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Catholic Voluntary Academy

Year 11 Essentials for Success

2026 - 2027

COMMUNITY • ACHIEVE • RESPECT • ENCOUNTER

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Welcome

- Parental involvement has a significant impact
- Different ways for parents to be involved:
  - High expectations
  - Ask questions about their learning
  - Attend school events
  - Communicate with teachers
  - Support/supervise work
  - Reassure

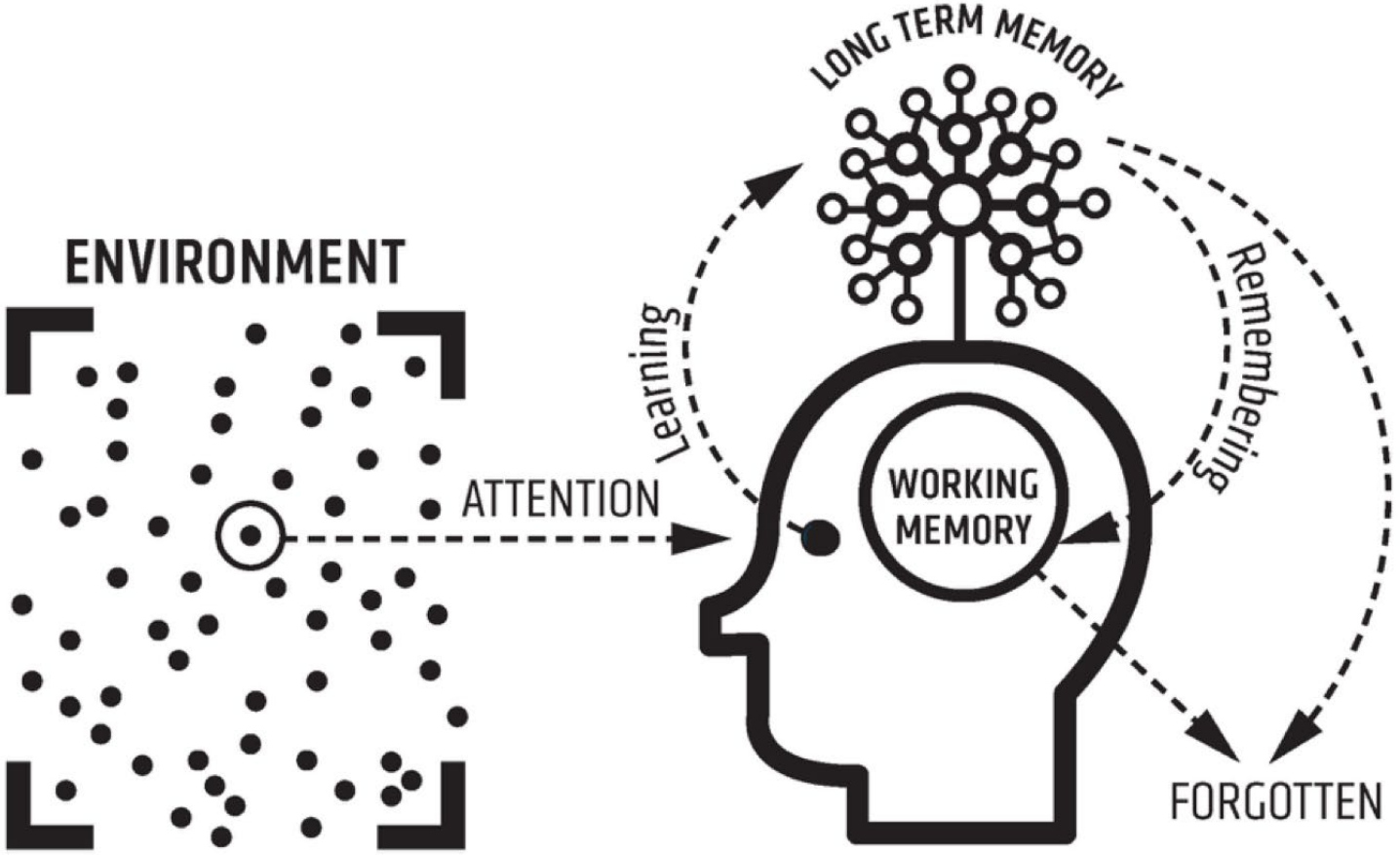
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Getting Revision Ready

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Cognitive Science



(Tom Sherrington, 2020)

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CtK Core 4

Flash Cards



1. Identify Knowledge
- What are you creating flashcards on?
- Do you have your knowledge organiser?
- Use your book to look at previous misconceptions from whole class feedback.



