

GCSE Reading and Resource List

The following reading and resource list has been compiled to support and enrich students' learning beyond the taught curriculum. The texts included are intended to provide opportunities for students to deepen their knowledge and broaden their understanding of their subjects.

Please note that the books listed are not compulsory purchases. Rather, they are offered as recommendations for those students who wish to extend their learning further and engage more broadly with their subjects.

Textbooks required for GCSE courses will be provided by the school, and there is therefore no expectation that these are purchased in advance.

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BIOLOGY

General Reading

Biology: A Very Short Introduction	Jonathan Slack	(ISBN: 978-0192854301)
What is Life?	Paul Nurse	(ISBN: 978-0198786088)
The Usborne Illustrated Dictionary of Biology	Corinne Stockley	(ISBN: 978-1409504200)
Cells, Genes and Genetics	Richard Fosbery	(ISBN: 978-0199141954)
The Way Life Works	Mahlon Hoagland	(ISBN: 978-0760781510)
The Ecology Book	(Big Ideas Series)	(ISBN: 978-0241350389)
What a Waste	Jess French	(ISBN: 978-0241348362)
The Human Body: A Very Short Introduction	Leslie Aiello	(ISBN: 978-0199234236)
Bad Science	Ben Goldacre	(ISBN: 978-0007284873)
Science: A History in 100 Experiments	Colin Salter	(ISBN: 978-1782437485)

BIOLOGY

Online Resources

the following websites provide valuable supplementary support for students and are recommended for independent study and consolidation.

BBC Bitesize – KS3 and GCSE Biology

Provides clear and accessible explanations suitable for KS3, with many topics directly supporting iGCSE foundations. Short quizzes help to reinforce understanding.

KS3 Biology: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z2pfb9q>

GCSE Biology: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zynp34j>

Khan Academy – Introductory Biology

Offers high-quality instructional videos alongside practice questions, supporting core topics such as cells, genetics, and ecology. Particularly useful for independent learners seeking deeper understanding.

<https://www.khanacademy.org/science/biology>

FuseSchool – Biology Video Lessons

Provides short, engaging animated videos that support the transition from KS3 to iGCSE, covering key biological processes and systems.

<https://www.youtube.com/@fuseschool/videos>

Royal Society of Biology – Student Resources

Offers engaging articles and activities designed to develop scientific curiosity and support broader understanding of topics such as biodiversity and genetics.

<https://www.rsb.org.uk/teacher-and-student-resources>

Crash Course Biology (YouTube)

Fast-paced and visually engaging content introducing key biological concepts. Particularly suitable for confident students seeking enrichment.

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL3EED4C1D684D3ADF>

BIOLOGY

Online Resources

Revision World – Biology

Accessible summaries of core topics which align closely with iGCSE fundamentals and support transition from KS3.

<https://revisionworld.com/gcse-revision/biology>

IGCSE Centre – Study Support

Provides revision guidance, study tips, and insight into iGCSE expectations, supporting students as they begin their courses.

<https://www.igcsecentre.com>

BUSINESS STUDIES

Business Vocabulary in Use: Intermediate (with Answers)	Bill Mascull	Publisher: Cambridge University Press ISBN-10: 1316629988 ISBN-13: 978-1316629987
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Online Resources

the following websites provide valuable supplementary support for students and are recommended for independent study and consolidation.

BBC Bitesize – Business and Economics

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>

Offers clear and accessible explanations of key concepts, alongside quizzes to reinforce understanding and support revision.

Tutor2u – Business and Economics

<https://www.tutor2u.net>

A highly regarded resource providing up-to-date case studies, revision notes, and exam-style questions to support deeper understanding and application.

CHEMISTRY

Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9–1) Chemistry Lab Book	John Kavanagh	Publisher: Pearson Education ISBN: 9781292394909
Edexcel International GCSE Chemistry Revision Guide	Pearson/Edexcel endorsed	ISBN: 9781447967071
The Disappearing Spoon – Sam Kean (Engaging exploration of the periodic table and chemical discoveries)		ISBN: 9780552777509
Why Chemical Reactions Happen	James Keeler & Peter Wothers	ISBN: 9780199249732

Online Resources

The following websites provide valuable supplementary support for students and are recommended for independent study and consolidation.

BBC Bitesize – Chemistry

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zs6hvcw>

Provides clear explanations of key topics such as atomic structure, bonding, and rates of reaction, alongside quizzes for consolidation.

Physics & Maths Tutor – Chemistry

<https://www.physicsandmathstutor.com/chemistry-revision/>

A comprehensive resource offering revision notes, past paper questions, and model answers, particularly useful for exam preparation.

CHEMISTRY

Online Resources

Khan Academy – Chemistry

<https://www.khanacademy.org/science/chemistry>

Provides high-quality video explanations and practice exercises covering key topics such as atomic structure, bonding, and stoichiometry.

