



**Newsome
Academy**

**Where
Hearts &
Minds
Connect**



**Exam
Preparation**

Year 11 November Mock Exam Information

11th October 2026

Dear Families

As we approach the October half-term break, I am writing to provide an overview of the forthcoming Year 11 mock examinations, which will take place shortly after students return to the academy. Included with this letter is a full breakdown of the examinations your child will be sitting, including the relevant subjects and examination dates.

At Newsome, students complete four formal mock examination periods throughout Key Stage 4. 2 take place in Year 10, and 2 in Year 11. We are now approaching the third examination period overall and the first of Year 11. The final mock examination period will take place in March 2027, just weeks before students begin their final GCSE examinations. Therefore, the forthcoming November mocks represent a particularly important opportunity for students to demonstrate their knowledge, build confidence and identify areas requiring further improvement.

I would strongly encourage parents and carers to review the enclosed examination timetable with their child, continue conversations with subject teachers and make full use of the revision timetable template we have already provided. Structured, balanced and consistent revision over the coming weeks will make a significant difference.

The Importance of Every Subject and Maintaining High Aspirations

- I want to emphasise a particularly important message to both students and families: every subject matters. It would be a mistake to believe that only core subjects, such as English, mathematics and science, or those subjects that students particularly enjoy, deserve their full attention. Every qualification contributes to a young person's overall educational achievement and can influence the opportunities available to them in the future.
- I am particularly concerned about the misconception that achieving a grade 4 is all that matters. Whilst some colleges may advise students that they require only a grade 4 in particular subjects to access their chosen courses, we must not confuse minimum entry requirements with the level of achievement our young people should be aspiring towards. There is life beyond college, and future employers, universities and other organisations may consider a student's wider academic achievements, including their performance across a range of GCSE subjects. Indeed, I have raised this concern directly in conversations with colleges, as I believe that focusing too heavily on minimum entry requirements can unintentionally limit students' aspirations.
- Our shared responsibility, both as an academy and as families, is to encourage young people to achieve the very best grades they are capable of, rather than simply settling for the minimum needed to progress to their next destination. A grade 4 may open the next door, but stronger grades across a broad range of subjects can help keep more doors open in the future. I therefore ask all parents and carers to reinforce this message at home. We must maintain consistently high expectations across every subject so that our young people leave Newsome Academy with the strongest possible qualifications and the greatest possible opportunities.

Alternative Qualification Pathways

- We recognise that every young person is different, and for some students, an alternative qualification pathway provides the most appropriate opportunity to achieve success. Families of students following these pathways will already be aware of the qualifications their child is working towards. Some of these qualifications do not follow the traditional GCSE grading system of 9 to 1. Therefore, where I refer to specific GCSE grades or grade thresholds within this letter, these may not apply directly to your child. However, our expectations and aspirations remain equally high for every student, regardless of the qualification pathway they follow. Our ambition is for every young person to achieve their personal best, gain meaningful qualifications and leave Newsome Academy well prepared for their next stage of education, training or employment.



