

# TYPICAL HOMEWORK AND OUT OF SCHOOL LEARNING TASKS

## KEY STAGE FOUR

### General revision and study help: ■

<http://revisionworld.com/a2-level-levelrevision/exam-tips-and-advice>

- [http://www.brainboxx.co.uk/a3\\_aspects/pages/revision.htm](http://www.brainboxx.co.uk/a3_aspects/pages/revision.htm)
- <http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/studyskills>
- <http://www.howtostudy.org>
- [http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/parents/helping\\_with\\_exams](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/parents/helping_with_exams)

Using this simple method is excellent for reviewing main subjects and key ideas.

Summary	Notes	Questions
SUMMARISE NOTES HERE	WRITE NOTES IN THE MIDDLE COLUMN	QUESTIONS AND IDEAS GO HERE

## ENGLISH FACULTY

### Typical tasks for GCSE ENGLISH

1. Punctuation/ grammar exercises
2. Learning key terms for analysis of poetry, prose and media texts
3. Reading non-fiction and media texts
4. Essays (or parts of essays) for coursework or for examination practice
5. Preparation for speaking and listening assessments

### Examples of extension tasks

- Guide them towards extra punctuation and grammar practice on [www.bbc.co.uk/skillswise/words/grammar](http://www.bbc.co.uk/skillswise/words/grammar)
- Encourage them to use revision websites for poetry/prose texts.
- [www.universalteacher.org.uk](http://www.universalteacher.org.uk)
- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zr9d7ty> (English Language)
- [http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/english\\_literature](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/english_literature) (English Literature)
- <http://www.englishbiz.co.uk> (general English revisio)
- Encourage them to read widely – suggest that they read different genres, different authors. They could read the books that are short listed for the Carnegie Medal (<http://www.carnegiegreenaway.org.uk/home/index.php>).

### How can parents help

- Test them on key terminology – spelling and understanding.
- For longer pieces of writing, for example, coursework or examination essays, ask them to talk the plan through with you. Remind them that 5-10 minutes spent planning can result in a higher grade.
- Encourage them to proof-read their work.
- Listen to their individual talks and ask them questions that require them to develop their ideas further.
- Ask them to show you in their essays where they have met the requirements of the mark scheme in order to get their target grade.

## MATHEMATICS FACULTY

### Typical tasks for GCSE MATHEMATICS

1. Researching a topic for self study and enrichment
2. Consolidate classroom learning through further examples including past papers
3. MyMaths activities including GCSE grade booster packs
4. Revision for tests through completing questions, chapter reviews etc
5. Self assessment: reviewing of performance against benchmarks and grade descriptors.

### Examples of extension tasks

- MyMaths GCSE graded booster pack activities [www.mymaths.co.uk](http://www.mymaths.co.uk)
- Past papers on VLE (KS4 Past papers)
- Optional challenge/extension questions at end of homework activities
- UK Maths challenge for gifted and talented mathematics students □ Functional Maths: open ended investigations
- Useful websites: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/z6pfb9q> [www.emaths.org.uk](http://www.emaths.org.uk)  
[www.mathsguru.co.uk](http://www.mathsguru.co.uk) <http://nrich.maths.org>  
<http://www.hegartymaths.com>

### How can parents help

- Encourage a positive and “can do” attitude towards mathematics.
- Read through questions with your child and encourage them to pick out information needed to answer it.
- Provide your child with revision guide and help them plan their revision.
- Encourage them to talk through topics and explain what they are currently covering. (Let them teach you!)
- Look at your child’s work on a regular basis so that you can see progress of your child.
- Help your child if you can but please annotate any help given by writing a note/comment in their exercise book.
- Ensure students have correct equipment for lessons that include: natural display scientific calculator, pair of compasses, protractor, ruler and books (and know how to use them!) □ Ensure your child catches up on any work missed.
- Functional Skills: Get your child to relate Mathematics to real life eg:percentages and best buys in shops. Any DIY projects get your child to estimate and measure. Read paper/watch news for interest rates.

