

ARK ACADEMY

YEAR 12 GCE CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

A Mathematics and Citizenship Rich School



2018 - 2019

www.arkacademy.org

MISSION STATEMENT

Ark Academy has at its core the pursuit of highest standards possible in education. We believe in high aspirations, high motivation and high achievement for all. Through our extended curriculum and community life we seek to meet the needs of the whole person. Civitas – Citizenship – is at our core. We will build a community of civic pride and social justice in which all members are equally valued. We are committed to the service of young people and to helping them play their full part in society.

In light of this we aim to:

- *Provide every student with the knowledge, skills, self belief and motivation to be successful in their learning and lives*
- *Welcome, value and respect all who come to the school*
- *Build a community based on justice and a sense of personal responsibility*
- *Provide opportunities for all to experience CIVITAS whilst developing a spirit of tolerance and understanding for all cultures, traditions and faiths*
- *Promote dialogue and co-operation with the wider community*

Our Driving Principles are:

- ***Excellence***
- ***Citizenship***
- ***Participation***
- ***Persistence***

Our goal

Our goal is that all students should be able to access higher education and participate fully in our democratic society.

Introduction

We have reached an important year in your education – the start of the study which will lead you to your chosen **university** and eventually – your chosen **career**!

This booklet focuses both on the **year 12 curriculum** and has been designed as a ‘go to guide’ for you to reference during the key months ahead.

It includes:

- A comprehensive **timeline of the year**, including dates for key assessments and both sets of mock exams
- Our plan for **supporting all students** to achieve their best this year through independent study, targeted intervention and revision
- The **provision curriculum: university preparation** & UCAS applications

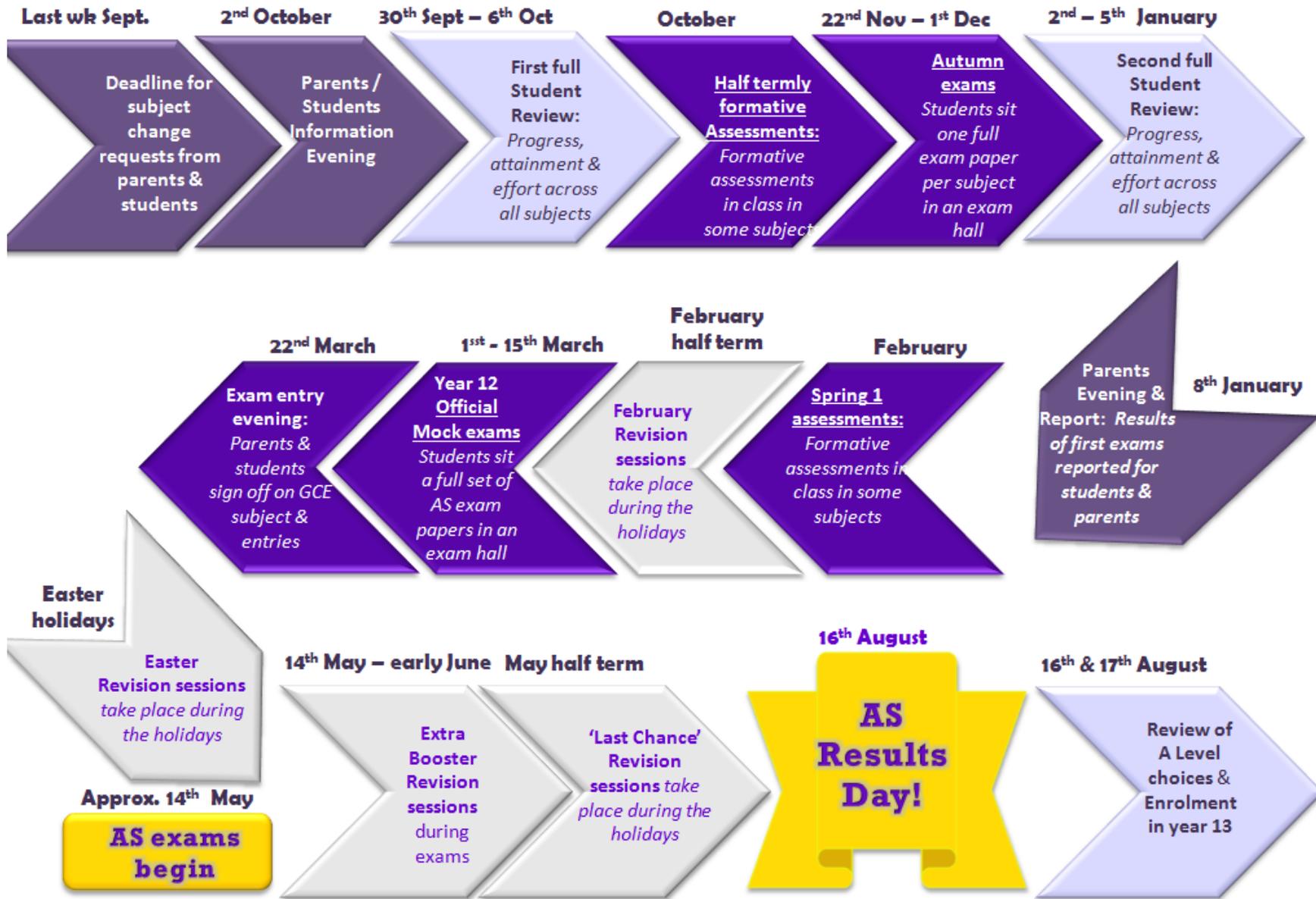
Individual subject guides will be available to collect to supplement this booklet and each will explain