**Where
Hearts &
Minds
Connect**



Reading, Writing, Literacy and Oracy

- Another area I want to draw particular attention to is the importance of reading, writing, literacy and oracy. Regardless of academic ability or qualification pathway, these essential skills can make a significant difference to examination performance. I am acutely aware that many of our young people experience difficulties with aspects of reading, writing and communicating their understanding effectively. These challenges are not limited to students of lower academic ability and can affect students across the entire ability range.
- As Year 11 families will already be aware, I personally teach a Year 11 class, and this provides me with valuable firsthand experience of some of the challenges our students face as they prepare for their examinations. One of the most important observations I have made through my own teaching is that we can sometimes be misled into believing students are more secure in their knowledge and examination readiness than they actually are.
- Students can often articulate excellent verbal responses, demonstrate understanding through classroom discussions and confidently explain their thinking. However, when asked to communicate that same knowledge in writing, the quality of their responses does not always reflect what they clearly know and understand. I see this regularly in my own classroom.
- Students who can confidently explain an answer verbally can sometimes struggle to structure their thoughts, develop an extended written response or communicate their knowledge clearly on paper. We must remember that, in written GCSE examinations, students are awarded marks for what they actually communicate on their examination paper, not what they are capable of explaining verbally. Our analysis of examination performance in previous years has also highlighted that students can lose valuable marks because they have misunderstood the wording of a question, failed to interpret a scenario correctly or have not answered the question being asked.
- Another recurring concern is that students do not always take sufficient time to read back and check their written responses. Consequently, answers can sometimes be difficult to read, lack clarity or fail to make sense, despite the student having the necessary subject knowledge. For these reasons, I have instructed all Year 11 teachers to place a particular emphasis on extended reading and writing activities, ensuring students are regularly challenged to interpret examination questions accurately, construct detailed written responses and develop the habit of checking and improving their work. I would also ask parents and carers to reinforce these expectations at home.
- Please take opportunities to look at your child's written work, check the legibility of their handwriting and encourage them to read their answers back to ensure they make sense. One particularly useful approach is to ask your child to explain an answer verbally before writing it down, and then compare their written response with what they originally explained. This can help identify gaps between what they know and what they are able to communicate on paper.
- Importantly, if you believe your child is experiencing difficulties with reading, writing, handwriting or accessing examination questions, please communicate this to the academy as soon as possible. This will allow us to consider whether additional teaching support, assessment or appropriate examination access arrangements may be required.



**The Importance of
Reading, Writing,
Literacy & Oracy**



Where
Hearts &
Minds
Connect

Please see enclosed

1. Exam timetable so you know what exam is on each day.
2. A breakdown of every subject and what they are testing on. This will help you support your child at home.
3. Refer to the last letter sent by [clicking here](#). This included additional support materials.



Newsome
Academy

Where
Hearts &
Minds
Connect



Mock Exam Timetable



Exam
Preparation

Y11 November Mock Exam Schedule 2026

November - Y11 Mock Exam Schedule - 2026

WK 1

	9.00 Start	9:10 60m	P1	10.10 60m	P2	11.10 Break	11.30 60m	P3	12.30 60m	P4	13.30 Lunch	P5
Wed 11/4/2026		English - Language - Paper 2 (1hr 45m)				Extra time		MFL - French/German - Writing Paper (F=1hr15m H=1hr 20m)			Extra time	To lesson
Thur 11/5/2026		English - Literature - Paper 2 (2hr 15m)					Extra time	Extended break	MFL - French Listening/ German - Reading Paper (F=45m H=1hr)		Extra time	To lesson
Fri 11/6/2026		Combined Science Biology - Paper 1 (1hr 15m) Separate Biology - Paper 1 (1hr 45m)				Extra time		Health & Social (1hr 15m)		Extra time	To lesson	

WK 2

	9.00	9:10	P1	10.10	P2	11.10	11.30	P3	12.30	P4	13.30	P5	
	Start	60m		60m		Break	60m		60m		Lunch	60m	
Mon		Maths - Paper 1 (1hr 30m)			Extra time	To lesson	History - Paper 1 (2hr)					Extra time (20m)	Extended Lunch
11/9/2026							Geography - Paper 1 (1hr 30m)			Extra time (20m)	To lesson		
Tue		RE - Paper 1 (1hr 45m)			Extra time		MFL - German - Listening/ French - Reading (F = 45m H = 1hr)		Extra time	To lesson			
11/10/2026													
Wed		Combined Science Chemistry - Paper 1 (1hr 15m) Separate Chemistry - Paper 1 (1hr 45m)			Extra time		Business (1hr 30m)			Extra time	To lesson		
11/11/2026													
Thur		History - Paper 2 (1hr)			Extra time		Computing (1hr 30m)			Extra time	To lesson		
11/12/2026	Geography- Paper 2 (1hr 30m)												
Fri	Maths - Paper 2 (1hr 30m)			Extra time	To lesson	RE - Paper 2 (1hr)		Extra time	To lesson				
11/13/2026													

