

A Level Recommended Course texts 2026-27



All of these are **optional unless stated**. Some subjects have copies of books donated by former students available for loan. Most subjects make materials available through MS Teams to support students in their learning.

We appreciate textbooks can become expensive and would encourage students to look at second hand copies via online auction sites such as eBay or online retailers like Abe books.

Please be aware that the 16-19 bursary exists to support eligible students with the costs associated with studying at Sixth Form. [Full details can be found here.](#)

Subject	Recommended Course Textbook	Indicative Price (it is worth shopping around)
Biology	AQA Biology A Level Student Book Toole, G & Toole, S. Oxford 2015 <i>(also available as separate Year 1 and Year 2 Books)</i>	£48.30
	Or New A-Level Biology for AQA: Year 1 & AS Student Book with Online Edition	£20.03
	And New A-Level Biology for AQA: Year 2 Student Book with Online Edition	£19.78
Business Studies	My Revision Notes: Edexcel A-level Business Second Edition: Amazon.co.uk: Hammond, Andrew: 9781398311916: Books	£19.99
	Or Revise Edexcel AS/A level Business Revision Guide & Workbook	£17.25
Chemistry	AQA Chemistry A Level Student Book Paperback – 23 Jul 2015 by Ted Lister (Author), Janet Renshaw (Author)	£40.00
	Or New A-Level Chemistry for AQA: Year 1 & AS Student Book with Online Edition Paperback – 21 May 2015	£20.05
	And New A-Level Chemistry for AQA: Year 2 Student Book with Online Edition Paperback – 9 Jul 2015	£19.78
Computer Science	AQA AS and A Level Computer Science by PM Heathcote, RSU Heathcote Waterstones	£34.00
	My Revision Notes: AQA A level Computer Science : Clarkson, Mark: Amazon.co.uk: Books	£15.62
Core Maths	AQA Level 3 Certificate in Mathematical Studies Davis, Heather, Lomax, Steve, Haworth, Anne, Jones, Ruth, Bowman, David, Lambert, Elaine, McCarthy, Deborah	£28.00
Economics	A-Level Economics: Year 1 & 2 Complete Revision & Practice (with Online Edition) CGP Books	£21.99
English Literature	Essential texts: Year 12: Any copy of 'Othello'. Link is a suggestion due to the useful notes the version includes.	£11.50
	Any copy of 'Death of a Salesman'. Link is a suggestion, again due to useful notes.	£8.27
	Year 13: The Handmaid's Tale	£8.26
	The Kite Runner	£12.88
	Recommended Texts: A-Level York Notes for the course set texts A-Level CGP study guide for course set texts	

