

REVISED GCE AS & A LEVEL  
Student Guide  
**Home Economics**

For first teaching from September 2008

For first award of AS Level in Summer 2009

For first award of A Level in Summer 2010

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# Student Guide: Home Economics

CCEA's GCE Home Economics focuses on the health and well-being of people in their everyday lives. The course will help enable you to address increasingly complex challenges related to human needs and the management of resources to meet those needs.

The **AS** (Advanced Subsidiary)/**A2** structure of this GCE means you can study for the **AS** Level award, completing units AS 1 and AS 2 and then decide if you wish to continue to **A2** Level where you will complete the two additional units: A2 1 and A2 2. This will lead to an award for the **full Advanced GCE**.

## Q. Why study GCE Home Economics?

Through a range of practical and theoretical contexts, the course will enable you to develop and demonstrate your knowledge, understanding and skills of factors which impact upon us as humans – for example, resource management to meet human needs in a diverse and ever changing society; rapid technological changes and the growth of scientific knowledge and understanding.

## Q. What do I need to be able to take this course?

A good standard GCSE in Home Economics (or equivalent) is useful but not essential. A genuine interest in current social and consumer issues and an enthusiasm for learning will help you in this course.

## Q. What will I study?

# home econ omics

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Unit	Areas of Study	Unit	Areas of Study
AS 1	<p><b>Nutrition for Optimal Health</b></p> <p>You will study micro and macro-nutrients and other dietary constituents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protein</li> <li>• Fat</li> <li>• Carbohydrate</li> <li>• Vitamins</li> <li>• Minerals</li> <li>• Micro-minerals</li> <li>• NSP</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul> <p>This unit will also look at nutritional considerations through the life span.</p>	AS 2	<p><b>Priority Health Issues</b></p> <p>You will study current research in relation to diet and health, mental health and sexual health.</p> <p>This unit will also cover targets, strategies, initiatives and campaigns for optimizing health.</p>
A2 1	<p><b>Consumer Issues</b></p> <p>Focuses on the main consumer issues in today's society:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food safety issues</li> <li>• Ethical issues</li> <li>• Financial management issues</li> <li>• Consumer information</li> <li>• Consumer protection and redress</li> </ul>	A2 2	<p><b>Research-based assignment</b></p> <p>You choose a research area from any of the other 3 units (AS 1, AS 2 or A2 1) and produce a report of no more than 4,000 words.</p>

## Q. How will I be assessed?

Unit	Type of Assessment
<b>AS 1 Nutrition for Optimal Health</b>  50% of AS                      25% of GCE	<b>One examination (1 hour 30 minutes)</b>  <i>Available January and Summer</i>
<b>AS 2 Priority Health Issues</b>  50% of AS                      25% of GCE	<b>One examination (1 hour 30 minutes)</b>  <i>Available January and Summer</i>
<b>A2 1 Consumer Issues</b>  25% of GCE	<b>One examination (2 hours)</b>  <i>Available Summer only</i>
<b>A2 2 Research-based assignment</b>  25% of GCE	<b>4,000 word research-based assignment</b>  <i>Available January and Summer</i>

## Q. What can I do with a qualification in Home Economics?

This GCE course provides a solid foundation for higher education courses in Home Economics, other related subjects and for a range of careers in areas such as dietetics, hospitality, leisure, teaching food management and supply, food technology and consumerism.

### How can I find out more?

There are a number of ways that you can find out more about studying Home Economics.

These include:

- Teachers at your school or college
- Students who are already studying the subject
- [www.ccea.org.uk/home\\_economics](http://www.ccea.org.uk/home_economics)
- Careers advisor
- UCAS [www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com) or CAO [www.cao.ie](http://www.cao.ie) for details on entry requirements for university courses

To view the full specification and the full range of support material available for GCE Home Economics, please visit the Home Economics microsite [www.ccea.org.uk/home\\_economics](http://www.ccea.org.uk/home_economics)