WK 3

	9.00	9:10	P1	10.10	P2		11.10	11.30	P3	12.30	P4		13.30	P5
	Start	60m		60m			Break	60m		60m			Lunch	60m
Mon 11/16/2026		Combined Science Physics - Paper 1 (1hr 15m) Separate Physics - Paper 1 (1hr 45m)			Extra time			Health & Fitness (1hr 30m)			Extra time	To lesson		
Tue 11/17/2026		Maths - Paper 3 (1hr 30m)			Extra time			Food & Cookery (1hr 30m)			Extra time	To lesson		
Wed 11/18/2026		Catch-up						Art Practical (5hrs)						Art Practical (5hrs)
Thur 11/19/2026		Art Practical (5hrs)						Catch-up						
Fri 11/20/2026		Final Catch-up						Final Catch-up						



Newsome
Academy

Where
Hearts &
Minds
Connect

Subject Exam Breakdown



Exam
Preparation



Where
Hearts &
Minds
Connect

English Literature (AQA)

What are the total marks

- Marks are shown in brackets.
- This paper is marked out of 96.
- Section A: An Inspector Calls is out of 30 marks with 4 marks available for SPaG.
- Section B: Anthology Poetry (Power poems) is out of 30 marks.
- Section C: Unseen Poetry is out of 32 marks. Part One is out of 24 marks. Part Two is 8 marks.

What this exam is testing

This paper covers three sections of Literature Paper 2 which have all been covered in lessons, Ambition 6 lessons and home learning tasks.

Students will gain marks for including in their essays:

- AO1 – Answer the focus question, give a conceptualized response, make a range of points across the play/text, use evidence to support your points
- AO2 – Analyse the techniques and language to explain what this means and suggests
- AO3 – Context and authorial intent

What are the types of questions to expect?

Question Types

- Explore how Priestley presents x...
- Compare how poets present ideas of...
- How does the poet present ideas/attitudes/feelings of...

Communication sent out by the department

- Students and families have been told about the specific topics in lesson, mastery sessions and in communications from TEAM English and HoD.
- Revision resources have been emailed out on behalf of TEAM English
- Revision resources for all topics are available on the TEAMS Year 11 'Shared' area

Specification Link

- <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-8702/specification/specification-at-a-glance>

English Language (AQA)

What are the total marks

- The paper is marked out of 80
- Section A: Reading section is out of 40 marks
- Section B: Writing section is out of 40 marks

What this exam is testing

In this November Language Paper 2

This exam is testing:

- Comprehension – can students understand what they’ve read
- Inference – can students understand what they’ve read and ‘read between the lines’. Students will need to write about two sources and explain what they understand about the focus of the question.
- Language analysis - Students will need to analyse the language and techniques used.
- Comparison of attitudes and viewpoints - students will need to identify what a writer thinks/how a writer feels about a topic; how they use language to show this opinion; explain how they are different
- Non-Fiction writing – students will respond to a statement with their opinion. They will get up to 24 marks for writing and expressing these ideas clearly, in the write form and genre, using ambitious vocabulary and techniques. They will get up to 16 marks for their technical accuracy and use of punctuation, sentence types.

What are the types of questions to expect?

