

Steppping in to GCSE

21st September 2022





**But yesterday they were
just starting year 7...**



What has changed from year 9?

Specialised subject choices, greater focus on substantive knowledge and disciplinary skills.

Increased curriculum time per subject per week.

Each GCSE is time specific – 120 teaching hours over 20 months.

Nationally measured outcomes

Gateway to post 16 and future careers.

What has changed with GCSEs?

Changes to subject content -

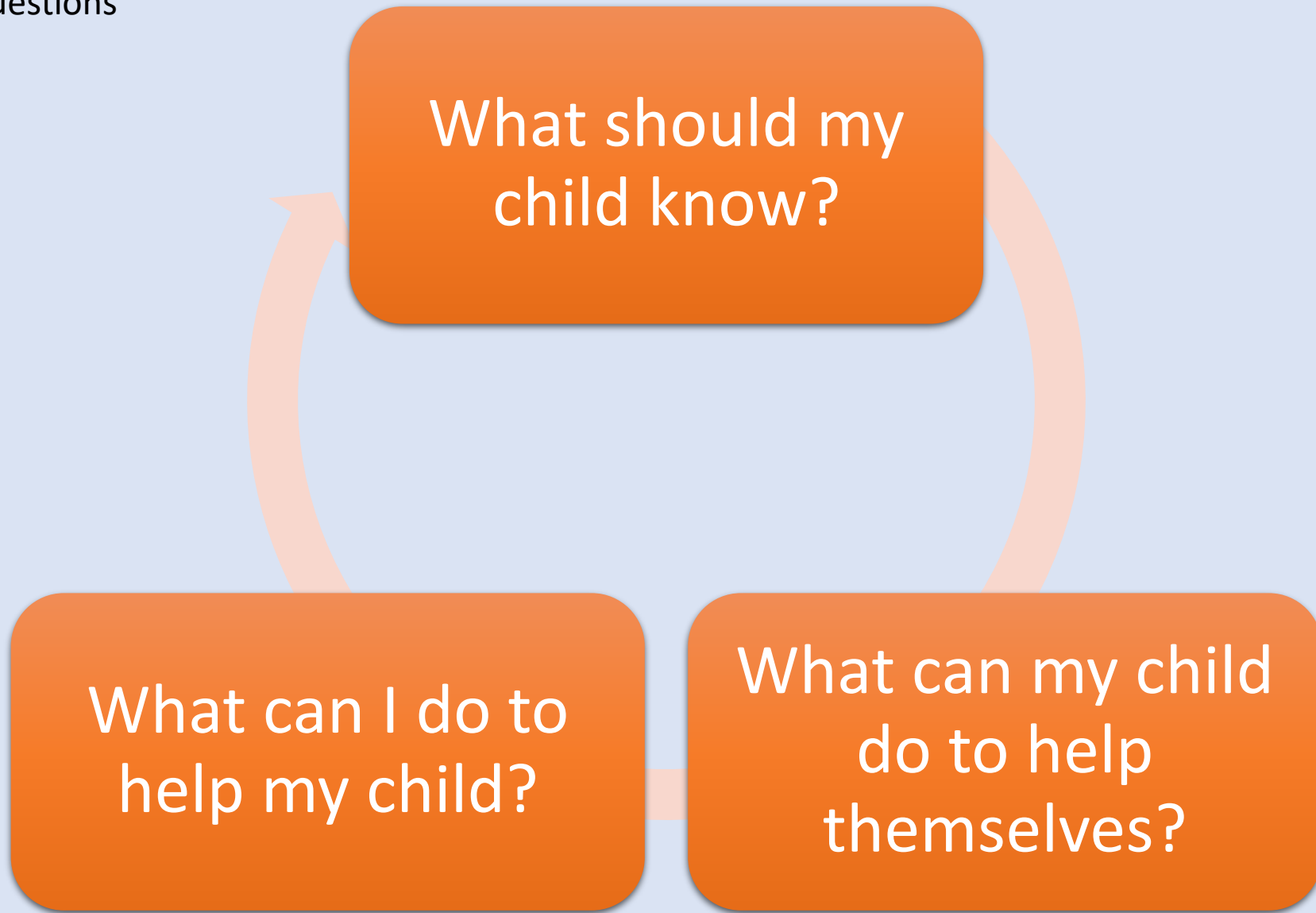
Removal of coursework in most subjects, not art, dance, drama etc.