2. Colour Coding
- Use different coloured flash cards for different topics. This helps with organisation, NOT recall.



3. Designing
- 1 Question per flash card - make them concise and clear.
- Use a one-word prompt, so that you can recall as much as you can.
- No extended answer questions.



4. Using
- Write your answers down, then check, or say your answers out loud. This clearly shows the gaps in your knowledge.
- Do not just copy and re-read.
- Shuffle the cards each time you use them.
- Use the Leitner system to use flash cards every day.



5. Feedback
- How have you performed when you look back at your answers?
- Is there anything you need to revisit in more detail?
- Is your knowledge secure? If so, move on to applying knowledge in that area in specific extended exam questions.

THE CORE FOUR REVISION TECHNIQUES



Brain Dumps



1. Identify Knowledge
- Identify the knowledge / topic area you want to cover.



2. Write it Down
- Take a blank piece of paper/white board and write down everything you can remember about that topic (with no prompts)
- Give yourself a timed limit (e.g. 10 minutes)



3. Organise Information
- Once complete and you cannot remember any more, use different colours to highlight / underline words in groups.
- This categorises / links information



4. Check Understanding
- Compare your brain dump to your Knowledge Organiser or book and check your understanding.
- Add any key information you have missed (key words) in a different colour.



5. Store and Compare
- Keep your brain dump safe and revisit it.
- Next time you attempt the same topic, try and complete the same amount of information in a shorter period of time, or add more information.

THE CORE FOUR REVISION TECHNIQUES

Revision Clocks



1. Identify Knowledge
Select a topic you wish to revise. Have your class notes, knowledge organiser or revision books ready.



2. Designing
You can make your own revision clock by drawing a clock in the centre of a page and dividing it into 12 chunks. You can also use an existing template from your teacher, or one you can find online.



3. Manageable Chunks
Organise your revision notes into 12 sub-topics and make brief notes for each sub-topic into one of the segments on the page, creating manageable chunks of information. Combine text with images to help retain the information.



4. Using Revision Clocks
Revise each segment for 5 minutes. Turn the clock over and recite the sections out loud or ask someone to quiz you.

Alternatively, you can revise certain sections for 5 minutes and use a blank revision clock with headings, recall as much information as you can in the segments.



5. Check Understanding
How have you performed when you compare you answers to what you have written? Is your knowledge secure?

Remember to repeat the process regularly, using different techniques to answer the questions.

Put it somewhere visible for you to use again.

THE CORE FOUR REVISION TECHNIQUES

Self-Quizzing



1. Identify Knowledge
- Identify knowledge / content you wish to cover



2. Review and Create
- Spend around 5 - 10 minutes reviewing content (knowledge organisers / class notes / textbook.)
- Create 10 questions on the content (if your teacher has not provided you with questions already)



3. Cover and Answer
- Cover up your knowledge and answer the questions from memory.
- Take your time and where possible answer in full sentences.



4. Self Mark and Reflect
- Go back to the content and self-mark your answers in green pen.



5. Next Time
- Revisit the areas where there were gaps in knowledge and include these same questions next time.



THE CORE FOUR REVISION TECHNIQUES

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Timetabling Revision

- You should be starting a revision cycle now
- Revision is not something you should just leave until last minute or a few weeks before you have a test
- Revision should be planned, organised and effective
- Time needs to be built in for leisure and relaxation
- Revision should include a variety of content ranging from recent topics to topics you have covered throughout the course of the year
- If you struggle with a particular topic, keep coming back to it. Don't avoid it
- Create a timetable as soon as possible to maximise study time before mock exams