- The **exam board** for the subject & **outline of the course** in year 12 and year 13
- **Controlled assessment** this year (where applicable)
- Information on the maintaining appropriate **notes / folders** for that subject
- Details of when **homework** is set and marked
- Advice on what students need to do to **prepare well** for the each **examination point**

Should you have any questions about the curriculum and assessment plans for the year please speak to individual teachers or the relevant Head of Department. Alternatively contact one of the senior team who will be more than happy to help:

| | | |
|------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| Miss Keane | Director of Sixth Form &Curriculum | t.keane@arkacademy.org |
| Mr Ding | Senior Tutor: Year 13 | t.ding@arkacademy.org |
| Miss Lewis Smith | Senior Tutor: Year 12 | n.lewissmith@arkacademy.org |

Year 12 Timeline 2017 - 18



The External Examination Process:

GCE Exams 2018-20

GCE Target Setting

Ark Academy has decided, like most A-Level providers to move to the linear A-Level model from this September. This means that our students will not sit any AS examinations.

We want to ensure that every one of our students is challenged to reach their potential in their A-Level exams and take the process of setting and sharing targets very seriously. Every Ark Academy Sixth Form student will be set **challenging A Level targets** this year based on their **average GCSE score**, their baseline assessment result the subject grades they achieved at GCSE (where applicable). The targets will be based on historic data of the **top 25% attainment** at Key Stage 5 across the country.

Students will receive their targets for **individual subjects** from their teachers next week and these will be compared to **current attainment** and **teacher predictions** at every assessment point in the year ahead.

Termly examinations: *Reviewing attainment through the year*

This coming term is a very important one for teachers and heads of department in every subject, who look carefully at each A Level student's progress, attainment and commitment to the subject. The first **Year 12 Review** will have take place during the week beginning 24th September, during which teachers will report to senior staff on the effort and attainment of each student so far. This will enable us to intervene effectively to support your son/daughter. In almost all cases, the students will have settled in the work well and with gusto and will be progressing nicely. Where we have concerns, we will contact you individually.

The first set of full exams will take place before the Christmas holidays from **22nd November – 1st December**. Students will have one exam per subject that they take. The paper will test them on everything they have learnt in year 12 up to that point. This will be a cumulative exam that will take place in the students own subject room and we would project that the pupils will have covered approximately 20% of the course by that stage.

The second set of full exams will take place before the Easter holidays from **22nd November – 1st December**. Students will have one exam per subject that they take. The paper will test them on everything they have learnt in year 12 up to that point. This will be a cumulative exam that will take place in the students own subject room and we would project that the pupils will have covered approximately 40% of the course by that stage.

