

# YEAR 11 POST MOCK EXAM NEWSLETTER



Following on from the mock examinations and yr. 11 Consultation evening, we want to continue to share what we are currently doing to support your child in school within lessons and our masterclass provision. We also want to share how best we feel you can play your part in supporting them at home. We know that a clear commitment to revision will make a substantial difference to their confidence and ultimately their summer GCSE grades. Thank you in advance for your support and actions.

## QUICK CLICKS..

[All subject's revision resources](#)

[Revision sessions](#)

[Revision timetable](#)

[GCSE Exam Timetable](#)

[Worried about your child's wellbeing - quick support links here](#)

## Quick wins to support your child at home

With Half-term coming up, this will be great opportunity for you to have powerful conversations about revision (what does/doesn't work). We also want to help you understand more about the most proven revision strategies and approaches. The vast majority of students have already started revising and we are keen for your child not to miss out. Students have been set targeted revision homework on Arbor during the half-term break with set hours they will need to complete the homework.

### Parent/Carer actions...

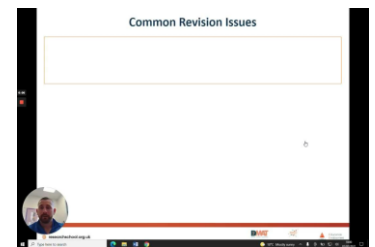
Over the next week and throughout the half-term break please....

1 [Watch the short 10 top tips video](#) about the best-bet revision strategies your child should be using and, most importantly, how **you** can help them right now.

### 2 During the half-term break

Support your child in their revision for GCSEs. The video above will outline how you can best do this in both a manageable and effective way. The key message is that the quality of revision (specific content and strategies used) is just as important as quantity. All revision resources are available above: [All subject's revision resources](#)

Please also link to AQA and Edexcel past papers: <https://www.aqa.org.uk/find-past-papers-and-mark-schemes> & <https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/support/support-topics/exams/past-papers.html> the moderators reports are also a useful insight of where students lost marks.



## How we will be supporting students in school to get them ready for Half-term Revision?

We will be working with your child during an assembly this Friday on:

1. **Building a revision plan:** Students will be creating the first part of their revision plan with a focus on the work they need to do during the half-term break. All students will be given a hard copy of the revision timetable on Friday. It can be found here: [Revision timetable](#)
2. **Recapping and reteaching students about the most effective strategies to use to revise:** During the assembly and in subject lessons staff will be recapping on exactly how to revise. This is not just about them knowing what a strategy is (e.g. flashcards), it is also about ensuring they know exactly how to use the approach for maximum learning benefit.
3. **Master class sessions:** These sessions have started again 2 weeks ago and have been well attended. With only 10 more school weeks after half-term it is vital that your child doesn't miss out and accesses the revision opportunities with a subject specialist. Timetable: [Revision sessions](#)

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## What should your child expect in each subject?

