

# COOKSTOWN HIGH SCHOOL



## GCSE SUBJECT ASSESSMENT GUIDE

(September 2016 – June 2017)

## Controlled Assessments

For a number of years coursework has formed an element of the assessment for GCSE examinations. These coursework elements have now been superseded in most subjects by Controlled Assessment.

### ***What is Controlled Assessment?***

It is a form of assessment conducted in school but which contributes to the overall examination grade. There are 'levels of control' for each assessment stage (task setting, task taking and task marking) which have been set by the examining bodies. Good Controlled Assessment is key to good performance in the GCSE.

### ***What is the Controlled Assessment process?***

There are three stages to Controlled Assessment:

- task setting
- task taking
- task marking

Each stage has a 'level of control' (high, medium or low) to ensure reliability and authenticity and to make assessments more manageable for pupils and teachers. Pupils will receive specific detail on these assessments from their subject teacher.

Task taking outlines how students go about taking the task and can be split into stages eg research, analysis and write up. This will depend on the nature of the task and the subject. Each stage can have different 'levels of control' e.g.:

#### ***Research***

*Low Control* – pupils can work unsupervised outside the classroom

#### ***Analysis***

*Medium Control* – pupils do their analysis and selection under informal supervision

#### ***Write-up***

*High Control* – pupils write up their task in a supervised, classroom environment similar to examination conditions.

### ***How do these assessments count towards the final mark?***

In some subjects the Controlled Assessment attracts the greatest percentage of all the assessment elements – check the individual subject details on the following pages to see how much the Controlled Assessment is worth.

### ***As a parent what can I do to help my son/daughter fulfil his/her potential in the controlled assessments?***

It is very important that your son/daughter is present in class for each of the elements of the Controlled Assessment – especially when the assessment has 'high control'. The approximate times for the controlled assessments are given in the following pages. If at all possible your son/daughter should be in school on those dates.

If absence is totally unavoidable there will be an opportunity to catch up on the task, but many of these assessments rely on the teaching in the periods leading up to them, and it will not be possible to re-teach the material.

It is important to remember that in even 'high control' elements and some of the 'medium control' elements that there will be teaching leading up to these elements but this teaching is an important foundation for these particular elements.

## ART AND DESIGN CCEA

### ASSESSMENT

The examination consists of 2 components:

1. A core portfolio (controlled assessment) 60% marks
2. An externally assessed examination 40% marks

Pupils are required to produce an edited portfolio of no more than 20 sheets of A2 coursework. The portfolio allows the pupil to work in a wide range of media and students may choose to work in 2D, 3D, Fine Art or Design areas. Each project must also show that the pupil has looked at the work of other artists and designers.

The externally set assignment is given to pupils at the end of January of Year 12 allowing a minimum of 15 hours for preparation work and ten hours to produce the final piece. It is similar in format to the Core Portfolio but with over a shorter time frame.

The units are internally marked and then moderated by CCEA.

Controlled Assessment – Work produced as part of Unit 1. The Core Portfolio is Controlled Assessment. In order for teachers to verify that the work completed is the pupil's own, it must be either started or finished in school. This rule follows guidance from CCEA.

### ADDITIONAL SUBJECT SUPPORT

A schedule of work is provided for all pupils at the start of the GCSE course – this document plans the work and homework for the full school year.

BBC GCSE Bitesize has an excellent resource for Art & Design pupils at this level – the advice follows the specification we use at GCSE.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/art>

## **BUSINESS STUDIES CCEA**

### **ASSESSMENT**

The examination consists of:

Unit 1 1 hour 20 mins 35%

Structured questions

Unit 2 1 hour 40 mins 40%

Three structured questions with an incline in difficulty.

Unit 2 includes Controlled assessment. 25%

Candidates complete one task from a range of tasks released in September each year.

Controlled assessment consists of 12 hours research and 3 hours report writing task under examination conditions with a high level of control. The Controlled Assessment work is completed during the first half of Term 1 in Year 12.