- Question 1 – True or False – students will tick 4 true statements. 4 marks**
Question 2 – What can you infer about... 8 marks
Question 3 – How does the writer use language to present/describe... 12 marks
Question 4 – Compare how do writers present attitudes towards...16 marks
Question 5 – Write an article/letter/speech about... 24 + 16 marks = 40marks

Communication sent out by the department

- Students and families have been told about the specific topics in lesson, mastery sessions and in communications from TEAM English and HoD.
- Revision resources have been emailed out on behalf of TEAM English
- Revision resources for all topics are available on the TEAMS Year 11 ‘Shared’ area

Specification Link

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-8700/specification/specification-at-a-glance>



Newsome
Academy

Where
Hearts &
Minds
Connect

Mathematics (AQA)

What are the total marks

Students will sit **three full GCSE Mathematics papers.**

- **Paper 1 – Non-Calculator: 80 marks**
- **Paper 2 – Calculator: 80 marks**
- **Paper 3 – Calculator: 80 marks**
- **240 marks in total.**

Each paper is 1 hour 30 minutes

What this exam is testing

Content from any part of the GCSE Mathematics specification may be assessed across the three papers. Questions may also combine knowledge and skills from different areas of mathematics. The papers assess:

- Number
- Algebra
- Ratio, proportion and rates of change
- Geometry and measures
- Probability
- Statistics

What are the types of questions to expect?

- Short, single-mark questions
- Multi-mark calculations
- Questions requiring students to show mathematical methods
- Reasoning and explanation questions
- Problem-solving and multi-step questions
- Questions which combine different areas of mathematics

Communication sent out by the department

Families have been sent information outlining the **Year 11 mock examination dates and Mathematics revision programme.**

Students are provided with a **weekly GCSE Mathematics revision sheet** targeted at their tier of entry, in addition to their normal Sparx homework.

Specification Link

[Maths AQA GCSE Specification](#)



Newsome
Academy

Where
Hearts &
Minds
Connect

Digital Information Technology (Pearson)

What are the total marks

- Marks are shown in brackets. This is an extended original school practice paper covering Topics A B and C.
- This paper is marked out of 80.

What this exam is testing

This paper covers Component 3, topics 1-6 which have all been covered in lesson, Ambition 6 lessons and home learning tasks.

- Communication technologies
- Cloud storage & computing
- Using cloud technologies
- Modern team working
- Inclusivity and accessibility
- Impacts of modern technology

What are the types of questions to expect?

Question Types

- State.
- Explain.
- Identify.

Communication sent out by the department

- A letter was sent by Mr Watkin (Teacher) on Sunday 27th September outlining additional information about this exam and revision links to complete at home. This is on the school website under 'Half-Term 1'.
- Students and families have been told about the specific topics that this paper covers.

Specification Link

- <https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/btec-tec-awards/information-technology/2022/specification-and-sample-assessments/btec-tech-award-digital-information-technology-spec.pdf>



Where
Hearts &
Minds
Connect

Subject: Health & Social Care (OCR)

What are the total marks

- This is a full paper
- This paper is marked out of 70

What this exam is testing

This paper covers RO32 which covers 4 areas **which have all been covered in lesson**, Ambition 6 lessons and home learning tasks.

1. The rights of the service user
2. Person-centered care
3. Effective communication in health and social care settings
4. Protecting service users in a health and social care setting

What are the types of questions to expect?

Question Types

- Explain
- State
- Describe
- Identify
- Analyse

Communication sent out by the department

- A letter was sent by Ms Mitchell (Head of PE) in the second week of September about positive starts and attitudes.
- Ms Mitchell will be sending out the course topic outlines WC 28.09.26 with a RAG rated option for each topic e.g. red if they do not know it, amber if they know something and green if they are confident in the topic. The document also includes key terms/definitions.

Specification Link

- <https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/cambridge-nationals/health-and-social-care-level-1-2-j835/>



Newsome
Academy

Where
Hearts &
Minds
Connect

Subject: Health & Fitness (NCFE)

What are the total marks

- This is a full paper
- This paper is marked out of 80

What this exam is testing

This paper covers **NCFE Level 1½ Technical Award in Health & Fitness Code: QN603/7007/5**, which covers 7 areas **which have all been covered in lesson**, Ambition 6 lessons and home learning tasks.