The third and final set of full exams will take place before the Summer holidays from **22nd November – 1st December**. Students will have one or more exam per subject that they take. The

paper will test them on everything they have learnt in year 12 up to that point. This will be a cumulative exam that will take place in the exam hall and we would project that the pupils will have covered approximately 60% of the course by that stage

Supporting you to achieve your best

In addition to all the hard work taking place in lessons every day, special support will be provided for Year 12 in this crucial year. Staff will be going above and beyond to ensure that every student can fulfil their potential in their AS exams in the summer. These additional levels of support will be available in a variety of ways as detailed below.

Study Periods

All sixth form students are studying three subjects and will have twelve study periods. during the weekly timetable.

Having study periods and two exclusive, designated study rooms is a great privilege of being a sixth former at Ark. Our students welcome the opportunity to have two rooms for their exclusive use where they can study without interruption, focussing on reading and homework which needs to be done well and on time. How well students work in this time is the students' responsibility although the time is also monitored by teachers and the Study Area is supervised during the school day. **It is critical that students use their Study Time effectively and students not working will lose privileges.**

Independent learning

Finally, it is absolutely essential that students are completing independent work (in addition to homework) outside of school. By making this investment of time now it will pay huge dividends in the exams this summer.

Preparing for University

Preparing for University requires getting top grades at AS Level. Top Universities, including the Russell Group Universities, are looking for A and B grades at AS Level. With low academic grades, students have limited choices for university.

The Ark Diploma

The most successful and interesting students in Britain develop knowledge, skills and interests beyond their academic subjects. This is up to your son/daughter, but at Ark we do everything we can to support.

That's why we have the Ark Diploma: a diploma which will help your son/daughter **structure** time and commitments beyond the classroom and help develop knowledge, skills and interests. The Ark Diploma **awards** personal development through **extra-curricular activities, leading societies and clubs, community outreach and "off specification" learning**. The Ark Diploma **appeals to universities** because it is evidence that students are active and well-rounded young people – someone universities would want on their campuses.

By achieving this Diploma, your son/daughter will develop a range of knowledge, skills and interests which will enhance their CV so they can access top universities and career opportunities. We hope that the Ark Diploma will also support your son/daughter to become **independent thinking, purposeful, compassionate and joyful**, enjoying life at school, separate from the rigours of examinations.

There are two levels of Ark Diploma available:

| Ark Gold Diploma (complete 5 out of 8) | Ark Diploma (complete 5 out of 8) |
|---|---|
| Completion of two terms' work of Outreach or Civic engagement project with excellent attendance | Completion of one term's work of Outreach or Civic engagement project with excellent attendance |
| EPQ | MPQ |
| Leadership of school society | Active membership of school society |
| Participation in five or more House Competitions | Participation in three or more House Competitions |
| Regular performance for the school (sport, drama, debating) | Performance for the school (sport, drama, debating) |
| Leading charity fundraising | Participating in charity fundraising |
| Leading subject competitions or "off spec" learning | Involvement in subject competitions or "off spec" learning |
| Over 40 hours of work experience. | Over 20 hours of work experience. |
| Completing 5 AS Levels (includes Ma / FM double or a heritage language AS) | |

*Because the experiences in the Ark Diploma are so important for personal development, we expect all Year 12 to complete the Ark Diploma.

**The Ark Diploma brings together all the enrichment, societies, clubs and “Off Specification” learning that we do.

The UCAS application Process

Ark Academy will support your son/daughter to choose the right university pathway and career with confidence. The right university degree and career will probably make your son/daughter a happier, more prosperous, and more enlightened person.

Critical for a degree is the UCAS Application. **UCAS stands for Universities and Colleges Admission Service.** UCAS coordinates applications to different universities – a student can apply to up to five universities through UCAS.

Ark Academy provides expert advice on UCAS applications and it is critical that students follow this advice. The Ark Academy Home School Agreement, signed by students, parents and teacher states that students “will accept help, guidance or support, be that academic or pastoral, when offered it and understand that Ark Academy will make decisions in my best interests”.

Often people present the UCAS process to be very complicated and difficult: it is not, if your son/daughter is **organised, honest** and, after taking some time to weigh up different options, **decisive**. By September 2016, your son/daughter should have:

- 1) Chosen a preferred degree;
- 2) Chosen five universities where this degree may be studied (with a favourite, “firm choice”, and an “insurance choice” - a back up which requires lower grades for entry);
- 3) Completed a UCAS form and written a personal statement explaining why it is the preferred degree.