### **ADDITIONAL SUBJECT SUPPORT**

Website: [www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/business/](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/business/)

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE CCEA

### ASSESSMENT

The course is divided into 4 Units:

- Unit 1: External Examination 20%

Personal Writing & Reading Multi-Modal Texts

- Unit 2: External examination 20%

Functional Writing & Reading Non-Fiction

- Unit 3: Controlled Assessment 20%

Speaking & Listening

- Unit 4: Controlled Assessment 40%

Independent Study – 3 Tasks:

1. Study of Spoken Language (10%)
2. Study of Written Language (15%)
3. Writing Creatively (15%)

### ADDITIONAL SUBJECT SUPPORT

Points to Note:

- The examinations are a mixture of comprehension work from non-fiction sources and writing tasks. These skills are developed and practised throughout the course.
- The Controlled Assessments are completed in Year 11 and 12 with medium control
- Further information and student guides can be obtained from:

[http://www.rewardinglearning.org.uk/microsites/english\\_language/revise\\_gcse/index.asp](http://www.rewardinglearning.org.uk/microsites/english_language/revise_gcse/index.asp)

## ENGLISH LITERATURE CCEA

### ASSESSMENT

The course is divided into 3 Units:

- Unit 1: External Examination 25%

The Study of Prose

- Unit 2: External Examination 50%

The Study of Drama and Poetry

- Unit 3: Controlled Assessment 25%

The Study of Linked Texts- One Drama [Shakespeare] and one Heritage Prose text.

This controlled assessment is a 2 part response:

1. Response to Shakespeare text [10%]
2. Response to prose text and comparison of both [15%]

Controlled assessment tasks are completed in Years 11 and 12 under medium/high control.

### ADDITIONAL SUBJECT SUPPORT

[http://www.rewardinglearning.org.uk/microsites/english\\_literature/revised\\_gcse/index.asp](http://www.rewardinglearning.org.uk/microsites/english_literature/revised_gcse/index.asp)

## **GEOGRAPHY CCEA**

### **ASSESSMENT**

The content of the Geography syllabus is divided into 2 units:

Unit 1: Understanding our Natural World

Unit 2: Living in Our World

The course is assessed by two written papers for each unit each worth 37.5% and by coursework (25%) which takes the form of a controlled assessment based on a geographical investigation. Fieldwork will be carried out for the investigation and also in support of some other topics.

### **Controlled Assessment**

As part of the GCSE Geography course, pupils are required to complete controlled assessment in the form of a geographical investigation supported by fieldwork. This component is worth 25% of the final GCSE mark. Pupils must complete a report of no more than 2000 words based on primary data collection. This work is completed in Year 12.

- Data collection will take place during September/October – time allowed for this section is up to 6 hours under low level of control (carried out at Magilligan Field Centre).
- Introduction section will be completed during the weeks following the fieldwork in class – time allowed for this section is up to 12 hours under low level of control.
- Analysis, interpretation, conclusion and evaluation section will be completed during the weeks following the fieldwork in class –time allowed for this section is up to 6 hours under high control.

### **ADDITIONAL SUBJECT SUPPORT**

[http://www.rewardinglearning.org.uk/microsites/geography/rev\\_gcse/index.asp](http://www.rewardinglearning.org.uk/microsites/geography/rev_gcse/index.asp)

## HISTORY CCEA

### ASSESSMENT

The course is entirely 20th Century History and consists of:

#### Paper 1 (50%)

Two studies in depth:

- **Germany 1933-1939**  
This module focuses on how life changed for ordinary Germans during the period of Nazi rule before the outbreak of World War II. Students will also study how Nazi foreign policy contributed to the outbreak of the Second World War.
- **Changing Relationships: Britain, Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland 1965–1985**  
The module starts by studying how there was a break-down in relations between the two communities in Northern Ireland during the late 1960s and moves on to look at how the Troubles impacted on Northern Ireland as well as looking at attempts to bring about an end to violence.

#### Paper 2 (25%)

- **One overview study of the Cold War, 1945 to 1991.**  
This module focuses on how and why relationships between Russia and the West changed across a long period.

#### Controlled Assessment: (25%)

The Controlled Assessment tasks are set by CCEA and released to centres in June each year. The Investigative Study focuses on the candidates' ability to use a range of source material to make sense of historical events and analyse their strengths and weaknesses. This work is completed in Year 12.