Summative assessment at end of 2 years, no modular exams for GCSE.

Global grading 9-1, not A*-G.

9	A*
8	
7	A
<hr/>	
6	B
5	
4	C
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3	D
2	E
1	F
	G
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U	U





What should my
child know?



1. What should they know?

Exam boards stipulate content and skills.

Curriculum leads choose from options set by exam boards.

All content can be found in curriculum area of school website.

Exam boards

AQA

Art
English
DT/ food
Geography
Science
Spanish
Psychology

Edexcel

Animal care
Business
Drama
History
Maths
Music
PE

OCR

Computer
science
Engineering





The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde,
R.L. Stevenson



An Inspector Calls
J.B. Priestley



Macbeth
William Shakespeare



Half Term 1

Half Term 2

Half Term 3

Half Term 4

Half Term 5

Half Term 6

Language
Fiction and narrative writing



Anthology
Poetry



Non-fiction
Arguing viewpoints





**Tectonic
and
weather
hazards**

Half Term 1



**Urban
issues**

Half Term 3



**Rivers
and
coasts**

Half Term 5



**UK
weather,
climate
change**

Half Term 2



**Sustainable
cities**

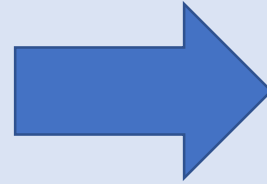
Half Term 4



**Resource
management**

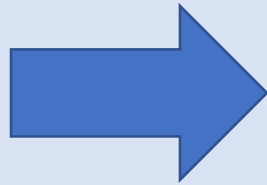
Half Term 6

Frequent formative (ongoing)
assessment in lessons.



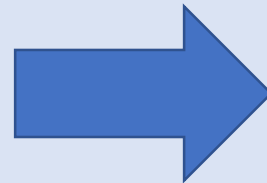
Report of % of curriculum learned so far. Not enough content learned to predict a grade early in year 10.

Y10 Summative assessment
Summer exams year 10.



Will enable alignment of current performance within a global grade (9-1)

Y11 mocks
November, March



Reports of current and predicted global grade



What can my child
do to help
themselves?



2. What can my child do to help themselves?

Attitude
is
Everything



**Past performance
does not guarantee
future performance**



Some of the key values
that would be seen within the
Curriculum virtue include:

Reflection
Pursuit of the mind
Desire to learn
Critical thinking
Resourcefulness
Creativity
Autonomy
Curiosity