- Structure and function of body systems
- Effects of health and fitness activities on the body
- Health, fitness and components of fitness
- Principles of training
- Testing and developing components of fitness
- Impact of lifestyle on health and fitness
- Applying health and fitness analysis and setting goals

What are the types of questions to expect?

Question Types

- Multiple choice
- Short answer
- Extended response

Communication sent out by the department

- A letter was sent by Mr Darlington (Year 11 teacher) in the second week of September about positive starts and attitudes.
- Mr Darlington will be sending out the course topic outlines WC 28.09.26 with key terms/definitions to help with revision.

Specification Link

- <https://www.ncfe.org.uk/qualification-search/qualification-detail/ncfe-level-12-technical-award-in-health-and-fitness-111>



Newsome
Academy

Where
Hearts &
Minds
Connect

French (Pearson)

What are the total marks

- Marks are shown in brackets for each question on each of the 3 papers.
- Each of the papers is marked out of 50.

What this exam is testing

Listening All topics will be tested.

Section A Passages spoken in French with a variety of comprehension tasks on what students have heard.

Section B – Transcription of what students hear in French.

Reading All topics will be tested.

Section A Reading texts in French and answering a variety of questions in English

Section B Translation from French into English.

Writing - Formal and informal written texts in French
Translation into French

What are the types of questions to expect?

Question Types

- Multiple choice
- Multiple answer.
- Short written answers.
- Longer written answer.

Communication sent out by the department

- A letter was sent by Mrs Fox on 29th September to families. This details the content of each paper that will be sat during this mock series for French. It includes all the topics required for revision, along with useful links to vocabulary lists and online platforms for which students have logins. Students have been told about the specific topics that this paper covers in lessons.

Specification Link

- [GCSE French Specification Issue 2](#)



Newsome
Academy

Where
Hearts &
Minds
Connect

German (Pearson)

What are the total marks

- Marks are shown in brackets for each question on each of the 3 papers.
- Each of the papers is marked out of 50.

What this exam is testing

Listening All topics will be tested.

Section A Passages spoken in German with a variety of comprehension tasks on what students have heard.

Section B – Transcription of what students hear in German.

Reading All topics will be tested.

Section A Reading texts in German and answering a variety of questions in English. **Section B** Translation from German into English.

Writing - Formal and informal written texts in German
Translation into German

What are the types of questions to expect?

Question Types

- Multiple choice
- Multiple answer.
- Short written answers.
- Longer written answer.

Communication sent out by the department

- A letter was sent by Mrs Fox on 29th September to families. This details the content of each paper that will be sat during this mock series for German. It includes all the topics required for revision, along with useful links to vocabulary lists and online platforms for which students have logins. Students have been told about the specific topics that this paper covers in lessons.

Specification Link

- [GCSE German Specification 2024 Issue 2](#)



Where
Hearts &
Minds
Connect

Subject: Geography (AQA)

What are the total marks

- Marks are shown in brackets. This is a past GCSE paper covering all paper 1 topics, 3 paper 2 topics and part of the fieldwork section from paper 3
- Paper 1 is out of 88 (1hr 30)
- Paper 2 is out of 74 (1hr 30)
- Total marks are 162

What this exam is testing

This paper covers a range of topics across the 3 GCSE papers **which have all been covered in lesson**, Ambition 6 lessons and home learning tasks.

Paper 1: Living with the Physical Environment

- Challenge of Natural Hazards
- The Living World
- Coastal Landscapes in the UK
- River landscapes in the UK

Paper 2: Challenges in the Human Environment

- Urban Issues and Challenges
- The challenge of resource management
- Energy
- Field work

What are the types of questions to expect?