<u>Subject</u>	<b>What is coming up? Homework specific actions? Spring mocks and revision?</b>
<u>Maths</u>	<p><b>What students should expect is coming up:</b>            Finishing the last bits of the curriculum before moving on to revising key topics that either a) come up every year or b) topics the class has struggled with in their mocks. Set 1s will also have some students studying for the Further Maths GCSE.</p> <p>Period 1 revision (invite only) and Period 7 revision (open to all - Tuesdays, 3:10 to 4:10) starts the week commencing 22nd January.</p> <p>Our 2nd set of mocks will take place</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 25th January - Paper 1 (non-calc)- completed</li> <li>• 21st February - Paper 2 (calc)</li> <li>• 13th March - Paper 3 (calc)</li> </ul> <p><b>Homework specific action</b>            Homeworks will now be half past papers. Students need to mark these using the <a href="#">video solutions</a> to get the most in terms of closing learning gaps.</p> <p><b>Spring mock exams and how best to prepare</b>            Use the QLAs (list of topics from mock exams coloured red/amber/green) to identify topics to cover. Use the SPARX code to practise questions. Do the homeworks and mark them using the video solutions.</p> <p><b>Friday Past paper practice:</b>            Every week on Friday. Students will be doing 45 min past paper practice papers. They will be marking in class and for homework using the mark schemes and videos solutions for further support.</p>
<u>English Language</u>	<p><b>What students should expect is coming up:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fortnightly creative writing practice - this will switch to fortnightly transactional writing later in the term.</li> <li>• Continued practice of the C1 and C2 Reading papers.</li> </ul> <p><b>Homework specific action</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Past paper reading and writing questions.</li> </ul> <p><b>In lesson practice?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fortnightly creative writing practice - this will switch to fortnightly transactional writing later in the term.</li> <li>• Continued practice of the C1 and C2 Reading papers.</li> </ul>
<u>English Literature</u>	<p><b>What students should expect is coming up:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revision of A Christmas Carol and An Inspector Calls.</li> <li>• Read and study the last four anthology poems.</li> </ul> <p><b>Homework specific action</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Past paper reading questions.</li> <li>• Learning quotations for all Literature texts.</li> </ul> <p><b>In lesson practice?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fortnightly unseen poetry practice.</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continued practice of writing using the What/How/Why structure with an emphasis on targets from the mocks.</li> </ul> <p><b>Spring mock exams and how best to prepare</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>13<sup>th</sup> March INSET: mock exam</li> </ul> <p>The spring mock will cover English Literature Component 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Christmas Carol</li> <li>An Inspector calls</li> <li>Unseen poetry</li> </ul> <p>You should prepare by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensuring you know the plot and storyline of AIC and ACC in detail.</li> <li>Learning key quotations from both texts.</li> <li>Ensuring you know the structures and timing for each question.</li> </ul>
<p><u>Art/graphics/textiles</u> <u>/Graphics/Photography</u></p>	<p>Exam Preparation, A1 development boards, sketchbook development and exploration of ideas</p> <p>Homework: Sketchbook development - artist research, observational drawings, photographs</p> <p><b><u>Exam dates</u></b></p> <p>Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March Graphics 11C2/Gp Fine Art 11C2/Ar Textiles 11C2/Tx</p> <p>-</p> <p><b><u>Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March</u></b> Fine Art 11C3/Ar (+ Ellie Davey from 11C1/Ar) Photography 11C3/Pg Textiles 11C4/Tx</p> <p><b><u>Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March</u></b> Fine Art 11C1/Ar (+ Nadine Chentouf, Mika Riches and Megan Wiseman from 11C3/Ar) Photography 11C4/Pg (+ Kayla Farndell, Rhianna Smith and Lucy Stewart from 11C3/Pg)</p>
<p><b>Business</b></p>	<p><b>What students should expect is coming up:</b> A month or so of new content left to go. Then lots of lessons looking at how to read and answer the case study questions Re-teaching of some of the units students did weakly on in the mock.</p> <p><b>Homework specific action</b> Lots of 9 - 12 marker questions will be set as homework</p> <p><b>Spring mock exams and how best to prepare</b> <b>In lesson practice?</b> complete past papers (they are all on the google drive link) Practice questions in your revision guide Reading case studies and practising answering questions related to the case study.</p>
<p><b>Computer Science</b></p>	<p><b>What students should expect is coming up:</b> We will be finished with new content very soon and then be revising in lessons and re-teaching some of the topics that the students have found difficult in the exams or we have not covered for a while.</p> <p><b>Homework specific action</b></p>