Royal Society of Chemistry – Learn Chemistry

<https://edu.rsc.org>

Offers engaging resources, experiments, and real-world applications of chemistry to support deeper understanding.

FuseSchool – Chemistry (YouTube)

<https://www.youtube.com/@fuseschool>

Provides short, animated videos explaining key concepts such as bonding, energy changes, and chemical reactions.

ECONOMICS

Online Resources

The following websites provide valuable supplementary support for students and are recommended for independent study and consolidation.

Tutor2u

<https://www.tutor2u.net/economics>

Physics & Maths Tutor

<https://www.physicsandmathstutor.com>

BBC News

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business>

Office for National Statistics

<https://www.ons.gov.uk>

World Bank

<https://data.worldbank.org>

ENGLISH

iGCSE English Literature Anthology (PDF)

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ZSszH0YbviRSTZQWN5c92aTERWpDfj3b-/view>

This anthology is used for both English Language and English Literature:

For English Language: students study the set non-fiction texts included.

For English Literature: students study the full selection of poems.

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL)

English Vocabulary in Use
(Series)

Michael McCarthy and
Felicity O'Dell

Publisher: Cambridge
University Press

(Elementary) ISBN : 978-
1316631522

(Pre-intermediate &
Intermediate) ISBN : 978-
1316631539

(Upper Intermediate) ISBN :
978-1316631546

ENGLISH

Online Resources

The following websites provide valuable supplementary support for students and are recommended for independent study and consolidation.

iGCSE English Language Support

<https://tinyurl.com/igcseenglishlanguage>

Provides video analysis, quizzes, and past paper materials for each of the non-fiction texts, supporting both understanding and exam preparation.

iGCSE English Literature Support

<https://tinyurl.com/igcseenglishliterature>

Offers video analysis of set texts, course overviews, and spoken performances of each poem to support interpretation and revision.

British Council – LearnEnglish Teens

<https://learnenglishteens.britishcouncil.org/>

A comprehensive platform offering a wide range of activities, videos, and exercises designed to improve reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills. Particularly suitable for independent learning.

FRENCH

AQA GCSE French Higher Student Book	Clive Bell, Gill Ramage, Anneli McLachlan	Publisher: Oxford University Press ISBN: 978-0198365856
AQA GCSE French Revision Workbook		Oxford University Press ISBN: 978-0198365924

Online Resources

The following websites provide valuable supplementary support for students and are recommended for independent study and consolidation.

BBC Bitesize – GCSE French

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z9dqxb>

Provides clear explanations of key topics, vocabulary, and grammar, alongside interactive activities and quizzes to support consolidation and exam preparation.

GEOGRAPHY

Prisoners of Geography	Tim Marshall	ISBN: 978-1783962430
(Globalisation, development, and resource management)		
Factfulness	Hans Rosling	ISBN: 978-1473637467
(Development, population, and global inequality)		
Krakatoa	Simon Winchester	ISBN: 978-0142002404
(Tectonic hazards)		
The Cure for Catastrophe	Robert Muir-Wood	ISBN: 978-0465026804
(Natural hazards, risk, and response)		
The World is Flat	Thomas Friedman	ISBN: 978-0374292796
(Globalisation and trade)		
The Bottom Billion	Paul Collier	ISBN: 978-0195373384
(Development and inequality)		

GEOGRAPHY

Divided	Tim Marshall	(ISBN: 978-1783963697)
(Urban issues and inequality)		
Remaking London	Ben Campkin	(ISBN: 978-1781680626)
(Urban regeneration)		
This Changes Everything	Naomi Klein	(ISBN: 978-0141970414)
(Climate change and sustainability)		
The Planet Remade	Oliver Morton	(ISBN: 978-1846144315)
(Climate systems and human impact)		

GEOGRAPHY

Online Resources

The following websites provide valuable supplementary support for students and are recommended for independent study and consolidation.

Royal Geographical Society – Ask the Geographer Podcast

Access the Podcast Series

This podcast features contributions from leading geographers and researchers, offering insight into contemporary geographical issues and real-world applications of the subject.

GeogPod (Geographical Association)

<https://geography.org.uk/geogpod>

Produced by the Geographical Association, this podcast explores a wide range of geographical themes and supports the development of deeper subject understanding.

BBC Bitesize – Geography

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zkw76sg>

Provides clear, accessible explanations across a wide range of KS3 and GCSE topics, alongside quizzes to support retrieval practice.

Internet Geography

<https://www.internetgeography.net>

A comprehensive revision resource offering case studies, topic summaries, and exam guidance tailored to GCSE-level Geography.

National Geographic Education

<https://education.nationalgeographic.org>

Provides high-quality articles, videos, and case studies exploring global geographical issues and contemporary challenges.