English Language	English Language A/AS Level for AQA Student Book	£28.16
	Revise AQA English Language	£6.99
	The Ultimate Revision Guide for AQA A-Level English Language: Hollins, Tom	£10
	Year 12	
	Language and Gender (Cambridge Topics in English Language)	£16.79
Further Maths	Language Diversity and World Englishes (Cambridge Topics in English Language)	£16.79
	Text analysis and Representation (Cambridge Topics in English Language)	£16.79
	Year 13	
	Language Change (Cambridge Topics in English Language)	£16.79
	Language Development (Cambridge Topics in English Language)	£12.99
Mandarin	Year 12	
	Core Pure	£26.75
	Further Stats	£26.75
	Further Mechanics	£26.75
	Year 13	
Media Studies	Core Pure 2	£26.75
	Chinese for AS (Simplified characters) (cypressbooks.com)	£23.70
	Y12 & 13	
	Essential	
	Media Theory for A Level: The Essential Revision Guide	£16.50
Geography	Very Useful	
	Essential Essays for A Level Media: Component 2: Eduqas: Amazon.co.uk: dixon, mark: 9781066939206: Books	£14.99
	Year 12 – <i>some second-hand copies available to borrow from the Geography department</i>	
	Geography for Edexcel A Level Year 1 and AS Student Book (A Level Geography for Edexcel 2016): Amazon.co.uk: Digby, Bob, Adams, Lynn, Chapman, Russell, Hurst, Catherine: 9780198366454: Books	£30.99
	A-Level and AS Geography: Edexcel Complete Revision & Practice (with Online Edition) CGP Books	£12.25
Health and Social Care	Year 13 – <i>some second-hand copies available to borrow from the Geography department</i>	
	Geography for Edexcel A Level Year 2 Student Book (A Level Geography for Edexcel 2016) : Digby, Bob, Chapman, Russell, Cowling, Dan, Sampson, Simon: Amazon.co.uk: Books	£38.00
	Cambridge OCR Level 3 Alternative Academic Qualification Cambridge Advanced National in Health and Social Care	£32.99
	Main textbook	
	Revision Guide	£16.14
History		
	'Democracy and Dictatorships in Germany 1919 – 1963' second edition. Geoff Layton (Access to History) - We have plenty of these in the department to borrow.	£22.05
	OCR A Level History: Democracy and Dictatorships in Germany 1919-63 - recommended.	£25.76
	'Early Medieval England 871-1107' (OCR A Level), Andrew Holland, Nicholas Fellows	£28.95
	This book is out of print, unfortunately, but second-hand copies do appear (Ebay, Amazon etc). There are enough copies to use in school.	

	There is also a digital version here OCR A Level History: Early Medieval England 871–1107 Boost eBook (hoddereducation.co.uk) Civil Rights in the USA 1865-1992 Paterson, Willoughby and Willoughby Heinemann	£7.00 annual subscription for a digital version £22.31
Maths	Year 12 Pure Maths Statistics and Mechanics Year 13 Pure Maths 2 Statistics and Mechanics 2	£28.50 £14.50 £28.50 £14.50
Philosophy and Ethics	Year 12 Oxford A Level Religious Studies for OCR – AS and Year 1 Year 13 Oxford A Level Religious Studies for OCR - Year 2 Oxford A Level Religious Studies for OCR Revision Guide Christianity, Philosophy and Ethics.	£31.27 £26.99 £21.15
Physical Education	OCR A Level PE (Year 1 and Year 2) or books can be bought separately: OCR A Level PE Book 1- Year 1 OCR A Level PE Book 2 – Year 2	£44.16 £34.04 £34.04
Physics	AQA Physics A Level Student Book Jim Breithaupt Oxford 2015 Or New A-Level Physics for AQA: Year 1 & AS Student Book with Online Edition Paperback – 21 May 2015 And New A-Level Physics for AQA: Year 2 Student Book with Online Edition Paperback – 9 Jul 2015	£47.00 £20.05 £5.49
Politics	UK and US Politics Political Ideas for A level UK Government	£34.50 £17 £32
Psychology	AQA Psychology AS and A level texts Flanagan, C, Berry, D, Jarvis, M & Liddle, R Illuminate publishing <i>(All students will have access to a digital version of the full textbook)</i> Year 12 Book Year 13 Book Year 12 revision guide Year 13 revision guide	£33.75 £32.69 £19.15 £20.99
Sociology	Year 12 : Sociology for AQA Volume 1 AS and 1st Year A level fifth edition Ken Browne (Polity Books) Year 13: Sociology for AQA Volume 2 2nd Year A level Ken Browne (Polity books) Revision Guide Pearson REVISE AQA A level Sociology Revision Guide and Workbook: for home learning, 2022 and 2023 assessments and exams (REVISE AS/A level AQA Sociology) : Chapman, Steve	£20.95 £21.69 £7.69
Spanish	AQA Spanish A Level and AS Grammar & Translation Workbook: Get Revision with Results AQA Spanish A Level and AS Grammar & Translation Workbook: Get Revision with Results: Amazon.co.uk: Everett, Vincent: 9780198415558: Books	£8.17

All indicative prices correct as of September 2026. Most prices taken from Amazon.co.uk