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RE

Presentation by Mrs R Lewis

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RE – GCSE Exam Board

- Eduqas Spec B
- Catholic Christianity and Judaism
- www.eduqas.co.uk

COMPONENT 1 FOUNDATIONAL CATHOLIC THEOLOGY 1 hour 30 minutes	COMPONENT 2 APPLIED CATHOLIC THEOLOGY 1 hour 30 minutes	COMPONENT 3 JUDAISM 1 hour
Origins and meanings	Life after death	
Good and evil	Sin and forgiveness	

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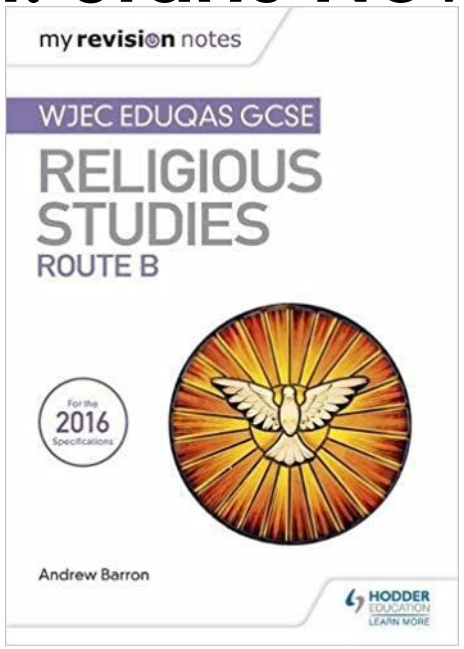
RE – Question Structure

Question/mark	
What is…… (2)	Definition of a key concept, could be two bullet points
Describe (5)	Recount knowledge, influence, contrast (describe different)
Explain (8)	Information, understanding, influence, give reasons Refer to religion and belief
Discuss (15)	Different points of view, reasons and judgement, is it a strong or weak argument? Interpret key concepts and sources



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RE – Key Revision: Starts Now



- Key terms
- What do different groups believe?
- Quotes/Evidence/Examples
- How do these beliefs influence thoughts and actions?

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GCSE English Literature & Language

Presentation by Mrs P Bingham & Mrs J Collins

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English – GCSE English Literature

The English department follows the AQA Specifications for English Literature (8702) and English Language (8700). Both qualifications are assessed by written examination and there are 2 papers for each: 4 examinations in total.

Literature P1:
2 questions, 2 texts
1hr 45 mins





Literature P2:
3 texts & 3 sections
2 hr 15 mins







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English – GCSE English Language

When are the exams and what questions will be on them?

Paper 1: Language / Reading and Writing

There is a Reading Section based on one unseen literary text (80 marks) and this is comprised of:

- A short retrieval question (4 marks)
- A language question (8 marks)
- A structure question (8 marks)
- An evaluate question (20 marks)

There is a Writing Section and this is a choice of a descriptive or narrative writing (24 marks for content, 16 marks for technical accuracy). 50% of the final grade.

Paper 2: Writers' viewpoints

There is a Reading Section based on 2 non-fiction texts – one of which is pre-nineteenth century - (80 marks) and this is comprised of:

- A true / false (4 marks)
- A summary question (8 marks)
- A language question (12 marks)
- A comparison question (16 marks)

There is a Writing Section - this is a writing task in which students are asked to present a viewpoint (24 marks for content, 16 marks for technical accuracy). 50% of the final grade.