## SCIENCE FACULTY

### Typical tasks for GCSE SCIENCE / GCSE BIOLOGY

1. Consolidation of work covered in class
2. Completing comprehension exercises
3. Completing homework questions
4. Research and/or presentation of a given topic
5. Thorough learning for tests
6. As examinations approach ,practise past paper questions

### Examples of extension tasks

- Use the VLE to access links to revision and extension resources
- Read some of the popular Science books as recommended on the VLE
- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/biology>
- <http://revisionworld.com/gcse-revision/biology>
- Visit places with a theme of Biological science e.g Natural History museum in London, the Eden project in Cornwall, The Living Rainforest near Newbury
- Work through some of the Boardworks presentations that are available through the VLE
- Watch Television programmes that have a Biological theme

### **How can parents help**

You can help even if Biology is not your strength:

- Buy a revision guide that is tailored to the AQA syllabus. These can be purchased from the school shop. Students can work through the questions and complete summaries of the material covered.
- Buy a workbook and some sample examinations that are tailored to the AQA syllabus, also available from the school shop, many of which come with answers. Active revision (doing exercises and answering exam questions) is better than passive revision (reading a revision guide).
- Go through the glossary of terms section on the VLE.
- Ask pupil to explain an idea to you

### **Typical tasks for GCSE SCIENCE / GCSE CHEMISTRY**

1. Consolidation of work covered in class
2. Completing comprehension exercises
3. Completing homework questions
4. Completing calculation exercises
5. Research and/or presentation of a given topic
6. Preparation for examinations

### **Examples of extension tasks**

- Use the VLE to access links to revision and extension resources
- Read some of the popular Science books as recommended on the VLE
- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/chemistry>
- <http://revisionworld.com/gcse-revision/chemistry>
- Visit the Science museum in London
- Work through some of the boardworks presentations that are available through the VLE

### **How can parents help**

- Buy a revision guide that is tailored to the AQA syllabus. These can be purchased from the school shop. Students can work through the questions and complete summaries of the material covered.
- Buy a workbook and some sample examination questions that are tailored to the AQA syllabus, also available from the school shop, many of which come with answers. Active revision (doing exercises and answering exam questions) is better than passive revision (reading a revision guide).
- Go through the glossary of terms section on the VLE.

### **Typical tasks for GCSE SCIENCE / PHYSICS**

1. Consolidation of work covered in class
2. Completing comprehension exercises
3. Completing calculation exercises
4. Research and/or presentation of a given topic

## 5. Preparation for tests

### Examples of extension tasks

- Use the VLE to access links to revision and extension resources
- <http://www.school-portal.co.uk/GroupHomepage.asp?GroupID=429035>
- Read some of the popular Science books as recommended on the VLE
- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/physics>
- <http://revisionworld.com/gcse-revision/physics>
- Visit the Science museum in London or attend one of the open days at the Diamond light source particle accelerator near Didcot <http://www.diamond.ac.uk/Home/Public.html> □ Work through some of the boardworks presentations that are available through the VLE

### How can parents help with Physics at GCSE Science and Additional Science?

- You can help even if Physics is all Greek to you:
- Buy a revision guide that is tailored to the AQA syllabus. These can be purchased from the school shop. Students can work through the questions and complete summaries of the material covered.
  - Buy a workbook and some sample examinations that are tailored to the AQA syllabus, also available from the school shop, many of which come with answers. Active revision (doing exercises and answering exam questions) is better than passive revision (reading a revision guide).
  - Go through the glossary of terms section on the VLE.