So, this year, building up knowledge of universities, degrees, and perhaps gaining some degree related work experience is important (essential in Medicine, Pharmacy and Law), but the most important is the AS Grades. **Get good AS grades and your son/daughter will have lots of good universities to choose from, get bad AS grades and their aspirations will be impossible.**

Ark Academy subject teachers and tutors will work together to write an honest and supportive UCAS reference which will be completed in the Autumn of 2018: the sooner your son/daughter chooses their degree and completes the UCAS Application, the sooner this reference can be completed. This reference will state their academic achievements so far and describe evidence of their academic passion for the degree of their choice. Above all, however, it will describe honestly and supportively their learning attitude since starting in Ark Academy Sixth Form: **those students with excellent attendance, punctuality and an Ark Diploma, will benefit from a strong reference.**

Your son/daughter’s predicted A2 grades (which are given to universities) will depend very heavily on the AS grades: your son/daughter must do well at AS to have a wide choice of universities and degrees.

Open Days: the Ark Academy will lead outings to Universities, in Autumn 2017 and Summer 2018. Students will have authorised absence for **one day** this year to go independently to a University Open Day as well.

Subject Contacts

The easiest and quickest way to contact your son/daughters teacher is via email. Staff emails all follow the same format: the first letter of their first name followed by a full stop followed by their surname then @arkacademy.org.

For example If you wish to contact Tracey Keane her email is t.keane@arkacademy.org

| Subject | Code | Teacher Name |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------|
| Art & Photography | DPA | Paton, Daniel |
| | SSA | Sandeman, Sarah |
| Biology | LSA | Sach, Laura |
| | AWA | Wanklyn, Alastiar |
| Business Studies | ASE | Semugabi, Alan |
| | SIQ | Iqbal, Sofia |
| | HBA | Balal, Hassan |
| Chemistry | CHI | Hickling, Claire |
| | MSA | Salad, Maryan |
| | TKE | Keane, Tracey |
| Core Maths | JBO | Bowley, Janette |
| Economics | EIL | Ilfie, Emily |
| | CRU | Russell, Charlotte |
| English Literature | CJO | Johnson, Carey |
| | ICL | Clark, Isabel |
| | NLE | Lewis-Smith, Natasha |
| | ABY | Boyd, Alison |
| Further Maths | KBT | Butler, Katie |
| | NTR | Triantafilidis, Nicolas |
| | EIL | Ilfie, Emily |
| | TDI | Ding, Tom |
| French | MBO | Bouquin, Mathilde |
| | CNE | Neal, Chris |
| Geography | ECH | Chandler, Edward |
| | LTA | Tamburello, Lucia |
| Government and Politics | JCO | Coward, Joseph |
| | PNU | Nugent, Paul |
| History | FPI | Pitkin, Fiona |
| | JGR | Grande, Jonathan |
| | TSA | Sawbridge, Tom |
| Maths | AMI | Milea, Alina-Elena |
| | CRU | Russell, Charlotte |
| | EOZ | Ozeke, Emi |
| | KBT | Butler, Katie |
| | OSK | Skehel, Oscar |
| | TDI | Ding, Tom |
| Media | ATA | Tarling, Aimee |
| | SGA | Gardiner, Simon |
| PE | KGA | Gallagher, Kelly |
| | SOC | O'Carroll, Stephen |

| | | |
|--------------------------|-----|--------------------|
| Physics | ADI | Dineen, Adam |
| Psychology | CBN | Bondonga, Cynthia |
| | KRG | Rogers, Kimberley |
| Religious Studies | JMC | Macivor, Jess |
| | HMA | Maundrell, Heather |
| | FDY | Daya, Fatima |
| Science | HRA | Rafferty, Heather |
| | TKE | Keane, Tracey |
| | RMO | Moore, Ryan |
| | RDO | Douglas, Racheal |
| Sociology | CBN | Bondonga, Cynthia |
| | KRG | Rogers, Kimberley |
| Spanish | JFI | Figueroa, Julieta |
| | CKE | Kelly, Caroline |