcel (Pearson) 1MA1
Specification Link	<p>AQA: https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/mathematics/specifications/AQA-8300-SP-2015.PDF</p> <p>Edexcel: https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/GCSE/mathematics/2015/specification-and-sample-assessment/gcse-maths-2015-specification.pdf</p>
Exam session	Summer 2026
QAN	AQA: 601/4608/4 Edexcel: 601/4700/3
Exam entry info	Exam title "Mathematics" – No coursework 3 exams: Paper 1 (Non Calculator (33 $\frac{1}{3}$ %) 1 hr 30 mins) Paper 2 (Calculator (33 $\frac{1}{3}$ %) 1 hr 30 mins) Paper 3 (Calculator (33 $\frac{1}{3}$ %) 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)

Course Name	Maths GCSE(9-1) Higher
Specification Number	AQA 8300 or Edexcel (Pearson) 1MA1
Specification Link	<p>AQA: https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/mathematics/specifications/AQA-8300-SP-2015.PDF</p> <p>Edexcel: https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/GCSE/mathematics/2015/specification-and-sample-assessment/gcse-maths-2015-specification.pdf</p>
Exam session	Summer 2026
QAN	<p>AQA: 601/4608/4</p> <p>Edexcel: 601/4700/3</p>
Exam entry info	<p>Exam title "Mathematics" – No coursework</p> <p>3 exams: Paper 1 (Non Calculator (33 ⅓%) 1 hr 30 mins)</p> <p> Paper 2 (Calculator (33 ⅓%) 1 hr 30 mins)</p> <p> Paper 3 (Calculator (33 ⅓%) 1 hr 30 mins)</p> <p>Higher tier grades 4 to 9</p>
Entry codes	<p>AQA: 8300H</p> <p>Edexcel: 1MA1 H</p>
NC Year	11

Combined Science GCSE Foundation and Higher (9-1)

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 2026 or Summer 2027
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 Entry code 8464F or 8464H
NC Year	11 or 10 and 11

Science Triple Top-Up GCSE (9-1)

Course Name	Science Triple Top-Up
Specification Number	8461, 8462 and 8463 – all three needed
Specification Link	<p>Biology: https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/biology/specifications/AQA-8461-SP-2016.PDF</p> <p>Chemistry: https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/chemistry/specifications/AQA-8462-SP-2016.PDF</p> <p>Physics: https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/physics/specifications/AQA-8463-SP-2016.PDF</p>
Exam session	Summer 2026 Series or Summer 2027
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)	
Course Name	English Language GCSE WJEC (A*-G)
Specification Number	WJEC 3700QS
Specification Link	https://www.wjec.co.uk/media/kvviytuc/wjec-gcse-english-language-specification-2015-24-10-14-branded.pdf
Exam session	Summer 2026 Final Assessment
QAN	601/4943/7
Exam entry info	<p>This is a linear course. It consists of two externally examined components and one non-examination oracy assessment.</p> <p>Unit 1: Non-examination assessment – Oracy 20%</p> <p>Unit 2: External assessment – Reading and Writing: Description, Narration and Exposition 40%</p> <p>Unit 3: External assessment – Reading and Writing: Argumentation, Persuasion and Instructional 40%</p>
Entry codes	WJEC GCSE English Language, Subject code: 3700
NC Year	<p>11 only</p> <p>Please note Y10s will study the new GCSE English Language and Literature (Single and Double Award)</p> <p>WJEC Code 3750QS (Single Award) and 3750QD (Double Award) – awards from 2027</p>

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

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/u3rbzzlp/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 2026 Final Assessment
QAN	Maths: QN 601/4907/3 Numeracy: QN 601/4908/5
Exam entry info	<p>Foundation Entry Advised</p> <p>Students have to be entered for both Mathematics and Mathematics-Numeracy.</p> <p>Academy21's WJEC Maths GCSE course is written for the students to be sitting both sets of exams in the summer of year 11.</p>
Entry codes	<p>Maths (English) 3300 PF</p> <p>Maths (Welsh) 3300 LF</p> <p>Numeracy (English) 3310 PF</p> <p>Numeracy (Welsh) 3310 LF</p>
NC Year	<p>11 only</p> <p>Please note Y10s will study the new Foundation/ Higher GCSE Mathematics and Numeracy WJEC Double Award</p> <p>QAN code: C00/4968/0</p> <p>Subject code: 3320QD</p>

Maths/Numeracy (Intermediate) GCSE WJEC (B-E)

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/u3rbzzlp/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 2026
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)

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 2026
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	<p>Year 10 or 11:</p> <p>Unit 1: Biology 1 (Foundation Tier) 3430U1 (English) or 3430N1 (Welsh)</p> <p>Unit 2: Chemistry 1 (Foundation Tier) 3430U2 (English) or 3430N2 (Welsh)</p> <p>Unit 3: Physics 1 (Foundation Tier) 3430U3 (English) or 3430N3 (Welsh)</p> <p>Year 11 only</p> <p>Unit 4: Biology 2 (Foundation Tier) 3430U4 (English) or 3430N4 (Welsh)</p> <p>Unit 5: Chemistry 2 (Foundation Tier) 3430U5 (English) or 3430N5 (Welsh)</p> <p>Unit 6 Written Paper – Physics 2 Foundation 3430U6 (English) or 3430N6 (Welsh)</p> <p><i>Cash-In: English 3430 QD or Welsh 3430 CD</i></p>
NC Year	10 or 11

Entry Level Courses

Everyday Science	
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	<p>May 2026 for WJEC entry level</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Unit 2: 4 x End of unit tests</p> <p>Unit 3: 2 x Practical assessments</p>
QAN	WJEC 601/8295/7
Exam entry info	<p>Qualifications Wales Designation Number: C00/0792/0 for the entry level certificate.</p> <p>Unit 1: Written examination 6430QCL-1</p>
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

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
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

Maths Functional Skills Level 1

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-11-12.pdf
QAN	603/4267/5
Exam entry info	<p>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:</p> <p>https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-functional-skills/maths-2019/coursematerials.html#%2FfilterQuery=category:Pearson-UK:Category%2FOnscreen-testing</p> <p>A21 advise F tier entry for any students progressing to Maths GCSE from this course.</p>
Entry codes	<p>Pearson Edexcel Functional Skills Qualification in Mathematics at Level 1</p> <p>QN: 603/4267/5</p>
NC Year	10 and 11

Digital Functional Skills Qualification Level 1

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	<p>Assessment: Externally set, on-demand assessment – 105 minutes (Section A – questions; Section B – task)</p> <p>Grading information: The qualification is graded pass/fail.</p> <p>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).</p>
Entry codes	Pearson Edexcel Digital Functional Skills qualification at Level 1 QN 610/3358/3
NC Year	7 to 11
Software requirement	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Email address and software2. Access to the internet3. Word processing software4. Spreadsheet software5. Presentation software

Cambridge Nationals IT Levels 1 and 2

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	<p>R060: Data manipulation using spreadsheets – Centre-assessed tasks, OCR moderated-NEA</p> <p>R070: Using augmented reality to present information–Centre-assessed tasks, OCR moderated-NEA</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Terminal assessment</p> <p>R050: IT in the digital world–1 hour 30 mins – Written paper, OCR set and marked</p> <p>You have to submit all centre-assessed units either before or in the same series as the final exam is taken.</p>
Entry codes	Specification code J836
NC Year	10 and 11
Software requirement	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 <p>Access to the internet</p>