## ART FACULTY

### Typical tasks for GCSE ART, CRAFT & DESIGN

1. Analysing the work of an artist using the Content, Form, Process and Mood model
2. Creating observational drawings in tone and colour
3. Using a range of media and materials to develop personal ideas
4. Planning, drawing or designing 3 or 4 different outcomes showing connections with artists work
5. Taking photographs to support your observation studies

### Examples of extension tasks

- Using web- sites to conduct further research on artists to support ideas:  
[www.tate.org.uk](http://www.tate.org.uk) [www.vam.ac.uk](http://www.vam.ac.uk)  
[www.saatchi-gallery.co.uk](http://www.saatchi-gallery.co.uk) [www.britishmuseum.org.uk](http://www.britishmuseum.org.uk) [www.nationalgallery.org.uk](http://www.nationalgallery.org.uk)
- Visit a gallery or museum with friends
- Work outside sometimes, possibly in the garden to create bigger work which you can photograph
- Go out and about with a camera and sketchbook to record things first hand
- Try working with film, using the movie button on the camera
- Create animations, download free software to experiment

### How can parents help with GCSE Art?

- Take them to a gallery or museum, locally or in London, or if away on holiday
- Check the newspapers and the web to see what is on and if it might be appropriate to enrich their learning,
- Encourage them to watch Art reviews and documentaries on TV, The Culture Show for example
- Discuss ideas and help them to analyse their own work

□ Make sure that they have equipment to work with at home, pencils, rubbers, colour pencils, paint, glue etc

## BUSINESS & ENTERPRISE FACULTY

### Typical tasks for GCSE BUSINESS STUDIES

- Complete Unit 1 and Unit 3 past examination papers
- Business Studies online specific tasks
- Research examples to put concepts into context
- Encouragement of reading around the subject
- Taking an interest in current affairs e.g. watching BBC news.
- Complete different exercises using the following websites: [www.examzone.co.uk](http://www.examzone.co.uk), [www.businessstudiesonline.co.uk](http://www.businessstudiesonline.co.uk), [www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize), [www.bized.co.uk](http://www.bized.co.uk), [www.tutor2u.net/revision\\_notes\\_gcse](http://www.tutor2u.net/revision_notes_gcse) \* Explore the Bank of England website

### Examples of extension tasks

- Fill in glossaries for key terminology
- Business Studies online specific tasks
- Extensive case study exercises from the core textbook
- Watching Dragon's Den, Apprentice, Mary Portas and related spin off shows
- Familiarising with particular current affairs
- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zpsvr82>
- <http://revisionworld.com/gcse-revision/business-studies>

### How can parents help

- Test students on subject vocabulary
- Provide newspaper cuttings / links to news websites of relevant articles □ Help them to research
- Watch Dragon's Den etc with the child and discuss the outcome with them – perhaps pausing before the decision is made (using sky+/btVision if available)
- Buy a revision guide that is tailored to the Edexcel syllabus. Students can work through the questions and complete summaries of the material covered.
- Buy a workbook and some sample examinations that are tailored to the Edexcel syllabus.
- Encourage active revision (doing exercises and answering exam questions) is better than passive revision (reading a revision guide).
- Go through the glossary of terms section on the VLE.
- Download past Unit 1 and Unit 3 examination papers. All resources for the GCSE course can be accessed via the VLE.
- Read the examiners reports and mark schemes with your child.
- Talk to your child about what they are learning.

### Typical tasks for NCFE LEVEL 2 BUSINESS AND ENTERPRISE

- Business Studies online specific tasks
- Research local examples of business in action e.g. local entrepreneurs, sole traders
- Research examples to put concepts into context
- Encouragement of reading around the subject
- Taking an interest in current affairs e.g. watching BBC news.
- Complete different exercises using the following websites: [www.examzone.co.uk](http://www.examzone.co.uk), [www.businessstudiesonline.co.uk](http://www.businessstudiesonline.co.uk), [www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize), [www.bized.co.uk](http://www.bized.co.uk), [www.tutor2u.net/revision\\_notes\\_gcse](http://www.tutor2u.net/revision_notes_gcse)

### Examples of extension tasks

- Fill in glossaries for key terminology
- Business Studies online specific tasks
- Extensive case study exercises from the core textbook
- Watching Dragon's Den, Apprentice, Mary Portas and related spin off shows
- Familiarising with particular current affairs
- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zpsvr82>
- <http://revisionworld.com/gcse-revision/business-studies>

### How can parents help

- Test students on subject vocabulary
- Provide newspaper cuttings / links to news websites of relevant articles
- Help them to research
- Watch enterprise documentaries e.g. Dragon's Den with the child and discuss the outcome with them – perhaps pausing before the decision is made (using sky+/btVision if available)
- Talk to your child about what they are learning.

