



Newsome Academy

Theme

HOME LEARNING

UNDERSTANDING GRADES

ENSURING ALL FAMILIES FOLLOW THE RANGE OF MATERIALS & GUIDANCE SUPPLIED BY THE SCHOOL.

Y11 FAMILY MEMO: GCSE HOME FOCUS 4


MEMO SENT: 6TH FEB 2026

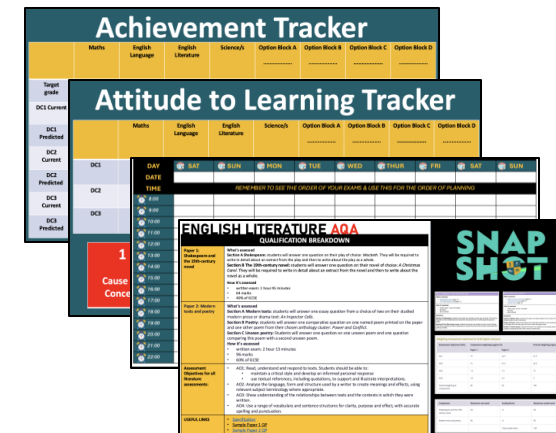


Dear GCSE Families

Welcome to your weekly weekend Key Stage 4 Guidance Newsletter for all families in Year 10 and Year 11. These aim to make things simple for families when supporting their child in their GCSE Studies. Our focus this weekend is to ensure you child has/is spending quality time preparing for their Mock exams which are starting next week.

- **Check the timetable for your child's upcoming mock exams.**
- Year 11 GCSE Success Evening – Thursday 12th February (6pm-7pm)
- Year 10 GCSE Success Evening & Mock Results Thursday 26th February (5pm-6pm)

LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK
<p>Ensure your child accesses revision sites.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ I asked that you refer to page 52 of their Knowledge Organiser. ✓ Watch your child log-on and access each of these. Guidance is provided on this page. <p>Discuss as a family your learning progress.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ GCSE expected grades. ✓ Your attitude to learning (ATL) in all your subjects. ✓ Ensure your child has completed all past papers on the links for each subject. 	 <p>Scroll on to your year group and complete the activities with your child.</p>



The exact pages to go to is shares in your specific year in the following pages.




FAMILY EVENTS FOR KEY STAGE 4


Newsome Academy

✓ Important dates to attend to support your child in their GCSE studies

YEAR 11 KEY EVENTS

Event 1 Thursday 9 th October 5pm-6pm	Key Deadlines <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation for October Mocks Home Run Initiative Period 6 information
Event 2 Thursday 27 th November 5pm-6pm	October Mock Results <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information sharing and understanding results How to support your child further
Event 3 Thursday 12 th February 6pm-7pm 	Preparation for FINAL Mocks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional Progress Reports Home Study information Guiding your child College information
Event 4 Thursday 19 th March 5pm-6pm	March Mock Results <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information sharing and understanding results How to support your child further
Event 5 Thursday 30 th April 5pm-6pm	Preparing for the real thing! <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exam timings and protocol

YEAR 10 KEY EVENTS

Event 1 Thursday 23 rd October 5pm - 6pm	Intro to GCSE Year <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation for Mocks Race to Exceptional Initiative
Event 2 Thursday 26 th February 5pm-6pm 	February Mock results and Parents' Evening <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information sharing and understanding results How to support your child further
Event 3 Monday 18 th May 5pm - 6pm	Work Experience preparation (w/c 8th June) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Final prep for Work Experience How to support your child further
Event 4 Thursday 9 th July 5pm – 6pm	June Mock results <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exam timings and protocol

PREPARING YOUR CHILD FOR THEIR UPCOMING MOCK EXAMS

YEAR 10 MOCKS (NEXT WEEK) Y11 FINAL MOCKS (2ND MARCH)