### ADDITIONAL SUBJECT SUPPORT

A useful website for revision is [www.johndclare.net](http://www.johndclare.net)

This website is invaluable, not just for revision, but for consolidating work as it is done in class. Be careful, though, because there are some topics on the site which are not relevant to our syllabus.



## HOME ECONOMICS CCEA

### ASSESSMENT

The GCSE specification is divided into three units.

Unit 1 – Diet and Health, and Consumer Awareness. 40%

This will be assessed in a formal examination in May/June 2017. The examination offers a single tier of entry. The paper is divided into two sections, Diet and Health and Consumer Awareness. Each section has a selection of short-answer, structured and extended response questions.

Unit 2 is a compulsory controlled assessment based on Diet and Health. This will contribute to 40% of the overall total at GCSE level and incorporates a practical cookery examination (16%), along with written work (24%). It has a medium to high level of control. This is completed during every Home Economics lesson in September to November of Year 12.

Unit 3 is a compulsory controlled assessment based on Consumer Awareness. This contributes to 20% of the overall total at GCSE level. It is a written task and is completed during every Home Economics lesson in November to March of Year 12. It has a medium to high level of control.

Summary: Externally assessed formal examination - 40%

Internally based controlled assessments - 60%

### ADDITIONAL SUBJECT SUPPORT

[http://www.rewardinglearning.org.uk/microsites/home\\_economics/revised\\_gcse/index.asp](http://www.rewardinglearning.org.uk/microsites/home_economics/revised_gcse/index.asp)

## HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE EDEXCEL

### **ASSESSMENT**

Edexcel BTEC Level 2 Certificate (equivalent to 2 GCSE passes dependent on graded outcomes at Grades A\*-C as per the National Qualifications Framework)

Content Summary

The course consists of the following units of work:

2 mandatory, 2 core units (Compulsory) and 3-4 optional units.

### **Core Units/Mandatory Units**

Unit 1- Human Lifespan Development (Exam)

Unit 2- Health and Social Care Values

Unit 3- Effective Communication in Health and Social Care

Unit 9- Healthy Living (Exam)

### **Optional Specialist Units**

Unit 4- Social Influences on Health and Wellbeing

Unit 5- Promoting Health and Wellbeing

Unit 10- Human Body Systems and Care of Disorders

Unit 12- Creative and Therapeutic Activities in Health and Social Care

### **Assessment Procedures**

The total mark for the course consists of 75% coursework and 25% external exams

Assessment based on 2 external examinations and a number of assignments totalling 240 guided learning hours.

On-going assessment throughout the 2 years

External examination dates: Provisional -June 2017 and January 2018/June 2018

### **ADDITIONAL SUBJECT SUPPORT**

<http://www.edexcel.com/quals>

See individual unit assignment briefs for additional support and further websites.

## ENGINEERING EDEXCEL

### ASSESSMENT

Edexcel Extended Certificate (equivalent to 2 GCSE passes, dependent on graded outcomes at Grades A-C as per the National Qualifications Framework)

Unit Content Summary

Assessment: Five written reports through two years:

- CAD
- Safety
- Product investigation
- Maths
- Material practical

Two terminal examinations, one in June of Year 11 and one in Year 12.

Ongoing assessment.

### ADDITIONAL SUBJECT SUPPORT

<http://www.edexcel.com/quals>

## GCSE TECHNOLOGY & DESIGN

### ASSESSMENT

Unit 1: Technology and Design Core

Unit 3: Product Design

Unit 4: Design Assignment

Unit 5: Design Project

There are two external exam assessments worth 20% each

Two controlled assessment tasks, one worth 20% completed in March of Year 11 and the other worth 140% completed in Year 12.

## INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY CCEA

### ASSESSMENT

The emphasis of the course is on practical work with 60% of the assessment being through controlled assessment and the remaining through one written paper.

Controlled assessments:

Unit 1: Tools and Applications (30% of GCSE)

Communication software, Presentation Package, Information Handling Package and Spreadsheet Package

This controlled assessment is comprised of three assessment tasks will be completed in year 11 during class time. A small amount of design work associated with these assessments will be completed as homework.