### Typical tasks for GCSE ECONOMICS

- Complete Unit 1, Unit 2 and Unit 3 past examination papers
- Economics online specific tasks
- Research examples to put concepts into context
- Encouragement of reading around the subject
- Taking an interest in current affairs e.g. watching BBC news, Channel 4 News and the Guardian.
- Explore the Bank of England website

Complete different exercises using the following websites: [www.timesonline.co.uk](http://www.timesonline.co.uk), <http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk>, <http://www.ft.com>, <http://www.euroemu.co.uk>, <http://www.bankofengland.co.uk>, <http://www.ifs.org.uk/>

### Examples of extension tasks

- Read/subscribe to Economics Today, The Economics Review or The Economist
- Reading or researching the broadsheet papers (The Independent, The Times, The Guardian, The Daily Telegraph, The Financial Times). You will need to get in the habit of scanning through newspapers and identifying relevant articles
- Follow the economics blog on [www.tutor2u.net](http://www.tutor2u.net) or sign up to follow Geoff Riley on twitter
- Set [www.bbc.co.uk/news](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news) as your homepage, looking especially at the economics news

### How can parents help



- Test students on subject vocabulary
- Provide newspaper cuttings / links to news websites of relevant articles
- Help them to research
- Work through the Unit 1 and Unit 2 revision guides. Students can work through the questions and complete summaries of the material covered.
- Encourage active revision (doing exercises and answering exam questions) is better than passive revision (reading a revision guide).
- Go through the glossary of terms section on the VLE.
- Download past Unit 1, Unit 2 and Unit 3 examination papers. All resources for the GCSE course can be accessed via the VLE.
- Read the examiners reports and mark schemes with your child.

□ Talk to your child about what they are learning.

## PERFORMING ARTS FACULTY

### Typical tasks for GCSE Drama

- Drama definitions and learning vocabulary
- Writing a script (for example, a Duologue)
- Line learning (own or published scripts)
- Note making on productions seen throughout the course
- Drawing up a table on the application of rehearsal strategies
- Research tasks (for example, finding the stimuli and content for a devised piece)
- Recording practical work to support Section A 1a-d of written examination paper
- Practising past questions

### Examples of extension tasks

- Practising past questions, and self mark and/or submit for marking
- Researching contextual information about their scripted piece e.g. past production images, consider set & costume ideas
- Compiling a character profile for the character being played
- Reading other scripts by the playwright of a text being studied or performed
- Reading 'around the subject' (for example, reading about theatre practitioners such as Stanislavski)

### How can parents help

- Guide them towards useful resources (e.g. past questions, marking schemes, examiners' reports) on AQA website: [www.aqa.org.uk](http://www.aqa.org.uk)
- Encourage them to see live theatre (special discounts and occasional free offers are worth looking out for)
- Test them on the meanings and spellings of specialist terms
- Remind them to refer to their Drama file, where lots of bespoke handouts have been prepared for them as support □ Test them on their lines
- Ask them about forthcoming deadlines and check their progress against this

### Typical tasks for GCSE MUSIC

- Rehearse/ practice for a forthcoming Solo or Ensemble performance
- Further development of/ completion of compositional technique exercise
- Research a topic area or genre in support of current area of study
- Research a topic area or genre in preparation for new area of study
- Planning and delivering a presentation (e.g. presentation for the class on your instrument)
- Research a particular composer or artist and create a fact file on this person
- Responding to set questions on areas of study
- Completion of theory-based worksheets
- Complete a listening task for your Listening Diary (in support of current or new area of study, or as revision)
- Learn key vocabulary and Italian musical terms