Question Types

- Suggest
- Outline
- Calculate
- To what extent
- Describe
- State
- Do you agree?
- Explain
- Discuss
- Evaluate

Communication sent out by the department

- An email was sent by class teachers outlining additional information about this exam and revision links to complete at home.
- Students and families have been told about the specific topics that this paper covers - students have received information on teams and case study booklets

Specification Link

- [GCSE Geography Specification Specification for first teaching in 2016](#)



Newsome
Academy

Where
Hearts &
Minds
Connect

Subject: History (AQA)

What are the total marks

Paper 1- Germany and WW1 (2 Hours)

- Germany , 1890-1945: Democracy and Dictatorship (**Total Marks 40**)
- Conflict and Tension: the First World War, 1894-1918 (**Total Marks 44**)

Paper 2- Britain: Health and the People (1 Hour)

- Britain: Health and the People: c1000 to the present day (**Total Marks 44**)

What this exam is testing

Germany (Paper 1)

- Kaiser Wilhelm II and difficulties ruling Germany
- Impact of WW1
- The Weimar Republic
- The Depression and the rise of the Nazis
- The establishment of Hitler's Dictatorship
- Life in Nazi Germany (Economy, Social Policy, Police State, Opposition)

Conflict and Tension: WW1 (Paper 1)

- Causes of WW1 (Militarism, Imperialism, Alliances, Nationalism)
- Stalemate (Schlieffen Plan, The Western Front, Gallipoli, The war at sea, The war in the air)
- Ending the War (Russia leave the war, Ludendorff Offensive, The Hundred Days)
- Germany Surrenders

Britain: Health and the People (Paper 2)

- Medieval medicine (Hippocrates, Galen, Islamic Medicine, Treatments, Public Health)
- Renaissance Medicine (Vesalius, Harvey, Pare, Surgery, Printing Press)
- Hunter, Jenner, Vaccination
- Industrial revolution (Public Health, Simpson, Pasteur, Jhon Snow, Lister, Government intervention)
- Modern Medicine (Penicillin, Impact of War, Modern Public Health, NHS, Hitech surgery)

What are the types of questions to expect?

- Describe
- How Useful?... (Source Questions)
- Explain the significance of...
- Explain the impact of...
- Compare similarities
- Evaluating main factors for change...
- Interpretation questions...
- How far do you agree with this statement?...

Communication sent out by the department

- Revision guides sent home
- Brom com message sent regarding content of exam
- Revision guides uploaded to teams

Specification Link

- [GCSE History Specification Specification for first teaching in 2016](#)



Newsome
Academy

Where
Hearts &
Minds
Connect

Subject: RE

What are the total marks

- Paper 1 full paper is out of 102- 1hr 45
- Paper 2 two out of the four themes (see below) is out of 50 – 1hr
- Total across both paper is 152

What this exam is testing

This paper covers a range of topics across the 2 GCSE papers which **have all been covered in lessons**, Ambition 6 lessons and home learning tasks.

Paper one -

Christianity:

- Christian beliefs
- Christian practices

Islam:

- Islam beliefs
- Islam practices

Paper two-

Theme B- religion and life:

- Euthanasia, Animal rights, Abortion, Origins of the universe

Theme D- religion peace and conflict:

- Terrorism, Victims of war, pacifism, WMD, nuclear weapons

What are the types of questions to expect?

Influence
Evaluate a statement
Explain
Outline
Describe
State

Communication sent out by the department

- Revision booklet/ guides
- Brom com messages sent home
- Quote sheets uploaded onto teams and emailed home through bromcom
- Link to the RE podcast

Specification Link

- [Religious Studies A GCSE 8062 Specification](#)



Where
Hearts &
Minds
Connect

Subject: Life & Living Skills (OCR)

What are the total marks

- Life & Living Skills Level 3 in Horticulture is a flexible, one-year programme designed to develop practical, personal, and social skills for independent living and further learning.
- It is a qualification aimed at learners with diverse abilities, including those with profound and multiple learning disabilities.
- It is a **credit-based qualification** that allows learners to achieve a total of 6 credits, with at least 4 credits at Entry Level 1 and the remaining credits at Entry Level 1, 2, or 3

What this skill is testing

- 1.1 Clear a safe site
- 1.2 Prepare a site ready for planting
- 1.3 Remove and dispose of debris appropriately
- 2.1 Plant the prepared site
- 3.1 Work in a way that minimises risks to self and others
- 3.2 Wear appropriate personal protective equipment PPE
- 3.3 Use tools safely and effectively when preparing the site
- 4.1 Clean tools after use.