Unit 2: Using Multimedia and Games Technology (30% of GCSE)

Using graphics, Using digital video and sound, Games technology and Website development.

Approximately 1/3 of this work will be completed by the end of year 11 with the remainder completed by Christmas of year 12.

Unit 3: Examination papers:

The written papers will examine

Knowledge and Skills gained in Units 1 & 2

Unit 3: Knowledge, understanding and skills in:

- ICT Components
- Data and Information
- Digital Communication Methods
- Applications of ICT

2 hour external exam in June of year 12

### ADDITIONAL SUBJECT SUPPORT

<http://ccea.org.uk/ict/>

## APPLIED INFORMATION AND CREATIVE TECHNOLOGY EDEXCEL

### ASSESSMENT

Edexcel BTEC Extended Certificate (equivalent to 2 GCSE passes dependent on graded outcomes at Grades A-C as per the National Qualifications Framework)

Unit    Content Summary

Assessment will be based on on-going assignments and unit examinations. (High practical component).  
Ongoing classroom assessment through coursework across the 2 years.

The Course will comprise multiple parallel assignments with strict submission deadlines

Submission deadlines for each assignment will be provided by classroom teachers.

Unit 3- A Digital Portfolio

Unit 9 – Spreadsheet Development

Unit 10 – Database Development

Unit 13 – Website Development

Two unit examinations will be carried out on computer. The dates of these exams will be based on unit completion and parents will be kept informed by text of upcoming unit exams.

Unit 1 – The Online World

Unit 2 – Technology Systems

## MATHEMATICS CCEA

### ASSESSMENT

All pupils are entered for the Foundation or Higher tier of the new CCEA GCSE two-tier specification. Each tier has two components, a module paper and a completion paper, no controlled assessment is included. There are a number of modules available and pupils will be entered for the one suited to their ability. Students study number and algebra, geometry and measures, statistics and probability. They will be assessed on the functional elements of mathematics, which means they have to show how you can apply mathematical skills to questions set in a wide range of contexts. There will also be questions which will assess the quality of written communication, that is, their ability to express solutions to questions in clear, concise and correct mathematical language – in words or symbolic form.

Modules T2, T3 or T4 are worth 45% of the award and the completion paper T5 or T6 is worth 55%. The two combinations of entry T3 with T6 and T4 with T6 allow for all grades A\* - D to be achieved, although an A\* with the T3 / T6 would require exceptionally high marks.

Modules T2 and T5 award Grades C – G.

### ADDITIONAL SUBJECT SUPPORT

<http://ccea.org.uk/mathematics/>

## FURTHER MATHEMATICS CCEA

### ASSESSMENT

All those taking Additional Mathematics will also be entered for the Higher level GCSE Mathematics course (T4 and T6 modules). The course covers Pure Mathematics, Mechanics and Statistics topics. There are two examinations in the summer of year 12 both of which are 2 hours long.

Further Mathematics is a useful introduction to A level Mathematics but it is not as essential requirement.

### ADDITIONAL SUBJECT SUPPORT

<http://www.rewardinglearning.org.uk/microsites/mathematics/additional/index.asp>

## MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

### FRENCH / GERMAN / SPANISH (CCEA)

#### ASSESSMENT

There is a common GCSE syllabus for all three languages taught in this school. The aim of the GCSE course is to develop the pupils' ability to read, write, speak and listen to the modern language(s), which they are learning. Pupils follow the CCEA specification as laid out below:

#### Unit 1: Speaking:

Controlled Assessment – 30% (internally assessed and externally moderated)

Two tasks submitted for moderation

#### Unit 2: Writing:

Controlled Assessment – 30% (externally assessed)

Two tasks submitted for marking

**Two tasks will be completed in Year 11, two in Year 12, when pupils have reached the required level.**

#### Unit 3: Listening

Examination – 20%

Either            Foundation Tier: 30 minutes (+ 5 minutes reading time)

Or                Higher Tier: 40 minutes (+ 5 minutes reading time)

#### Unit 4: Reading

Examination – 20%

Either            Foundation Tier: 30 minutes

Or                Higher Tier: 40 minutes

#### ADDITIONAL SUBJECT SUPPORT

<http://www.rewardinglearning.org.uk/microsites/languages/index.asp>



## LEARNING FOR LIFE AND WORK CCEA

Students must complete one examination for GCSE Learning for Life and Work. The exam lasts 1 hour 30 minutes and is worth 40% of the final award.