### Examples of extension tasks

- Encourage use of internet to research around the areas of study and the specific set works
- Encourage use of YouTube to assist wide variety of listening experiences

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

### How can parents help

- Listen to and encourage them in their practising
- Ask them for a performance to be presented in front of family and friends at home
- Encourage them to take part in concerts and performance opportunities at school and outside of school
- Read through research to check for obvious cut & pasting!
- If they are preparing a presentation, ask them to present this to you!
- Test them on their musical vocabulary- for example, once they have learnt five words to describe 'tempo'
- Encourage them to use this musical vocabulary when describing or analysing music in their Listening Diary
- Suggest possible listening from your own CD collection which might support the areas of study.

## HUMANITIES FACULTY

### Typical tasks for GCSE HISTORY

1. Learning key terminology and definitions
2. Completing past examination questions
3. Preparation for milestone assessments
4. Completing target work, glossaries & personal learning checklists
5. Comprehension tasks
6. Extended writing tasks

### Examples of extension tasks



- Guide them towards additional reading or research  
<https://schoolhistory.co.uk/>  
<http://spartacus-educational.com/>  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/history>  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/history/>  
<http://www.johndclare.net/>  
<https://revisionworld.com/a2-level-level-revision/history-gcse-level>  
<http://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/>  
<https://quizlet.com/subject/history/>
- Encourage them to read about the books about history or historic novels.
- Get them interested in wider History by watching television series, films based on history. Maybe even watch some of the many documentaries on TV
- Go to museums and historical sites of interest.
- Research your family history.

### How can parents help with GCSE History?

Even if you know very little about History you can help by:

- Encourage them to keep their exercise books organised
- For longer pieces of writing and project work help with research, planning and read through the work before it is handed in.
- Check that they understand how to use the internet for research by looking for plagiarism (copy & pasting from the internet can be very tempting).
- Test them on key terminology and definitions.
- Encourage them to start revision for milestones and examinations well in advance.
- Buy a revision guide.
- For those currently in Year 11 (in the academic year of 2016/17) the best guide is:
  - Ben Walsh, Modern World Revision Guide for AQA. ISBN: 9781471831775.
- For those currently in Year 10 (in the academic year of 2016/17) no revision guides have currently been published which cover all of the new GCSE units that we study. Class notes provide the best overall revision tool. Revision guides have been published that cover two of our units only (Conflict and tension, 1919-1939 & Britain: health and the people: c1000 to the present day)
  - CPG, GCSE History AQA Revision Guide - for the Grade 9-1 Course, ISBN: 978 1 78294 604 5
- Talk to them about what they are learning.

### Typical tasks for KS4 GEOGRAPHY

1. Complete glossaries.
2. Practice examination questions.
3. Photo, map and graphical analysis.
4. Mind mapping of new case studies.
5. Research for extended questions and coursework.

### Examples of extension tasks

- <http://www.gatm.org.uk/>
- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/geography/>
- <http://earthquake.usgs.gov/learn/topics/?topicID=63>
- [http://www.ined.fr/en/homepage\\_of\\_ined\\_website/](http://www.ined.fr/en/homepage_of_ined_website/)

Explore these websites to extend your knowledge and learning of Geography

### How can parents help

- Go through folder and help with organisation
- Help with case study revision (map mapping / recall) □ Check understanding of key terms in their glossaries.

#### Y10

Familiarise yourself with the syllabus at

<http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse-geography-b-j385-from-2012/> printing off past questions and encourage them to try to assess their own work.

#### Y11

- Familiarise yourself with the syllabus at <http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse-geography-b-j385-from-2012/> printing off past questions and encourage them to try to assess their own work.