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Maths

Presentation by Mr C McGuinness

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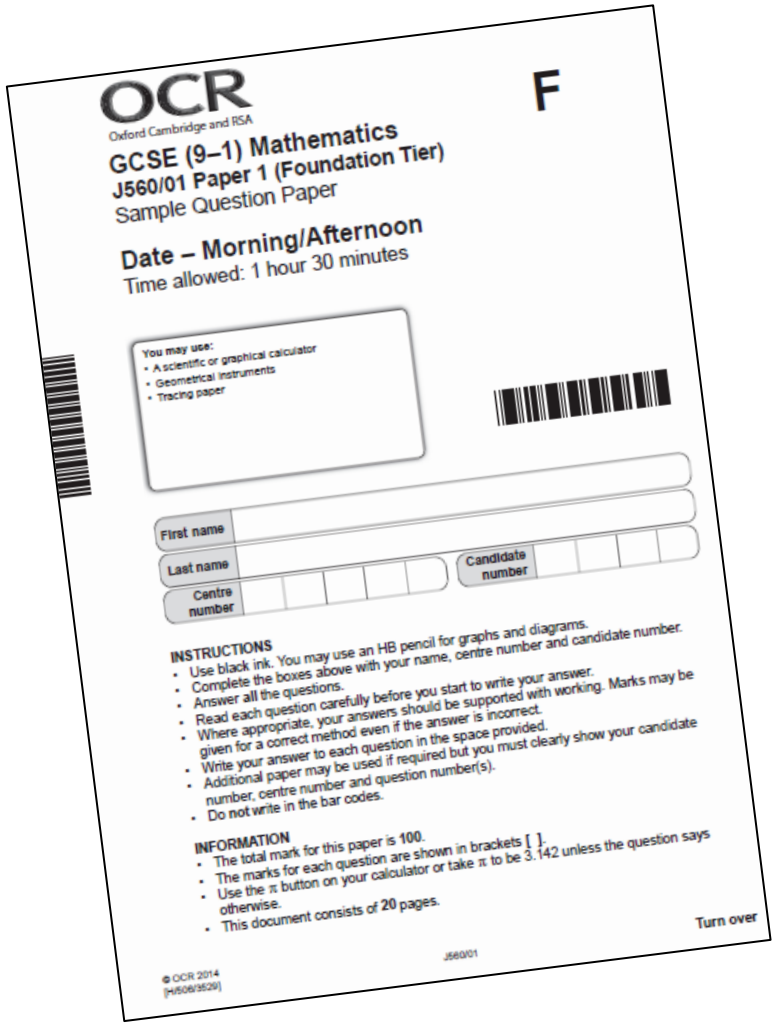
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Maths

- We recognise that year 11 is the most important year in school for pupils
- Mocks December and February/March
- Useful Websites: Physics and Maths Tutor, Maths Genie, My Past Papers app
- Maths Clinic Thursdays after school

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Maths



OCR
Oxford Cambridge and RSA

F

GCSE (9–1) Mathematics
J560/01 Paper 1 (Foundation Tier)
Sample Question Paper

Date – Morning/Afternoon
Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

You may use:
- A scientific or graphical calculator
- Geometrical instruments
- Tracing paper

First name
Last name
Centre number
Candidate number

INSTRUCTIONS
- Use black ink. You may use an HB pencil for graphs and diagrams.
- Complete the boxes above with your name, centre number and candidate number.
- Answer all the questions.
- Read each question carefully before you start to write your answer.
- Where appropriate, your answers should be supported with working. Marks may be given for a correct method even if the answer is incorrect.
- Write your answer to each question in the space provided.
- Additional paper may be used if required but you must clearly show your candidate number, centre number and question number(s).
- Do not write in the bar codes.

INFORMATION
- The total mark for this paper is 100.
- The marks for each question are shown in brackets [ ].
- Use the π button on your calculator or take π to be 3.142 unless the question says otherwise.
- This document consists of 20 pages.

Turn over

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[H506/3529]

J560/01

OCR GCSE (9-1) Mathematics

- (Calculator)
- (Non Calculator)
- (Calculator)

Each exam is 1 hour 30 minutes

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Maths

- Homework is set once a week Sparx Learning
- Please help us convince students to do small amounts regularly.
- The best way to learn Mathematics is by doing Mathematics.