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	<p>Some homeworks will be using the pupils smart revise log ins and set on here, others will be hand written code (algorithms and flowcharts )</p> <p><b>Spring mock exams and how best to prepare</b></p> <p><b>In lesson practice?</b></p> <p>Writing algorithms, for paper 2 - you can use the complete past papers ( they are all on the google drive link)</p> <p>Practice questions in your revision guide / on smart revise</p> <p>Flash cards for paper 1 for the knowledge of computer science</p>
<p><u><b>Citizenship</b></u></p>	<p><b>What students should expect is coming up:</b></p> <p>Theme D- International Power and Influence</p> <p>Theme E- Taking Citizenship Action.</p> <p>We will be completing Theme D and then beginning our Citizenship Action projects, using the computer rooms to formulate plans and conduct research.</p> <p><b>Homework specific action</b></p> <p>Homeworks will be around knowledge retrieval, based on Theme B- Democracy.</p> <p><b>Spring mock exams and how best to prepare</b></p> <p><b>In lesson practice?</b></p> <p>Make use of the revision guide and workbook.</p> <p>Complete practice questions- specifically 12 and 15 mark questions, found in the revision folder.</p> <p>Keep up to date with Citizenship news.</p>
<p><u><b>DT</b></u></p>	<p><b>What students should expect is coming up:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Last sections of NEA (coursework) - development, making, evaluating.</li> </ul> <p><b>Homework specific action?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improvements to marked sections of NEA. After School sessions available for one to one support if no P7.</li> <li>• Completing research needed to add to NEA modelling/development pages.</li> <li>• Client feedback for modelling - NEA.</li> <li>• Exam questions, some specific to underperforming areas of mock exam.</li> </ul> <p><b>Spring mock exams and how best to prepare</b></p> <p><b>In lesson practice?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use Google drive link to revise and complete the practice questions in each topic area.</li> <li>• Revision guide and questions (bring in for marking/discussion)</li> <li>• Workbooks</li> <li>• Past papers</li> </ul>
<p><u><b>Drama</b></u></p>	<p><b>What students should expect is coming up:</b></p> <p>Woman in Black 28th Feb</p> <p>Comp 2 exam on 1st March - both extracts to be performed to an external examiner</p> <p>Lessons after that will focus on Written exam - an inspector calls/ Woman in Black</p> <p><b>Homework specific action</b></p> <p>Designing set/ costumes/ props and sound</p> <p><b>Spring mock exams and how best to prepare</b></p> <p><b>In lesson practice?</b></p> <p>Able to articulate reasons behind designs</p> <p>Complete practice questions</p> <p>Use revision booklet</p> <p>Past papers</p>

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<p><u>Performing Arts</u></p>	<p><b>What students should expect is coming up:</b> Final comp 3 performance Ideas Log Skills log Evaluation <b>Homework specific action</b> Ensure lines are learnt and notes are kept for logs <b>Spring mock exams and how best to prepare</b> <b>In lesson practice?</b> Rehearsal Note taking Sessions to type up notes</p>
<p><u>Music</u></p>	<p><b>What students should expect is coming up:</b> Performances and Compositions must be completed <b>Homework specific action</b> Vocab and practice questions <b>Spring mock exams and how best to prepare</b> <b>In lesson practice?</b> Listening exam practice Past papers Resources and step by step guide on google classroom</p>
<p><u>History</u></p>	<p><b>What students should expect is coming up:</b> Completion of Paper 2 teaching and then moving on to revision in the last few weeks before exams start <b>Homework specific action</b> All our homeworks going forward will be based on Cold War as that was the weakest performing paper in the mocks. Students are asked to plan an essay question which they will write in timed conditions in lesson to receive live marking from their teachers <b>Spring mock exams and how best to prepare:</b> Use the history student google drive where all our revision resources are. This document is a good starting point. Students will sit a paper 2 mock (Cold War and Norman England) on the 22nd March <a href="#">Y11 Handout: How do I prepare for my GCSE History exam?.pptx</a></p> <p><b>In lesson practice:</b> Students will write one past paper question at least once a week going forward</p>
<p><u>PE</u></p>	<p><b>What students should expect is coming up:</b> Completion of Paper 2 teaching and then moving on to revision in the last few weeks before exams start Topics to include: Spectator behaviour, technology in sport, arousal, motivation, Performance enhancing drugs, prevention of injury <b>Homework specific action</b> All homeworks will be set covering Paper 2 topics. Students will be asked to metacognitively plan an exam question and then answer a series of short answer questions.</p> <p><b>Spring mock exams and how best to prepare:</b> Past papers</p>