STUDENT REVISION TIMETABLE

DAY	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN
DATE	25th Oct	26th Oct	27th Oct	28th Oct	29th Oct	30th Oct	31st Oct	1st Nov	2nd Nov
TIME	REMEMBER TO SEE THE ORDER OF YOUR EXAMS & USE THIS FOR THE ORDER OF PLANNING								
8:00	English Lang.	Computing	Science	History	Science	History	Science	Practise Paper Maths	Practise Paper Science
9:00	English Lit.	Art							
10:00	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break
11:00	Maths	English Language	Maths	Maths	Maths	Maths	Maths	Practise Paper French	Practise Paper English Lang.
12:00		Lunch + Rest	Lunch + Rest	Maths	Lunch + Rest	Maths	Lunch + Rest		
13:00	Lunch + Rest	Lunch + Rest		Lunch + Rest		Lunch + Rest		Lunch + Rest	Lunch + Rest
14:00	Science	History	Art	Computing	English Language Writing	English Language Writing	Art	English Lit. Essay	Computing/Art
15:00		Sunday Lunch							Sunday Lunch
16:00	Break / hobby								
17:00		Maths	Evening Meal	Evening Meal	Evening Meal	Evening Meal	Evening Meal	Evening Meal	Practise Paper History
18:00	Evening Meal		English Lang	English Lang	Computing	French	Social / Relax / TV	Social / Relax / TV	
19:00	French	Social / Relax / TV	Social / Relax / TV	Social / Relax / TV	Social / Relax / TV	Social / Relax / TV			
20:00	Social / Relax / TV								
21:00									
22:00		English Lit.	French	English Lit.	French	English Lit.			English Lit.



STUDENT REVISION TIMETABLE (March Mocks)

DAY	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN
DATE									
TIME	REMEMBER TO SEE THE ORDER OF YOUR EXAMS & USE THIS FOR THE ORDER OF PLANNING								
8:00									
9:00									
10:00									
11:00									
12:00									
13:00									
14:00									
15:00									
16:00									
17:00									
18:00									
19:00									
20:00									
21:00									
22:00									

- ✓ Ensure that your child has their revision schedule complete. We will be conducting checks to see if there is appropriate home detail following all the recent guidance.
- ✓ Paper copies are available for your child in the main area of school.



HomeRun

Sprint to success

YEAR
11

Achievement Tracker

	Maths	English Language	English Literature	Science's	Option Block A	Option Block B	Option Block C	Option Block D
Target grade								
DC1 Current								
DC1 Predicted								
DC2 Current								
DC2 Predicted								
DC3 Current								
DC3 Predicted								

Attitude to Learning Tracker

	Maths	English Language	English Literature	Science's	Option Block A	Option Block B	Option Block C	Option Block D
DC1								
DC2								
DC3								
	1 Cause for Concern	2 Coasting	3 Good	4 Exceptional				

All these pages should be completed in your child's Knowledge Organiser!

GUIDANCE FOR FAMILIES & STUDENTS IN YEAR 11

HomeRun

To do list:

Revision Timetable created and in bedroom & fridge door. Dedicated time each day with no phone or distractions.

- ✓ Complete your revision timetable and bring to school on Monday.
- ✓ Plan and prepare for your exams – look at the timetable on the next page
- ✓ Access (& use) revision Apps on page 52 of Knowledge Organiser.

YEAR
11

[Click here](#) to access the online KO – your child has a hard copy in their bag!

Your next **MOCK EXAMS** ARE ON W/C **2nd March**.

YEAR 11 FINAL MOCK EXAMS

-2026

	9.00 Start	09:10 60m	P1	10.10 60m	P2	11.10 Break	11.30 60m	P3	12.30 60m	P4	13.30 Lunch	P5	
Wed 25/02/2026		English - Language - Paper 1 (1hr 45m)				Extra time (25m)		MFL - French/German - Reading Paper (F=45m H=60)		Extra time	To lesson		
Thur 26/02/2026		English - Literature - Paper 2 (2hr 15m)					Extra time (25m)	To lesson				MFL - French/German - Listening (F=35m H=45)	
Fri 27/02/2026		Combined Science Biology - Paper 1 (2 x topics) & Paper 2 (1hr 30m) Separate Biology - Paper 1 & 2 Bespoke (1hr 45m)				Extra time (20m)		Maths - Paper 1 (1hr 30m)			Extra time (20m)	To lesson	