What assessments are carried out?

- Key features of the assessment for these qualifications are:
- Assessment can take place as and when the learner is ready.
 - Units may be assessed by any method, or combination of methods, that clearly demonstrate that learning outcomes and assessment criteria have been met by the learner.
 - OCR recording documents are provided for each unit and completed by the assessor to record and track learners' individual assessment and evidence.
 - All units are centre-assessed and all evidence is sent by post or email, to an appointed OCR Examiner-moderator to be moderated.
 - Achievement at unit level is Pass or Fail.

Communication sent out by the department

- Communication regarding this qualification is discussed and shared at annual reviews for all PI and HI students accessing this qualification.
- Communication to families regarding students who access this qualification in RISE is shared before delivery.

Specification Link

- [Vocational Qualifications \(QCF\) - Life and Living Skills Entry Level 1 - 3 - 10160-10172, 10181-10183 - OCR](#)



Where
Hearts &
Minds
Connect

Subject: Functional Skills Entry Level 2 English (Edexcel)

What are the total marks

- **Reading:** 35
- **Writing:** 36
- **Total:** 71

What this exam is testing

The Pearson Edexcel Functional Skills Qualification in English at Level 2 consists of one internally-set and internally-marked Speaking, listening and communicating assessment, one externally-assessed Reading assessment and one externally assessed Writing assessment.

What are the types of questions to expect?

Students may be asked to:

- Read short texts and find information.
- Answer questions about what they have read.
- Write simple emails, messages or notes.
- Use capital letters, full stops and correct spelling.
- Listen to others and follow instructions.
- Speak clearly and share ideas.
- Take part in simple discussions.

Questions are based on everyday situations, such as emails, letters, posters, adverts and instructions.

Communication sent out by the department

- Communication regarding this qualification is discussed and shared at annual reviews for all PI and HI students accessing this qualification.
- Homework set weekly/family support worker's reminder

Specification Link

- <https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-functional-skills/english-2019.coursematerials.html#filterQuery=Pearson-UK:Category%2FSpecification-and-sample-assessments>



Where
Hearts &
Minds
Connect

Subject: Entry Level Maths (AQA)

What are the total marks

- Students complete **eight components** of work.
- Evidence must include **4–8 externally set assignments**.
- Remaining components can be classwork set by teachers.
- All components are **internally assessed** and **externally moderated**.
- Each component is marked out of **30**, giving a total of **240 marks**.

What this exam is testing

The qualification includes eight components:

- Properties of number
- The four operations (non-calculator)
- Ratio
- Money
- Calendar and time
- Measures
- Geometry
- Statistics

What skills are being developed?

The ELC is available at **Entry Level 1, 2 and 3**, with descriptors outlining expected skills such as counting, basic operations, simple fractions, time reading, shape recognition, and simple graphs.

Communication sent out by the department

- Communication regarding this qualification is discussed and shared at annual reviews for all PI and HI students accessing this qualification.
- Communication to families regarding students who access this qualification in RISE is shared before delivery.

Specification Link

- [ELC Mathematics 5930 | Specification | Specification At A Glance | AQA](#)



Newsome
Academy

Where
Hearts &
Minds
Connect

Subject: Entry Level Science (AQA)

What are the total marks

- Single Award 5960
- Dual Award 5962
- AO1 - Externally-set assignments /57
- AO2 – Teacher devised assignments /43
- Total: /100

What this assessment is testing

Assessment is through completion of the Externally-set assignments (ESAs) and Teacher-devised assignments (TDAs).

What are the types of questions to expect?