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	<p>Knowledge organisers and flashcards - repeated testing Check lists and Resources - handed out during lessons to students</p> <p><b>In lesson practice:</b> During week 2 (Thurs or Fri p6 lessons) students will sit a half paper each week. 34 x marks and then mark paper in the second half of the lesson. Students to sit paper in exam conditions.</p>
<p><u>French</u></p>	<p><b>What students should expect is coming up:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finishing the syllabus by re-visiting the Y9 topics of jobs and holidays</li> <li>• Speaking and writing practice, focusing on tenses, use of PISCINE phrases and working from memory.</li> <li>• Practising full listening papers in exam conditions.</li> <li>• There will be intense speaking revision the first week after Easter.</li> <li>• After the speaking exams, the focus will move to listening, reading and especially writing, with lots of practice of exam-style questions.</li> </ul> <p><b>Homework specific action</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Homework will be a mix of vocabulary/ verb learning, speaking preparation and reading exam practice.</li> <li>• After the speaking exams, there will be a greater focus on writing practice.</li> </ul> <p><b>Spring mock exams and how best to prepare</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional speaking mock will be a photo task and a conversation on your chosen topic, so make sure that you are happy with your answers and learn / practise them.</li> </ul> <p><b>In lesson practice?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The focus will be on speaking tasks, especially the photocard and writing.</li> <li>• There will also be 3 lessons which will be used for full paper listening practice.</li> </ul>
<p><u>Spanish</u></p>	<p><b>What students should expect is coming up:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finishing the syllabus by re-visiting the Y9 topics of jobs, family and holidays</li> <li>• Speaking and writing practice, focusing on tenses, use of PISCINA phrases and working from memory.</li> <li>• Practising full listening papers in exam conditions.</li> <li>• There will be intense speaking revision the first week after Easter.</li> <li>• After the speaking exams, the focus will move to listening, reading and especially writing, with lots of practice of exam-style questions.</li> </ul> <p><b>Homework specific action</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Homework will be a mix of vocabulary/ verb learning, speaking preparation and reading exam practice.</li> <li>• After the speaking exams, there will be a greater focus on writing practice.</li> </ul> <p><b>Spring mock exams and how best to prepare</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional speaking mock will be a photo task and a conversation on your chosen topic, so make sure that you are happy with your answers and learn / practise them.</li> </ul> <p><b>In lesson practice?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The focus will be on speaking tasks, especially the photocard and writing.</li> <li>• There will also be 3 lessons which will be used for full paper listening practice.</li> </ul>
<p><u>Geography</u></p>	<p><b>What students should expect is coming up:</b></p>

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	<p>Completion of Paper 1 topic Natural Hazards followed by the final Paper 2 topic Economic World and Paper 3 pre-release booklet component. Following the completion of these topics we will enter a period of revision in the immediate build up to the exams.</p> <p><b>Homework specific action</b> All homeworks going forward will be based on the weakest aspects of each of the six topics included in the recent mock exams. Students will receive expert teaching on how specific questions from the exams should have been answered successfully, followed by being tasked with planning to answer <i>similar</i> questions which they will write in timed conditions in subsequent lessons to receive immediate live marking and feedback from their teachers.</p> <p><b>Spring mock exams and how best to prepare:</b> Use the geography student google drive, available <a href="#">here</a>, where all of our revision resources are available. Students should also pay particular attention to the 'getting to grips with command words' document available <a href="#">here</a>. Students will sit a combined Paper 1 and 2 assessment on Natural Hazards and Economic World in the week beginning 18th March.</p> <p><b>In lesson practice:</b> Deliberate exam question practise utilising past papers and knowledge retrieval in every lesson.</p>
<p><u>Combined Science</u></p>	<p><b>What students should expect is coming up:</b> Teaching of the last sections of content in Chemistry and Physics leading up to the March MOCK exams. After completing the content we will revise before the upcoming MOCK exams.</p> <p><b>Homework specific action</b> Completing homework set by class teachers as usual, in both Chemistry and Physics. The feedback from this in lessons will provide targets for students to improve upon and specific practice in lessons to help improvement. All of Year 11 will complete a How Science Works homework task that will be set centrally and handed out by class teachers. This will help to strengthen the Maths and HSW skills that are so common in exams.</p> <p><b>Spring mock exams and how best to prepare</b> Attendance at AM and P7 revision, using the schedule to target your revision and the advice of teachers on which sessions are best for each individual student to attend. Use of Question Booklets and at home assessment papers to increase practice of exam technique. Use of self-marking to further understand what is required for each question type. Attend and work hard in all lessons leading up to the MOCK exams as high quality teaching is the best support for your outcomes. Use past papers at home, through AQA's website.</p> <p><b>MOCK Exams:</b> 21st March - Chemistry (9.20am) - 1hr 15 mins 22nd March - Physics (9.20am) - 1hr 15mins</p> <p><b>In lesson practice?</b> Specific questions used by teachers across the department to practise the key skills that students need for the exams, providing insight into areas for development. Retrieval practice in each lesson designed specifically by each teacher for each class and their areas for development.</p>
<p><u>Triple Science</u></p>	<p><b>What students should expect is coming up:</b></p>