HISTORY

Edexcel International GCSE History Student Book: Germany – Development and Dictatorship, 1918–45	Victoria Payne	Pearson Edexcel 978-0-435-18538-1
Edexcel International GCSE History Student Book: The Origins and Course of the First World War, 1905–18	Rosemary Rees	Pearson Edexcel 978-0-435-18542-8
Edexcel International GCSE History Student Book: Changes in Medicine, c.1848–c.1948	Cathy Warren	Pearson Edexcel 978-0-435-18542-8
Edexcel International GCSE History Student Book: A World Divided – Superpower Relations, 1943–72	Nigel Kelly	Pearson Edexcel 978-0-435-18544-2

HISTORY

Online Resources

The following websites provide valuable supplementary support for students and are recommended for independent study and consolidation.

The Rest is History

<https://www.youtube.com/@restishistorypod>

This podcast offers engaging discussions across a wide range of historical topics and is particularly useful in modelling:

structured argument

evaluation and rebuttal

nuanced use of evidence

Dan Snow's History Hit

<https://lnkfi.re/DSHH>

This podcast provides detailed narratives and balanced interpretations of key historical events, supporting:

coherent and structured narrative

depth of historical analysis

evaluative thinking

MATHEMATICS

Edexcel IGCSE Mathematics (Specification A) Student Book 1	(Turner & Potts)	ISBN-13: 9780435181444
Student Book 2	(Turner & Potts)	ISBN-13: 9780435183059
Edexcel IGCSE Further Pure Mathematics Core textbook		
Edexcel International GCSE Further Pure Mathematics	(Ali Dato)	ISBN-13: 9780435185169
AQA Level 2 Certificate in Further Mathematics	(Andrew Ginty, 3rd Ed.)	ISBN-13: 9781036011475
Revision Guide		ISBN-13: 9781782941798
Exam Practice Workbook		ISBN-13: 9781789082418

MATHEMATICS

Online Resources

The following websites provide valuable supplementary support for students and are recommended for independent study and consolidation.

Dr Frost Maths

<https://www.drfrost.org>

Physics & Maths Tutor

<https://www.physicsandmathstutor.com>

Yesterday's Maths Exam

<https://www.yesterdaysmathsexam.com>

Desmos

<https://www.desmos.com>

Interactive graphing tool

TLMaths

<https://www.youtube.com/@TLMaths>

PHYSICS

<p>Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9-1) Physics Student Book</p>	<p>Nick England</p>	<p>Publisher: Pearson Education ISBN-10: 0435185276 ISBN-13: 9780435185275</p>
<p>Edexcel International GCSE (9-1) Physics Student Book – (Collins, endorsed edition)</p>		<p>Publisher: Collins ISBN-13: 9780008236205</p>
<p>CGP GCSE Physics Revision Guide (Higher Level) – CGP Books</p>	<p>(Clear explanations and exam-style practice questions)</p>	<p>ISBN: 9781782945595</p>
<p>Why Don't Penguins' Feet Freeze? – Mick O'Hare</p>	<p>(Engaging real-world physics questions and explanations)</p>	<p>ISBN: 9781861978762</p>

PHYSICS

Online Resources

The following websites provide valuable supplementary support for students and are recommended for independent study and consolidation.

BBC Bitesize – Physics

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zs6hvcw>

Offers clear explanations of key topics such as forces, energy, electricity, and waves, alongside quizzes to reinforce learning.

Physics & Maths Tutor – Physics

<https://www.physicsandmathstutor.com/physics-revision/>

Provides comprehensive revision notes, topic questions, and past paper materials to support exam preparation.

Khan Academy – Physics

<https://www.khanacademy.org/science/physics>

Offers high-quality video explanations and practice exercises covering key topics such as motion, forces, and energy.

Isaac Physics (University of Cambridge)

<https://isaacphysics.org>

A highly regarded platform offering problem-solving questions and tutorials designed to stretch and challenge students.

FuseSchool – Physics (YouTube)

<https://www.youtube.com/@fuseschool>

Provides short, animated videos explaining core concepts such as electricity, waves, and energy transfer.

PSYCHOLOGY

Edexcel GCSE (9-1) Psychology Student Book – Christine Brain,	Anna Cave and Karren Smith	Publisher: Pearson ISBN: 9781292182773
GCSE Revision Guide for Edexcel – Ali Abbas Publisher: Routledge	(Taylor & Francis Group)	ISBN-13: 978-1138494114 ISBN-10: 1138494119

Online Resources

The following websites provide valuable supplementary support for students and are recommended for independent study and consolidation.

Simply Psychology

<https://www.simplypsychology.org/>

Provides clear, accessible study guides covering a wide range of psychological topics, including research methods, memory, social influence, and development. This resource is particularly useful for reinforcing subject knowledge and supporting revision.