The exam tests students' knowledge and understanding of all the course content. It is available **in summer only**.

Students must complete **two** different controlled assessment tasks from the three that we provide. We set the controlled assessment tasks and change the titles every two years.

The tasks (Unit 1 and Unit 2) are each worth 30% of the final award.

Each task must relate to one of the three compulsory areas of study:

- Local and Global Citizenship;
- Personal Development; and
- Employability

One piece of Controlled Assessment is completed in Year 11 and one in Year 12.

### ADDITIONAL SUBJECT SUPPORT

<http://www.rewardinglearning.org.uk/microsites/llw/>

## MUSIC CCEA

### ASSESSMENT

The course is divided into three components:

1. Composing and Appraising (30%)

Coursework Requirement:

- Submission of a portfolio of two contrasting compositions lasting 5 – 6 minutes.
- This component is subject to controlled assessment at medium level.

This module is internally assessed and externally moderated. This is completed during Year 12.

2. Performing and Appraising (35%)

Coursework Requirement:

- The presentation of a programme consisting of solo and ensemble performances lasting up to a total of 10 minutes;
- This component is externally assessed;
- Most instruments are acceptable and can be presented upwards from Grade 2 standard.

3. Listening and Appraising (35%)

Assessment Requirement:

- Two aural examinations consisting of questions based on:
  - a) Specific Set Works covering a broad range of musical styles which are studied in some detail and
  - b) General listening (periods, styles, instrumentation)

### ADDITIONAL SUBJECT SUPPORT

[http://www.rewardinglearning.org.uk/microsites/music/gcse\\_revised/](http://www.rewardinglearning.org.uk/microsites/music/gcse_revised/)

## GCSE PHYSICAL EDUCATION - CCEA

### ASSESSMENT

Component 1	External Assessment	One written question paper 1 hour 30 minutes	40%
Component 2	Controlled Assessment	Written coursework (continually through Years 11 and 12)	20%
Component 3	Individual Performances	Coaching Performance	10% 30% (total of 40%)

### Individual Performances

Students must complete three individual performances in three different physical activities from at least two of the categories below:

Athletics Activities -Athletics, Cross Country, Fitness, Kayaking/canoeing, Lifesaving , Rowing/sculling + Swimming

Dance Activities - Dance

Gymnastics Activities - Gymnastics and Trampolining

Games Activities - Association football, Badminton, Basketball, Camogie/Hurling, Cricket, Gaelic Football, Golf, Handball, Hockey, Netball, Rugby Union, Softball, Squash, Table Tennis, Tennis and Volleyball

Outdoor Adventure Activities - Hill walking and Orienteering

Specialist Activities – Archery, Boxing, Cycling, Fencing, Horse Riding, Ice Hockey, Ice Skating, Judo, Ju Jitsu, Karate, Kick Boxing, Personal Survival, Scuba Diving, Show Jumping, Skiing, Snorkeling, Tae Kwon Do, Wake Boarding, Water Polo, Water Skiing, Rock climbing, Sailing and Wind surfing

At least two of the physical activities taken by the candidate must be centre controlled.

Candidates can select only one activity which is taken outside the direct supervision of the centre.

### ADDITIONAL SUBJECT SUPPORT

<http://www.rewardinglearning.org.uk/microsite/physicaleducation/additional/index.asp>

## RELIGIOUS STUDIES CCEA

### ASSESSMENT

The Course will consist of the following two modules, namely:

- An Introduction to Christian Ethics which includes areas of Personal Ethics, Issues of Life and Death, Care for the Environment, Equality and War & Peace.
- Christianity through a Study of the Gospel of Matthew – which introduces pupils to a number of these in the life and ministry of Jesus, as portrayed in Matthew's Gospel.