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	<p>Teaching of the last sections of content in all three sciences leading up to the March MOCK exams. After completing the content we will revise before the upcoming MOCK exams.</p> <p><b>Homework specific action</b>          Completing homework set by class teachers as usual, in all three sciences. The feedback from this in lessons will provide targets for students to improve upon and specific practice in lessons to help improvement. All of Year 11 will complete a How Science Works homework task that will be set centrally and handed out by class teachers. This will help to strengthen the Maths and HSW skills that are so common in exams.</p> <p><b>Spring mock exams and how best to prepare</b>          Attendance at AM and P7 revision, using the schedule to target your revision and the advice of teachers on which sessions are best for each individual student to attend. Use of Question Booklets and at home assessment papers to increase practice of exam technique. Use of self-marking to further understand what is required for each question type. Attend and work hard in all lessons leading up to the MOCK exams as high quality teaching is the best support for your outcomes. Use past papers at home, through AQA's website.</p> <p><b>MOCK Exams:</b>          21st March - Chemistry (9.20am) - 1hr 45 mins          21st March - Biology (11.45am) - 1hr 45 mins          22nd March - Physics (9.20am) - 1hr 45 mins</p> <p><b>In lesson practice?</b>          Specific questions used by teachers across the department to practise the key skills that students need for the exams, providing insight into areas for development. Retrieval practice in each lesson designed specifically by each teacher for each class and their areas for development.</p>
<p><u>Dance</u></p>	<p><b>What students should expect is coming up:</b>          Choreography assessment - creating choreographies in the lead up to the assessment</p> <p><b>Homework specific action</b>          All homeworks will be set covering theory topics. Students will be asked to metacognitively plan an exam question and then answer a series of short answer questions.</p> <p><b>Spring mock exams and how best to prepare:</b>          Past papers          Knowledge organisers and flashcards - repeated testing          Check lists and Resources - handed out during lessons to students</p> <p><b>In lesson practice:</b>          Currently all lessons are practical lessons leading up to the assessment. After the assessment focus will switch to the theory paper and students will be sitting half papers each week once the theory content has all been delivered. Students will sit these in exam conditions.</p>
<p><b>Media Studies</b></p>	<p><b>What students should expect is coming up</b></p>



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- Component 1 exam - w/c 25th March (1 hour 30 minutes)

What could appear in the paper:

Section A:

- Magazines: Pride / GQ
- Advertisements: Quality Street and This Girl Can
- Newspapers: The Sun and The Guardian
- Film: No Time to Die and The Man with the Golden Gun

Section B:

- The Archers (soap opera / BBC industry / target audience) / website
- The Sun industry and audience / The Sun website
- Fortnight - industry / audience
- Film - industry **only** / 007 website

**Homework specific action**

- Revisiting content from the Component 1 exam - annotating and learning contextual information about the key set texts.
- Revising C1 Section A & B content - revising factual knowledge in order to apply to exam style questions.

**Spring mock exams and how best to prepare**

- Attending Period 7 sessions (Thursday Week A - 8am in G35). Focus will be on skills and looking at the different sections of Component 1 and Component 2 exam papers. Different skills will be revisited.
- Use of past papers - practice at home and use the markscheme to assess and evaluate their own work.
- Know specific theories and subject terminology that is relevant for each unit and set text (booklet for each unit of work)
- Use of fact sheet booklets - create mind-maps of key information to be learned / videos have been created to support this.
- Learn command words - what skill are you being tested on here? This will help with approaching exam questions.

**In lesson practice**

- Weekly practice of exam style questions
- Retrieval practice - testing knowledge of the individual set texts.

*And finally: If there are any other specific questions/topics that would be useful for you to have more information about (relating to year 11 exams/courses) please just let me know and I will try to include them in forthcoming Newsletters. **Mrs Temple***