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Science

Presentation by Mr A Blazewicz-Bell

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Science

- All students follow the AQA Combined Science course
- Three different teachers, one for each specialism

Biology	Chemistry	Physics
1. Cell biology **2. Organisation** **3. Infection and response** 4. Bioenergetics 5. Homeostasis and response 6. Inheritance, variation and evolution **7. Ecology**	**8. Atomic structure and the periodic table** **9. Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter** **10. Quantitative chemistry** **11. Chemical changes** **12. Energy changes** **13. The rate and extent of chemical change** 14. Organic chemistry 15. Chemical analysis 16. Chemistry of the atmosphere 17. Using resources	**18. Energy** **19. Electricity** 20. Particle model of matter **21. Atomic structure** **22. Forces** **23. Waves** 24. Magnetism and electromagnetism

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Science

Biology	
Paper 1 – topics 1-4	***Paper 2 – topics 5-7***
1. Cell biology 2. Organisation 3. Infection & response 4. Bioenergetics	5. Homeostasis and response 6. Inheritance, variation & evolution 7. Ecology

Chemistry	
Paper 1 – topics 8-12	***Paper 2- topics 13-17***
8. Atomic structure & the periodic table 9. Bonding, structure & properties of matter 10. Quantitative chemistry 11. Chemical changes 12. Energy changes	13. The rate and extent of chemical change 14. Organic chemistry 15. Chemical analysis 16. Chemistry of the atmosphere 17. Using resources

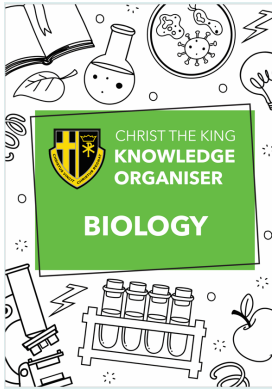
Physics	
Paper 1 – topics 18-21	***Paper 2 – topics 22-24***
18. Energy 19. Electricity 20. Particle model of matter 21. Atomic structure	22. Forces 23. Waves 24. Magnetism & electromagnetism

- Your child will sit 6 papers at the end of the year, each of which is 1hr15mins, assessing different units of work.
- Higher or Foundation tier
- Mocks in December (Exam Hall) and March (in class)
- Two GCSE grades.
- Foundation tier ranges from grade 1-1, to a 5-5. Higher tier ranges from grades 4-3 to 9-9.

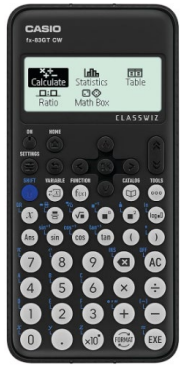
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Science

- All students were issued knowledge organisers last year. These should be used to consolidate prior units and revise current units of study.
- Homework will mainly be revision based. This includes completing exam questions and past papers.
- My past papers app, www.physicsandmathstutor.com
- www.congnitoedu.org is a recommended, free to subscribe, revision-based website containing video tutorials, quizzes, flashcards and exam-based questions as well as past papers.
- www.science-practical-simulator.web.app (CK879) covers all the required practicals, which are assessed in exams.
- Encourage your child to do little but often – the best way to revise for science is by answering questions, either knowledge based or past exam paper questions.
- You child must have a scientific calculator to use in lessons, assessments and exams.







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Student Expectations

Presentation by Mr K Farrell

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Student Expectations

Year 11 tutors:

Canterbury – Mr McGahey & Mrs Logan

Holywell – Miss Mason & Miss Fallon

Iona – Mrs Humphries & Mrs Goldsborough

Lindisfarne – Miss Cuomo & Mr Hughes

Walsingham – Miss Painter& Mr Morgan



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Student Expectations

- Attendance – minimum of 97%
- Punctual to school and lessons
- Positive behaviour in class and around school
- (Good or Outstanding AtL at all times)
- Uniform worn correctly
- Cosmetics and accessories to be used/worn in accordance with the school policy
- Independent Learning



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Key Dates

Event	Date
Year 11 Mock Exams	Monday 30th November
Year 11 Parents Evening	Wednesday 10th February (In-person)
GCSE exams start	Monday 10th May