	9.00 Start	09:10 60m	P1	10.10 60m	P2	11.10 Break	11.30 60m	P3	12.30 60m	P4	13.30 Lunch	P5
Mon 02/03/2026		Maths - Paper 2 (1hr 30m)			Extra time (20m)	To lesson		History - Paper 1 (1hr 20m)		Extra time (20m)		
Tue 03/03/2026		RE - Paper 1 (1hr 45m)				Extra time (25m)		MFL - French/German - Writing Paper (F = 1hr 15m H = 1hr 20m)			Extra time (20m)	To lesson
Wed 04/03/2026		Combined Science Chemistry - Paper 1 (2 x topics) & Paper 2 (1hr 30m) Separate Chemistry- Paper 1 & 2 Bespoke (1hr 45m)				Extra time (20m)		Business (1hr 30m)			Extra time (20m)	To lesson
Thur 05/03/2026		History - Paper 2 (1hr)				Extra time (20m)		Computing (1hr 30m)			Extra time (20m)	To lesson
		Geography - Paper 2 (1hr 30m)										
Fri 06/03/2026		Maths - Paper 3 (1hr 30m)			Extra time (20m)	To lesson		Geography- Paper 3 (50m)		To lesson		MFL - French/German - Listening (F=35m H=45)

Race to Exceptional

Preparing for Success

YEAR 10

DAY	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN
DATE									
TIME	REMEMBER TO SEE THE ORDER OF YOUR EXAMS & USE THIS FOR THE ORDER OF PLANNING								
8:00									
9:00									
10:00									
11:00									
12:00									
13:00									
14:00									
15:00									
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21:00									
22:00									

ENGLISH LITERATURE AQA		SNAPSHOT
QUALIFICATION BREAKDOWN		
Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th-century novel	<p>What's assessed</p> <p>Section A: Shakespeare: students will answer one question on their play of their choice. They will be required to write a response in which they discuss the play and their own views on it.</p> <p>Section B: The 19th-century novel: students will answer one question on their novel of choice. A Christmas Carol. They will be required to write a short story about an aspect from the novel and then to write about the novel as a whole.</p> <p>How it's assessed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> all written all essays 40% of total 	
Paper 2: Modern texts and poetry	<p>What's assessed</p> <p>Section A: Modern texts: students will answer one essay question from a choice of two on their studied modern prose or drama text. An Inspector Calls.</p> <p>Section B: Poetry: students will answer one question on one named poem presented on the paper and one question from their chosen anthology. Queen Bees and Wannabes.</p> <p>Section C: Unseen poetry: Students will answer one question on one unseen poem and one question on one of the poems on a general unseen poem.</p> <p>How it's assessed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> all written 2 hour 15 minutes 30 marks 40% of total 	
Assessment Objectives for all English assessments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A01: Read, understand and respond to texts. Students should be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> analyse and evaluate texts and develop an informed personal response; use critical judgement, including problem-solving, to support and justify interpretations; A02: Analyse the language, form and structure used by a writer to create meanings and effects, using relevant subject terminology where appropriate. A03: Show understanding of the relationships between texts and the contexts in which they were written. A04: Use a range of rhetorical and sentence structures for clarity, purpose and effect, with accurate spelling and punctuation. 	
EXTRA LINKS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shakespeare Power & PDF Shakespeare PDF 	

All these pages should be completed in your child's Knowledge Organiser!

GUIDANCE FOR FAMILIES & STUDENTS IN YEAR 10

Race to Exceptional

To do list:

- ✓ Complete your revision timetable and bring to school on Monday.
- ✓ Plan and prepare for your exams – look at the timetable on the next page
- ✓ Access (& use) revision Apps on page 52 of Knowledge Organiser.

YEAR 10

[Click here](#) to access the online KO – your child has a hard copy in their bag!

Your next MOCK EXAMS ARE ON W/C 9th February.

YEAR 10 CORE MOCK EXAMS

16 - 2026

	9.00 Start	09:10 P1 60m	10.10 P2 60m	11.10 Break	12.30 P3 60m	13.30 Lunch	P5 60m
Mon 02/09/2026		Maths - Paper 1 (1hr 30m)		ET/To lesson	English - Language- Paper 1 (1hr 45m)		ET/To lesson
Tue 02/10/2026		Combined Science: Biology - Paper 1 (1hr 15m) Separate Biology - Paper 1 (1hr 45m)		ET/To lesson	Normal Lessons		
Wed 02/11/2026		Normal Lessons			Combined Science: Chemistry - Paper 1 (1hr 15m) Separate Chemistry - Paper 1 (1hr 45m)		ET/To lesson
Thur 02/12/2026		Combined Science: Physics - Paper 1 (1hr 15m) Separate Physics - Paper 1 (1hr 45m)		ET/To lesson	Catch-up		
Fri 13/2/2026		English - Literature- Paper 1 (55m)		ET/To lesson	Catch-up		