



Saxon Mount Community School KS4 Information



Key Stage 4 Information 2016/2017

This booklet is designed to provide you with information about the core curriculum (the subjects pupils have to take) and the optional subjects we offer at Saxon Mount School. Your child will be supported through this process by a sequence of events that are designed to help them make the best possible decisions for them as an individual.

The Curriculum

The Core Curriculum	
English Maths Science IT RE PE Citizenship and careers	
The Optional Curriculum	
Option 1	Option 2
IT GCSE Geography GCSE Hospitality (Level 1) Land Based Studies (Level 1) Art and design (Level 1) Skills for Independence and Work (Entry level)	History GCSE Art GCSE Construction (Level 1) Performing Arts (Level 1) Creative Media (Level 1) IT Users (Level 1) Skills for Independence and Work (Entry level)

Levels of study

All qualifications are measured in levels. A GCSE is worth one qualification at level 2 (A*-C) or level 1 (D-G). Some pupils are not ready to take qualifications at level 1 and will therefore take qualifications at Entry Level.

Entry level qualifications can help you build skills, increase your knowledge and boost your confidence. You can take Entry level qualifications at three different levels: Entry 1; Entry 2; Entry 3. They develop basic knowledge, skills and understanding and help you build confidence and prepare for further learning and work.



The Core Curriculum

Qualification: English Language Exam Board: Edexcel Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9-1)

The Pearson Edexcel Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9–1) in English Language is a linear course. It consists of two externally examined components. Students must complete all assessment in May/June in any single year.

Component 1: Fiction and Imaginative Writing

Paper code: 1EN0/01

40% of the total GCSE

Overview of content

- Study selections from a range of prose fiction.
- Develop skills to analyse and evaluate 19th-century fiction extracts.

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- Develop imaginative writing skills to engage the reader.
- Use spelling, punctuation and grammar accurately.

Overview of assessment

- Section A – Reading: questions on an unseen 19th-century fiction extract.
- Section B – Writing: a choice of two writing tasks. The tasks are linked by a theme to the reading extract.
- The total number of marks available is 64.
- Assessment duration 1 hour and 45 minutes.

Component 2: Non-fiction and Transactional Writing

Paper code: 1EN0/02

60% of the total GCSE

Overview of content

- Study a range of 20th- and 21st-century non-fiction texts (including literary non-fiction).
- Develop skills to analyse, evaluate and compare non-fiction extracts.
- Develop transactional writing skills for a variety of forms, purposes and audiences.
- Use spelling, punctuation and grammar accurately.

Overview of assessment

- Section A – Reading: questions on two thematically linked, unseen non-fiction extracts.
- Section B – Writing: a choice of two writing tasks. The tasks are linked by a theme to the reading extracts.
- The total number of marks available is 96.
- Assessment duration: 2 hours.

Spoken Language Endorsement

Paper code 1EN0/03

0% of the total GCSE

Overview of content

- Developing spoken language skills.

Overview of assessment

- The component is internally assessed under controlled conditions, and externally monitored by Pearson.
- Candidates must undertake a prepared spoken presentation on a specific topic in a formal setting, listen and respond to questions and feedback, and use spoken English effectively.
- There are no marks for the Spoken Language endorsement. Students are awarded a grade (Pass, Merit or Distinction).

Qualification: English Literature

Exam Board: Edexcel

Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9-1)

The Pearson Edexcel Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9–1) in English Literature is a linear course. It consists of two externally examined components. Students must complete all assessment in May/June in any single year.

Component 1: Shakespeare and Post-1914 Literature

Paper code: 1ET0/01

50% of the total GCSE

Overview of content

- Study a Shakespeare play and a post-1914 British play or novel.
- Develop skills to analyse how the language, form, structure and context of texts can create meanings and effects.
- Develop skills to maintain a critical style and informed personal response.

Overview of assessment

- Section A – Shakespeare: a two-part question, with the first task focused on an extract of approximately 30 lines. The second task is focused on how a theme reflected in the extract is explored elsewhere in the play.
- Section B – Post-1914 British play or novel: ONE essay question.
- The total number of marks available is 80.
- Assessment duration: 1 hour and 45 minutes.

Component 2: 19th-century Novel and Poetry since 1789

Paper code: 1ET0/02

50% of the total GCSE

Overview of content

- Study a 19th-century novel and a poetry collection from the Pearson Poetry Anthology.
- Develop skills to analyse how the language, form, structure and context of texts can create meanings and effects.
- Develop skills to maintain a critical style and informed personal response.
- Develop comparison skills.