Exam Papers:

Paper 1 :        Christian Ethics            1h30            50% of GCSE

Paper 2:        Matthew's Gospel        1h30            50% of GCSE

Coursework:    None

Each module will be assessed in a formal examination at the end of Year 12. The examination offers a single tier of entry. Each paper is divided into two sections. Section A is compulsory and Section B allows candidates to choose 2 out of 3 questions to answer.

### ADDITIONAL SUBJECT SUPPORT

[http://ccea.org.uk/religious\\_studies/](http://ccea.org.uk/religious_studies/)

## SCIENCE: BIOLOGY AQA

### ASSESSMENT

The course consists of 3 modules.

#### **Unit 1: Biology 1 (Year 11)**

1 hour 30 minutes paper 35% marks

Topics covers include Cells, Living processes and Biodiversity

#### **Unit 2: Biology 2 (Year 12)**

1 hour 45 minutes paper 40% marks

Topics covered include Body Systems, genetics, Micro-organisms and Health

Pupils can be entered for Foundation or Higher Tier based on tracking/mock examination results.

**Unit 3: Controlled Assessment either May/June Year 11 or September/October Year 12: 25% marks.**

NB 100% of assessment is terminal so all module examinations will be completed at end of Year 12

### ADDITIONAL SUBJECT SUPPORT

More information can be found on the website [www.ccea.org.uk](http://www.ccea.org.uk)

Revision materials are available on the school VLE as well as at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/biology/>

## SCIENCE: CHEMISTRY CCEA

### ASSESSMENT

Unit 1 accounts for 35% of the award, Unit 2, 40% and Unit 3, Controlled Assessment 25%. Candidates will sit the Unit 1 and 2 examinations at the end of Year 12. Controlled Assessment will be arranged at a time within the course which coincides with the teaching of the topic it is associated with.

The practice of past paper questions is an excellent tool for examination preparation. Examples of these can be found online at the CCEA GCSE Chemistry site, [www.rewardinglearning.org.uk](http://www.rewardinglearning.org.uk). The papers shown are from the previous specification which changed in September 2011 but the questions themselves are of a similar standard to the present specification. Individual topics lend themselves to mind mapping which can be extended to show links between most areas.

### ADDITIONAL SUBJECT SUPPORT

Additional resources can be found at [www.creative-chemistry.org.uk](http://www.creative-chemistry.org.uk)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/chemistry/>

<http://www.s-cool.co.uk/gcse/chemistry>

Thorough preparation for Controlled Assessment in Unit 3 is essential as this is not coursework orientated. Instead, planning, practical and question paper completion are all undertaken in class time under examination conditions with external materials not being permitted. **The Chemistry Controlled Assessment usually takes place in September and October of Year 12.** The assessment involves planning and risk assessment under a medium level of control, data collection under a low control (booklet A) and Processing, Analysis, and evaluation under a high control (booklet B).

## SCIENCE: PHYSICS CCEA

### ASSESSMENT

The course consists of two modules, both of which will be completed at the end of Year 12.

Module 1 - 35% - this covers Forces, Energy and Radioactivity

Module 2 - 40% - this covers Waves, Electricity, Earth and the Universe.

The additional 25% is controlled assessment which tests investigative and analytical skills. Usually one piece of controlled assessment is completed. No redrafting of controlled assessment can take place and no more than two pieces can be attempted. **The Controlled Assessment is usually completed in the first half of the autumn term in Year 12.** Different parts of the controlled assessment will be carried out under different levels of control. Which level applies will be clearly explained to the students at the time of carrying out the task.

### ADDITIONAL SUBJECT SUPPORT

It is important that pupils revise regularly and ensure they understand all the work covered. Our recommendation is that this takes place on a weekly basis and that, if a pupil finds a topic difficult, they ask their teacher for help immediately. Some additional help can be obtained as shown below.

<http://www.s-cool.co.uk/gcse/physics>

<http://revisionworld.co.uk/gcse-revision/physics>

<http://www.rewardinglearning.org.uk/microsites/physics/gcse/index.asp>