### Typical tasks for GCSE RELIGIOUS STUDIES

- Reviewing and revising the content of lessons.
- Researching different, specific aspects of the ethical issue being studied.
- Sorting and ordering information.
- Personal reflection on course content.
- Writing, crafting and redrafting essay responses to examination style questions. (These may be subject to time restrictions.)
- Preparation and completion of milestone assessments.

### Examples of extension tasks

- Maintaining an awareness of current affairs by having frequent contact with newspapers and news broadcasts.
- Watch topical, ethical programming on television e.g. 'The Big Questions'. □ Attempt past examination questions.
- Use websites to enhance understanding: [www.bbc.co.uk/religion](http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion)  
[www.bbc.co.uk/ethics](http://www.bbc.co.uk/ethics) [www.reonline.org.uk](http://www.reonline.org.uk)  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/rs>  
<http://revisionworld.com/gcse-revision/rs-religious-studies>

### How can parents help

- Students are issued with detailed booklets for all units of study. Please familiarise yourself with these and monitor the completion of activities.
- Engage in discussion with the student about different ethical issues.
- Encourage students to share with you what they have learnt in the lesson and question their understanding.
- Provide a quiet, focused environment for completion of essays. □ Help monitor time restrictions when necessary.

## LANGUAGES FACULTY

### Typical tasks for GCSE FRENCH

1. Learning vocabulary off by heart (15-20 words at a time)
2. Completing grammar exercises
3. Translating from English to French (usually sentences or short paragraphs)
4. Reading/listening comprehensions
5. Longer written pieces
6. Preparation for speaking assessments

### Examples of extension tasks

- Guide them towards extra vocabulary and grammar practice eg:  
<http://www.languagesonline.org.uk/Hotpotatoes/Index.htm>  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/french> <http://www.gcse.com/french>  
<http://www.frenchteacher.net/free-resources/samples>
- Encourage them to read about their favourite celebrity, music, sport in French by googling them on [www.google.fr](http://www.google.fr)
- Get them interested in current affairs using the Journal des Enfants: <http://www.jde.fr> □ Get them interested in wider French/Francophone culture eg: reading translations of French language novels, finding out about key periods in French history ... □ Go to France and make them do all the transactions!

### How can parents help

- Even if you don't speak a word of French you can help:
- Test them on the meanings of French words when they have to learn vocab or grammar
  - For longer pieces of writing, ask them to talk you through the plan of their work in English before they start – to make them think about the structure of what they write
  - Ask them to show you where they have included the elements required by the markscheme to get the grade they are aiming for.
  - If they are doing reading or listening, get them to summarise what the text/extract is about in English – how fluently can they talk about it? Ask them what certain words mean – how spontaneously can they answer you?
  - If they are preparing a speaking exam – listen to them for 10 minutes 2-3 times a day so they become confident in their topics.

### Typical tasks for GCSE GERMAN

1. Learning vocabulary off by heart (15-20 words at a time)
2. Completing grammar exercises
3. Reading/listening comprehensions
4. Longer written pieces
5. Preparation for speaking assessments

### Examples of extension tasks

- Guide them towards extra vocabulary and grammar practice eg:  
<http://www.languagesonline.org.uk/Hotpotatoes/germanindex.htm>  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/german> <http://www.linguascope.com/>  
username: maiden password: brecht <http://www.gcse.com/german>
- Encourage them to read about their favourite celebrity, music, sport in German by googling them on [www.google.de](http://www.google.de)

□ Read about current affairs using a youth newspaper eg: <http://www.sowieso.de/portal> □  
Get them interested in wider German culture eg: reading translations of German language novels, finding out about key periods in German history ... □ Go to Germany and make them do all the transactions!

### How can parents help

- Even if you don't speak a word of German you can help:
- Test them on the meanings of German words when they have to learn vocab or grammar
  - For longer pieces of writing, ask them to talk you through the plan of their work in English before they start – to make them think about the structure of what they write
  - Ask them to show you where they have included the elements required by the markscheme to get the grade they are aiming for.
  - If they are doing reading or listening, get them to summarise what the text/extract is about in English – how fluently can they talk about it? Ask them what certain words mean – how spontaneously can they answer you?
  - If they are preparing a speaking exam – listen to them for 10 minutes 2-3 times a day so they become confident in their topics.