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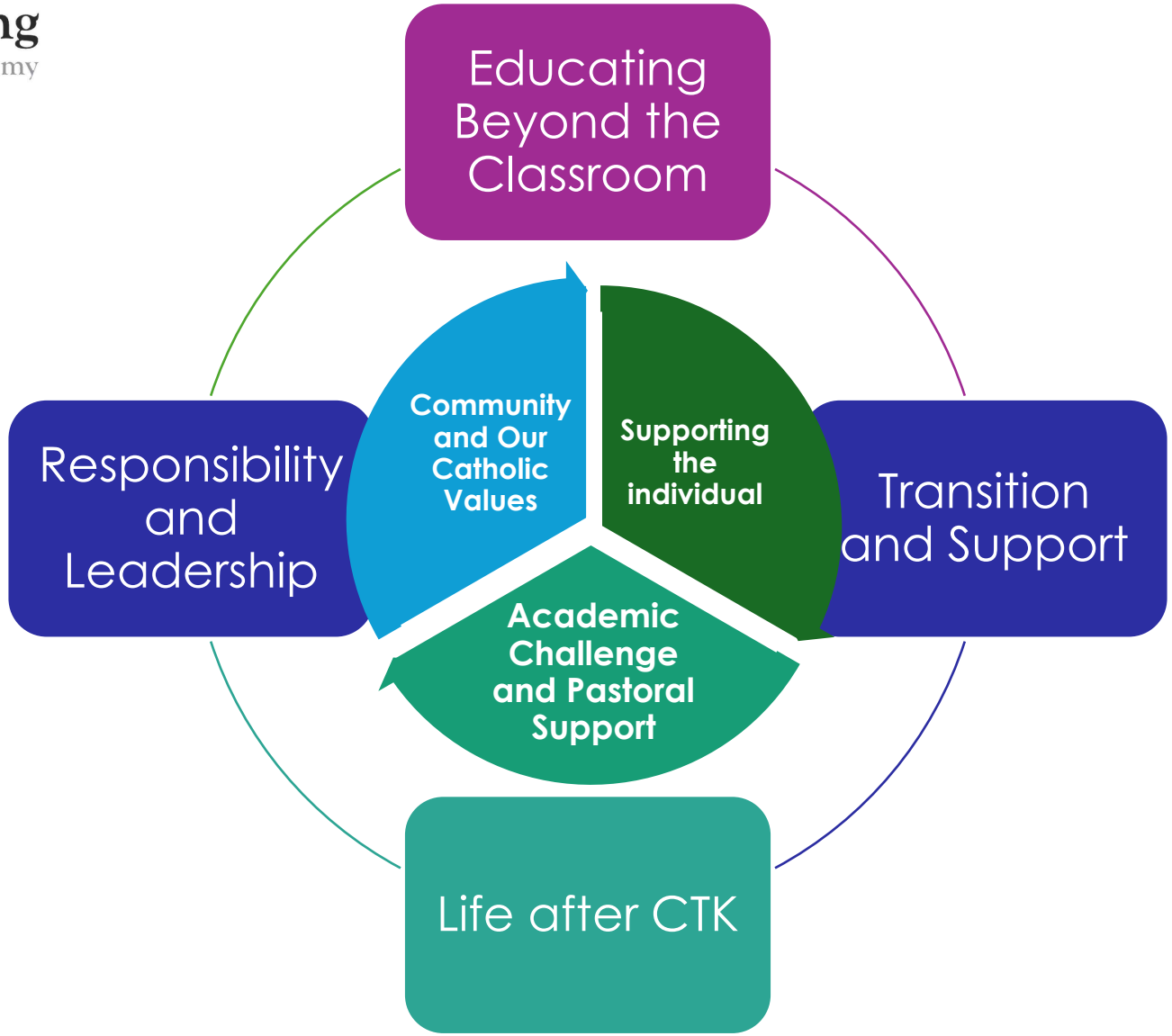


CTK Sixth Form

Presentation by Mr N Reddington

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Applications Close	**13th February 2026** **https://www.christtheking.notts.sch.uk/sixth-form/admissions-2-2/**
Post-16 Interviews	**Monday 19th January**
Transition Day	**July**
GCSE Results Day	**Thursday 20th August**



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@ctk_cva

@CTKCVA

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