Overview of assessment

- Section A – 19th-century novel: a two part question, with the first part focussed on an extract of approximately 400 words. The second part is an essay question exploring the whole text.
- Section B – Part 1: ONE question comparing a named poem from the Pearson Poetry Anthology collection to another poem from that collection. The named poem will be shown in the question paper.

Part 2: ONE question comparing two unseen contemporary poems.

- The total number of marks available is 80.
- Assessment duration: 2 hours and 15 minutes.

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ENGLISH Exam Board: OCR Qualification: Entry Level

Entry Level English is made up of three internal assessment units. These encompass reading tasks that are set by OCR, and writing and speaking and listening tasks set by teachers with detailed guidance from OCR. All elements are marked by teachers.

Speaking and listening Internal assessment 40% of Entry Level Certificate in English 40 marks	Two tasks Set by teachers Discussion Role play
Reading Internal assessment 20% of Entry Level Certificate in English 20 marks	One task From a bank of tasks set by OCR Understanding
Writing Internal assessment 40% of Entry Level Certificate in English 40 marks	Two tasks Set by teachers Informative writing Imaginative writing

MATHEMATICS Exam Board: OCR Qualification: Level1/2 GCSE (9-1)

This specification helps pupils to develop confidence in, and a positive attitude towards, mathematics and to recognise the importance of mathematics in their own lives and to society. It should prepare pupils to make informed decisions about the use of technology, the management of money and further learning opportunities.

J560/01 Mathematics paper 1 (Foundation)	Written paper 100 marks 1 hour 30 minutes Calculator permitted 33 1/3 % of total GCSE
J560/02 Mathematics paper 2 (Foundation)	Written paper 100 marks 1 hour 30 minutes Calculator not permitted 33 1/3 of total GCSE
J560/03 Mathematics paper 3 (Foundation)	Written paper 100 marks 1 hour 30 minutes Calculator permitted 33 1/3 of total GCSE

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MATHEMATICS

Exam Board: OCR Qualification: Entry Level

Pupils are expected to demonstrate the following four Assessment Objectives in the context of the content described:

AO1 – Using and Applying Mathematics

- Show, in the context of number, shape, space and measures and data handling that they can decide how to solve problems, apply mathematical reasoning and communicate mathematically.

AO2 –Number

- Understand place value and the decimal number system;
- understand and use relationships between numbers and develop methods of computation;
- solve numerical problems;
- understand and use functional relationships.

AO3 - Shape, Space, and Measures

- Understand and use properties of shape;
- understand and use properties of position, movement and transformation;
- understand and use measures.

AO4 -Handling Data

- Represent and Interpret Data.

The assessment is made up of a single unit, comprising two assessed tests and two assessed task papers.

Preliminary written test	40 marks 1 hour paper Calculator not permitted 40% of total
Final written test	40 marks 1 hour paper Calculator not permitted 40% of total
Practical task	20 marks Calculators and computer software permitted 20% of total

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SCIENCE Examining Board: OCR

Qualification: GCSE B711/ B712

Level: 1 and 2

YEAR 11 ONLY

This course identifies the activities and experiences pupils will come across in everyday life, and links these to scientific ideas and their implications for society. It provides the opportunity to acquire the scientific skills, knowledge and understanding necessary for life as a citizen.

COURSE OVERVIEW

Unit B711 Module B1: Understanding Organisms Module C1: Carbon Chemistry Module P1: Energy For The Home	75 marks 1 hour 15 minutes Written paper 35% of total GCSE
Unit B712 Module B2: Understanding Our Environment Module C2: Chemical Resources Module P2: Living For The Future	85 marks 1 hour 30 minutes Written paper 40% of total GCSE
Unit B713 Controlled assessment	48 marks 6 hours 25% of total GCSE

BIOLOGY GCSE

Examining Board: AQA

YEAR 10 ONLY

Level 1 and 2

Subject content

- 1. Cell biology
- 2. Organisation
- 3. Infection and response
- 4. Bioenergetics
- 5. Homeostasis and response
- 6. Inheritance, variation and evolution
- 7. Ecology
- 8. Key ideas

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Paper 1 Topics 1-4 Cell biology, Organisation, Infection and response and Bioenergetics	Written exam 1 hour 45 minutes 100 marks 50% of GCSE
Paper 2 Topics 5-7: Homeostasis and response, inheritance, variation and evolution and Ecology	Written exam 1 hour 45 minutes 100 marks 50 %of GCSE

SCIENCE

Examining Board: OCR

Qualification: Entry Level

This is a course designed to provide Pupils with realistic targets, encouraging them to develop science skills. This enables the more able Pupils to progress to GCSE Science. It is assessed with a combination of short end-of-item tests, can-do tasks and practical tasks by teachers, internally standardised and then externally moderated by OCR.