## TECHNOLOGY AND ICT FACULTY

### Typical tasks for GCSE RESISTENT MATERIALS & GRAPHICS

1. Researching by undertaking specific Primary and Secondary research tasks
2. Exploring and understanding specific real life design issues
3. Further research into materials, their properties and uses
4. Evaluating work by seeking the views of other people, thereby being able to draw their own conclusions, evaluations and recommendations of design solutions
5. Experimental and development of their own ideas through modelling solutions.

### Examples of extension tasks

- Using web sites to explore the work of others
- Watching television programmes such as the Discovery Channel to gain an insight into design, engineering and manufacturing processes
- Visits to Design Museums and exhibitions
- Taking photographs of 'good' design and dis-assembly tasks
- Computer aided design work at home
- Preparation work for controlled assignments [www.design-technology.info/](http://www.design-technology.info/)  
[www.mr-dt.com/](http://www.mr-dt.com/)  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/design>  
<http://revisionworld.com/gcse-revision/design-technology>

### How can parents help

- Discussing design ideas with their child
- Involving them with any practical activity that might be done at home.
- Encourage them to look at products with an enquiring mind
- Discussing with them how products within the home may be manufactured

### Typical tasks for BTEC CONSTRUCTION

- Research and preparation of notes on set assignment briefs ready for next session of guided learning time.
- Developing further completed units to enable pupil to attain Merit and Distinction levels – this is achieved by more in depth research and personal notes being entered into learning unit in guided learning time.

### **Examples of extension tasks**

- Using web sites to look at major development projects
- Watching television programmes such as the Discovery Channel to gain an insight into major construction projects that are undertaken
- Taking photographs of local construction work
- <http://www.cbelearning.com>

### **How can parents help with Btec Technology**

- Encourage an enquiring mind towards Buildings and Construction
- Discuss with your child their work and asking them to explain the principles of what they are trying to achieve.
- Discuss with them what you are thinking if you are considering any alterations to your home or if you have a relative or friend that might be.
- Discuss with them real life issues and the cause and effect of Construction. An example might be a major development in your area that may take away some local amenity. People need houses but why build them there?

### **Typical tasks for GCSE FOOD TECHNOLOGY**

- Internet based research to find out the name, cost and main ingredients of a range of food products e.g. salads, cakes or to find suitable recipes.
- Preparing ingredients for a practical food session.
- Learning and practising for written tests.
- Completing examination questions

### **Examples of extension tasks**

Make use of:

- Supermarket websites  
[www.nhs.uk/livewell](http://www.nhs.uk/livewell)
- Read food magazines and newspaper articles.
- Watch cookery programmes and short documentaries about food production.

### **How can parents help**

- Encourage students to visit food outlets and supermarkets, to raise awareness of products, costs and packaging.
- Encourage students to cook healthy dishes on a regular basis and practice assessed work.
- Ask students when they are cooking and then provide them with the ingredients.
- Discuss the outcome of practical work completed at school, including any written feedback required.

### **Typical tasks for GCSE CATERING**

- Planning practical tasks, purchase and preparation of ingredients.
- Written evaluation of practical work.
- Use of internet for researching recipes, food products, catering outlets etc., □ Learning for written tests.
- Completing past exam questions relevant to the current topic.

**Examples of extension tasks**

- Encourage them to try out recipes at home prior to assessment tasks etc.,
  - Get them to watch cookery programmes on TV and read food magazines/newspaper articles.
- Encourage them to think of ways of improving the skills base of the items they make in order to improve grades.

**How can parents help with GCSE Catering?**

- Encourage students to cook regularly at home and discuss the outcome.
- To cook complete meals not just individual dishes.
- Introduce more unusual/seasonal ingredients in the food they prepare so students have a wider understanding of the subject.
- Ask students when they are cooking, then provide them with the ingredients necessary for the task set.
- Check homework tasks are completed on time.
- Encourage visiting local food outlets and supermarkets to raise awareness of products, costs and quality of service.