Ambition

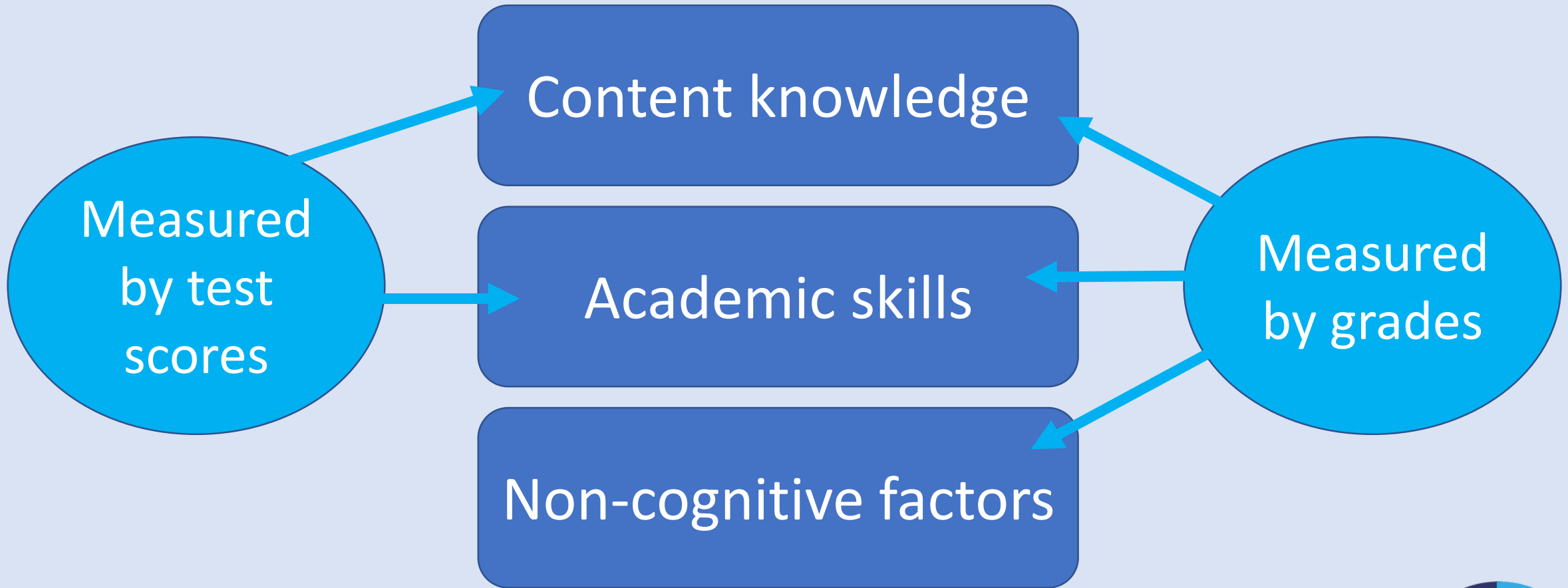


Some of the key values
that would be seen within the
Enrichment virtue include:

Confidence
Team work
Determination
Independence
Perserverance
Motivation
Leadership

Resilience





What can I do to
help my child?



3. What can I do to help my child?

Encouraging good organisation and study skills

- **equipment for school**
- **ask about subjects/ topics**
- **check for homework/ independent study**
- **support with time management**

Quiet space to work at home if possible



3. What can I do to help my child?

Encouraging skills, strategies and good habits

- **Punctuality – to school and to lessons.**
- **Conscientiousness**
- **Curiosity**
- **Self-reflection; responding to feedback**
- **Grit, perseverance and resilience**
- **Confidence that “they can do this!”**



3. What can I do to help my child?

“No matter their income or background, students with involved parents are more likely to have higher grades and test scores, attend school regularly, have better social skills, show improved behaviour, and adapt well to school.”

National Coalition for Parent Involvement in education (2006)



What can we do at home?

Reinforce reading – all GCSEs have reading age of 15 years. Decoding language is more than English GCSE.

Opportunities around all subjects;

Documentaries, films, podcasts, discussing the news, discussion around learning/ subjects generally.



Where to find out more...

- School website; curriculum maps
- Heads of curriculum departments
- Subject teachers – curriculum support
- Form tutors – pastoral support
- Exam board websites – AQA, Edexcel, OCR
- Year 10 progress evening **8th November 2022**



Preparation for the world of work...

- Graeme Pearce
- Work experience week of 3rd-7th July 2023.
- More information to follow in school.
- Begin process of finding a placement earlier rather than later!



Further support

- [GCSE - BBC Bitesize](#)
- [Getting ready for KS4 – GCSEPod](#)
- [Edexcel GCSEs | Pearson qualifications](#)
- [AQA | Qualifications](#)
- [GCSE qualifications - OCR](#)
- [Exam Stress | How To Deal with Exam Stress | YoungMinds](#)
- [Info and advice | Childline](#)