COURSE OVERVIEW

Biology Items	Chemistry Items	Physics Items
B1 Dead or Alive	C1 Acids and Alkalis	P1 Getting the Message
B2 Babies	C2 Cooking and Cleaning	P2 Our Electricity Supply
B3 Extinction	C3 Colours and Smells	P3 Attractive Forces
B4 Casualty	C4 Heavy Metal?	P4 Pushes and Pulls
B5 Healthy Eating	C5 Fibres and Fabrics	P5 Let there be Light!
B6 Control Systems	C6 Clean Air?	P6 Final Frontier
B7 Gasping for Breath	C7 Strong Stuff	P7 Alternative Energy
B8 Creepy Crawlies	C8 Restless Earth	P8 Deep Impacts
B9 Fooling your Senses	C9 How Fast? How Slow?	P9 Driving Along
B10 Food Factory	C10 Sorting Out	P10 Hot Stuff!
B11 Drugs in Society	C11 CSI Plus	P11 Nuclear Power
B12 My Genes	C12 Fuels	P12 Full Spectrum
B13 Body Wars	C13 What's Added to Our Food?	P13 Medical Rays



Sex Education

At Saxon Mount Community School the curriculum for personal and social education includes sex education. The 1994 Education Act states that it is the duty of the governing body to 'make and keep up to date, a separate written statement of their policy'. The act also states that parents and carers have the right to withdraw their son/daughter from sex education programmes. Parents and carers are informed when their son or daughter is about to start a series of lessons which will cover this topic. Our Additional Needs Staff provide small group and individual support in this area. Parent and Carers are very welcome to request this support. The policy on sex and relationships education is available on request.

Sport and Active Leisure Examining Board: Edexcel Qualification: BTEC Level 1 Certificate

This qualification has been designed to help pupils understand the skills and knowledge needed to work in the sport and active leisure sector. Pupils will be encouraged to participate in a wide range of sport and active leisure activities. They will demonstrate their ability to prepare for the activity, teamwork, time management, and health and safety.

Citizenship

The pupils will learn about democracy, government and the rights and responsibilities of citizens. Pupils should develop their skills to be able to use a range of research strategies, weigh up evidence, make persuasive arguments and substantiate their conclusions. They should experience and evaluate different ways that citizens can act together to solve problems and contribute to society.

OPTIONAL CURRICULUM

IT

Examining Board: Edexcel

Qualification: GCSE

The Edexcel GCSE in ICT comprises two units.

Unit 1: Living in a Digital World 40% of the total GCSE

Overview of content

In this unit pupils explore how digital technology impacts on the lives of individuals, organisations and society. They learn about current and emerging digital technologies and the issues raised by their use in a range of contexts (learning and earning, leisure, shopping and money management, health and wellbeing and on the move). They develop awareness of the risks that are inherent in using ICT and the features of safe, secure and responsible practice.

Overview of assessment

This unit is assessed through a 1 hour 30 minute examination paper set and marked by Edexcel.

The total number of marks available for the examination paper is 80.

Unit 2: Using Digital Tools *Unit code: 5IT02

Internally assessed

Overview of content

This is a practical unit. Pupils broaden and enhance their ICT skills and capability. They work with a range of digital tools and techniques to produce effective ICT solutions in a range of contexts. They learn to reflect critically on their own and others' use of ICT and to adopt safe, secure and responsible practice.

Overview of assessment

The unit is internally assessed under controlled conditions. Pupils must complete a controlled assessment task provided by Edexcel. Pupils must complete the task within 40 hours. Marking of the task is carried out by teachers and moderated by Edexcel against set assessment criteria. The total number of marks available for the controlled assessment task is 80.

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Geography A

Examining Board: AQA

Qualification: GCSE

This qualification allows pupils the opportunity to develop: communication skills; graphical and cartographical skills; interpersonal skills through debate and discussion; literacy and numeracy and problem solving skills.

The specification is made up of the 3 following units.

Unit 1: Physical Geography (Written paper- 1 ½ hours- 37.5 %)

- The Restless Earth
- Rocks, Resources and Scenery
- Challenge of Weather and Climate
- Living World

Unit 2: Human Geography (Written paper- 1 ½ hours- 37.5 %)

- Population Change
- Changing Urban Environments
- Changing Rural Environments

Unit 3: Local Fieldwork Investigation (Controlled Assessment- 25%)

History

Examining Board: Edexcel

Qualification: GCSE

This qualification encourages pupils to look at history in a number of different ways. As well as thinking about history differently, pupils also have the opportunity to investigate a local historical site, which encourages them to put real history into context

History Around Us (Controlled Assessment- 25%)

Candidates will study the site in its historical context. This should involve investigating the typicality of the site, the place of the site in the development of that type of site over time and the importance of the site locally and nationally.