**Typical tasks for BTEC HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE**

- Use feedback sheets to make amendments to assessed tasks.
- Complete assessed tasks as directed on the assignment briefs.
- Research different examined topic areas (eg: using websites, TV documentaries)
- Complete examples of examination questions.

□ **Examples of extension tasks**

- Additional research using  
Magazines  
Books  
Internet
- Watch suggested Health & Social Care documentaries.

□ **How can parents help with BTEC HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE**

- Read through and discuss the task and feedback with your child so they understand what they need to do.
- Go through the task sheet and assessment criteria to help them plan.
- Read through the course textbook and revision guides with your child to ensure they understand the key ideas and concepts (you could test them for example).

**Typical tasks for GCSE ICT**

1. Know ICT terminology and be able to give clear and technical definitions.
2. Practise questions from examination papers.
3. Become conversant with examination mark schemes.
4. Rework responses to questions for higher marks.

### Examples of extension tasks

- Use of GCSE Bitesize for revision: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zqmtsbk> (ICT) <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/z34k7ty> (computing) <http://revisionworld.com/gcse-revision/ict> (general)
- Encourage to watch educational technology programs on TV.
- Encourage to read technology magazines and literature.
- \*Visit websites on technology and follow threads to improve ICT knowledge and future trends and impacts on social networks.
- \*Look for examination support material and specifications on the VLE.

### □ How can parents help with GCSE ICT?

- Help them by proofreading their coursework, and by improving their formatting of work.
- Help by marking their practice questions, according to the mark schemes.
- Ensure that they have access to satisfactory ICT devices at home.
- Ensure that a variety of information sources are used when gathering research and that the validity of the information gathered is accurate.

### Typical tasks for BTEC ICT

- Use feedback sheet to make amendments to coursework tasks
- Complete coursework tasks as directed in the assignment booklet
- Ensure that portfolio is complete and organised

### Examples of extension tasks

- Practise skills learnt in practical lessons, using examples provided in lesson
- Do additional research using magazines, books and internet to further development and research

### How can parents help with BTEC ICT?

- Read through and discuss the task and feedback with your child so they understand what they need to do.
- Go through the task sheet and assessment criteria to help them plan.
- Read through the course textbook and revision guides with your child to ensure they understand the key ideas and concepts (you could test them for example).

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

### Typical tasks for GCSE PHYSICAL EDUCATION

- Planning training programme activities.
- Applying knowledge learnt in the lesson to practical situations.
- Past paper questions.
- Learning key words and definitions.
- Revising for written tests.

### Examples of extension tasks



- Practise skills learnt in practical lessons, using examples provided in lesson.
- Pupils are encourage to take part in extracurricular activities, which includes joining clubs outside of the school environment.
- Do additional research using magazines, books and internet to further development and research.

#### **How can parents help**

- Encourage an enquiring mind towards sport and the media.
- Discuss with your child their work and asking them to explain the principles of what they are trying to achieve.
- Discuss relevant issues in sport and the media. Example could be who should host the next Olympics and why?
- Encourage your child to get actively involved in sport and activities to promote a healthy lifestyle.

#### **Typical tasks for BTEC SPORT**

- Use feedback sheet to understand the amendments that are needed for coursework tasks □ Ensure that portfolio is organised.
- Review class notes to consolidate understanding before completing tasks.

#### **Examples of extension tasks**

- Additional research on each topics to improve understanding.
- Analyse each units to identify the links between each topic.
- Focus on the grading criteria to individually identify personal targets.

#### **How can parents help**

- Read through and discuss the task and feedback with your child so they understand what they need to do.
- Go through the task sheet and assessment criteria to help them plan.
- Read through the course textbook and revision guides with your child to ensure they understand the key ideas and concepts (you could test them for example).