

ACADEMY CLOSURE – 17TH NOVEMBER 2025

DUE TO NO HEATING THE ACEDEMY WILL BE CLOSED TO STUDENTS AND STAFF

We are writing to inform you that, due to issues with our heating system and uncertainty around the full operation of our new ground-source heating system, the school will be **closed to all students and staff on Monday, 17 November 2025.**

- Unfortunately, temperatures are forecast to be extremely low over the weekend and into next week, and we cannot guarantee a warm or safe learning environment. Over the past two weeks, both students and staff have had to cope with very cold conditions, despite temporary heaters being used across the school. This has been especially challenging for our Year 11 students, who have been completing mock examinations.
- We also need to take into account the wide range of medical needs across our provisions, and the impact that cold temperatures can have on our young people. Newsome has several specialist provisions that involve transport and cross-authority arrangements, many of which cannot be organised at short notice. For this reason, we want to avoid situations where we need to assess the building on the morning and then make last-minute decisions that cause disruption for families.
- Contractors are working hard on the finalisation of our new system and the hope is that it will be in full working order by the end of Monday. We are grateful for the significant investment and multi-million-pound grant secured for the school, which will bring long-term benefits—but we must also ensure that the building is safe and warm before students return.
- Thank you for your understanding and support. We know this decision affects your arrangements, and it has not been taken lightly. Our priority is always the health, wellbeing, and safety of our students and staff.

We will remain in close communication with our Site Team on Monday and will update families as soon as we have confirmation that the system is fully operational, so you can plan accordingly.

Thank you once again for your patience and understanding. We hope that giving advance notice helps you to make arrangements for Monday.

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LEARNING ARRANGEMENTS FOR KEY STAGE 3 (YEARS 7/8/9)

During the closure, students are expected to continue their learning from home using the following resources:

KS3 (Years 7, 8 and 9)

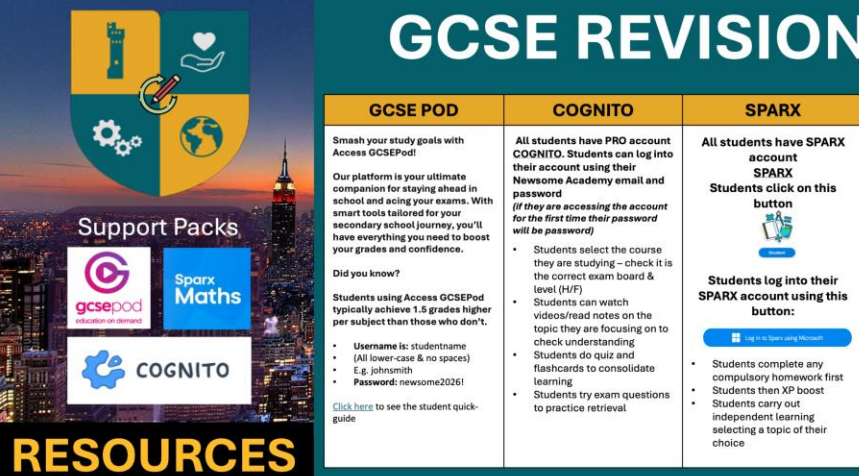
- Students can use their **Knowledge Organisers**, available on the [school website](#) and in hard copy at home.
- These include key information, learning activities and content linked to what students are currently studying.
- Students can also access online learning tools such as [Sparx Maths](#), **Reading Plus**, and others available [here](#).
- [Languagenut](#) is currently running a competition, so this would be a great opportunity for students to take part.
- All login details have been written by students into their personal Knowledge Organisers.

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LEARNING ARRANGEMENTS FOR KEY STAGE 4 (YEARS 10/11)

KS4 (Years 10 and 11)

- Students can log into **Microsoft Teams**, where they will find work and assignments set by their subject teachers (where appropriate).
- Year 11 should continue with their mock examination revision.
- KS4 students can also use a wide range of online learning platforms, including [GCSEPod](#), to support their progress during the closure.
- The image explains login details and other sites that can be used to support learning.



GCSE POD	COGNITO	SPARX
Smash your study goals with Access GCSEPod! Our platform is your ultimate companion for staying ahead in school and acing your exams. With smart tools tailored for your secondary school journey, you'll have everything you need to boost your grades and confidence. Did you know? Students using Access GCSEPod typically achieve 1.5 grades higher per subject than those who don't. • Username is: studentname • (All lower-case & no spaces) • E.g. johnsmith • Password: newsome2026! Click here to see the student quick-guide	All students have PRO account COGNITO. Students can log into their account using their Newsome Academy email and password (if they are accessing the account for the first time their password will be password) • Students select the course they are studying – check it is the correct exam board & level (H/F) • Students can watch videos/read notes on the topic they are focusing on to check understanding • Students do quiz and flashcards to consolidate learning • Students try exam questions to practice retrieval	All students have SPARX account SPARX. Students click on this button Students log into their SPARX account using this button: Log into Sparx using Microsoft • Students complete any compulsory homework first • Students then XP boost • Students carry out independent learning selecting a topic of their choice

HOME LEARNING

BOTH YEAR 10/11 SHOULD REFER TO THE INFORMATION SUPPLIED IN THIS DOCUMENT WITH LINKS AND MATERIALS THAT ARE CRUCIAL TO YOUR CHILD'S GCSE LEARNING. STUDENTS ARE TO USE THE VARIOUS LINKS AS PART OF THEIR LEARNING.