The History of Medicine (Written paper- 1 ½ hours- 45 %)

This examines continuities and changes in the history of medicine. This unit focuses on a common set of key questions:

What caused people to be healthy or unhealthy?

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Who provided medical care?

What caused diagnoses and treatments to remain the same or to change?

How far did new ideas and treatments affect the majority of the population?

What ideas did people have about the causes and treatment of illness and injuries?

Candidates should develop a knowledge and understanding of the main developments in the history of medicine.

The American West, 1840–1895 (Written paper- 1 ½ hours- 25%)

This concentrates on the way in which the American West was settled and developed by various groups of people between 1840 and 1895, and the impact of this settlement on the Plains Indians. It encourages pupils to explore the key features and characteristics of the period. Emphasis should be placed on the reasons for the settlement of the American West and the conflicts, which resulted from the clash of different cultures and life-styles, and the consequences of these conflicts. The study also offers a contrast between the people and ideas of the American West during this period and those of today.

GCSE Art and Design

Exam Board: AQA

A two year course which includes a portfolio unit and an externally set task. The course provides students with a wide range of creative and exciting opportunities that encourages them to investigate their own interests whilst developing their artistic skills.

Art GCSE is a practical programme of study where students take part in a wide range of arts processes including drawing, painting, printing, collage and sculpture. They are encouraged to annotate their work with their own ideas and opinions as well as take part in group discussion and critique.

Art and Design

Examining Board: Edexcel

Qualification: BTEC Level 1 Certificate

This Art and Design course gives pupils an opportunity to explore a range of different subjects within Art and Design, including drawing, painting, printmaking, 3Ddesign and mixed media.

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Hospitality Examining Board: Edexcel

Qualification: BTEC Level 1 Certificate

This qualification reflects the skills, knowledge and understanding that are required in the modern hospitality industry. Today's workforce has to be able to problem solve, work as a member of a team, be able to plan and make decisions and work to tight deadlines.

The units will include aspects of Customer Service, Serving Food and Drink, Housekeeping and Food safety in Catering.

Construction Examining Board: Edexcel

Qualification: BTEC Level 1 Certificate

This Construction qualification will help pupils understand aspects of the Construction industry and the skills required to work successfully in it. Pupils will find out about career opportunities in Construction as well as developing their own practical skills.

Land Based Studies Examining Board: Edexcel

Qualification: BTEC Level 1 Certificate

This is a practical qualification which is designed to help pupils gain the skills they would need to work in the land-based sector. Pupils will complete the majority of their coursework for this qualification at Ivylands Farm, Netherfield.

Performing Arts Examining Board: Edexcel

Qualification: BTEC Level 1 Certificate

This qualification provides an engaging and relevant introduction to the world of performing arts. Pupils can learn about promoting and taking part in performances and events, with the opportunity to develop their acting, dance and musical performance skills as well as the associated technical and design skills. There are also opportunities to understand more about what it means to work in the sector.

IT Users Examining Board: Edexcel Qualification: BTEC Level
1 Certificate

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The purpose of this qualification is to develop and recognise pupils' IT skills and knowledge and enable them to use IT effectively in their daily lives. This qualification is designed to prepare pupils for employment in the IT sector.

Creative Media Production

Examining Board: Edexcel

Qualification: BTEC Level 1 Certificate

The Pearson Edexcel BTEC in Creative Media Production provides learners the opportunity to engage in learning which is relevant to them and will provide opportunities to develop a range of skills and techniques, personal skills and attributes essential for successful performance in working life. Pupils will find out about a range of employment opportunities using creative media.

Skills for independence and work

Examining Board: Edexcel

Qualification: Entry level Certificate

The Edexcel Skills for Independence and Work, Entry Level qualifications provides opportunities for pupils to develop skills, gain underpinning knowledge and understanding and offers opportunities for progression to higher level units in the suite or to achieve units at the same level, where progression to a higher level is not possible.

Any combination of units, at any level, can be selected to suit the needs and interests of pupils. This provides the opportunity to build a rich and varied personalised learning programme for pupils.

Pupils will study a range of units including using public transport, personal safety, being part of the community, growing plants and enterprise activities.

Functional Skills

Functional skills are qualifications in English, maths and ICT that equip pupils with the basic practical skills required in everyday life, education and the workplace. They are available at Entry Level 1 through to Level 2.

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Functional Skills in English is assessed in three units:

- Speaking, Listening and Communication
- Reading
- Writing