- multiple choice
- short answers
- extended questions

Communication sent out by the department

- Current Y9-10 H/PI cohort
- Communication regarding this qualification is discussed and shared at annual reviews for all PI and HI students accessing this qualification.
- Homework set weekly/family support worker's reminder

Specification Link

- [ELC Science 5960 | Specification | Scheme Of Assessment | AQA](#)



Newsome
Academy

Where
Hearts &
Minds
Connect

Subject: Entry Level History (OCR)

What are the total marks

- **100% coursework-based**, requiring students to complete three tasks.

What this qualification testing

This approach emphasizes **research, explanation, and evaluation skills**, allowing learners to demonstrate understanding in written, discussion, or alternative formats such as presentations and displays.

- **Thematic Study:** Explores major aspects of society across different historical periods, helping learners understand how people lived, the challenges they faced, and governmental or community responses.
- **Depth (Period) Study:** Focuses on a specific historical period or society, developing detailed contextual knowledge and understanding of long-term patterns and change.
- **Site or Individual Study:** Encourages independent research and application of historical knowledge, including writing a 150-word biography or guide and a 250-word explanation of the significance of a site or individual.

Topics covered include **Crime and Punishment, People's Health, Migration, War and British Society, Power, Monarchy and Democracy, Germany 1925–55, USA 1919–74, Normans 1065–1087, Elizabethans 1580–1603, The Making of America 1789–1900, The Viking Age c. 750–c. 1050, and Britain: Peace and War 1900–18**

What are the types of tasks to expect?

Throughout the course, students develop:

- Historical vocabulary and concepts
- Ability to recognise patterns of change and continuity
- Analytical skills to explain why events happened and their significance
- Communication skills for organising ideas clearly in writing and discussion

Communication sent out by the department

- Communication regarding this qualification is discussed and shared at annual reviews for all PI and HI students accessing this qualification.
- Communication to families regarding students who access this qualification in RISE is shared before delivery.

Specification Link

- [Entry Level - History - R435](#)



Newsome
Academy

Where
Hearts &
Minds
Connect

Subject: Entry Level Geography (OCR)

What are the total marks

- Module- "Our World." It is one of three large units studied but the examination only makes up a total of 30 marks out of the total 100 available. (70 marks are from fieldwork and personal projects.)
- The total marks in the examination for "Our World" is 10 out of 100 available for the whole course.

What this assessment is testing

The "Our World" module tests the students human geography knowledge of the UK and the world, specifically:

- How is the UK changing?
- How is the world changing?

What do the tasks focus on?

- Locate
- Describe
- Know
- Understand

Communication sent out by the department

- Communication regarding this qualification is discussed and shared at annual reviews for all PI and HI students accessing this qualification.
- Communication to families regarding students who access this qualification in RISE is shared before delivery.

Specification Link

- [Entry Level - Geography - R407](#)



Newsome
Academy

Where
Hearts &
Minds
Connect

Subject: Business Studies

What are the total marks

- The paper is marked out of 80
- This will be added to your coursework score (120) and the combined total out of 200 will then be used to give a grade

What this exam is testing

All 8 topic areas will be examined .
TA1 – Entrepreneurship
TA2 – The market
TA3 – Human resources
TA4 – Operations management
TA5 – Business growth
TA6 – Finance
TA7 – External influences
TA8 – Business plans

What are the types of questions to expect?

A range of 1–9-mark questions are included in this paper

Remember to structure your answers

Communication sent out by the department

- An email was sent home on 5th October explaining the content of the exam and revision resources that are available for you

Specification Link

<https://www.ncfe.org.uk/qualification-search/qualification-detail/ncfe-level-12-technical-award-in-business-and-enterprise-127>



Newsome
Academy

Where
Hearts &
Minds
Connect

Subject: Combined Science (AQA)

What are the total marks

210 marks in total across the three Paper 1 exams:
Biology **70 marks**, Chemistry **70 marks** and Physics **70 marks**.
Each paper is **1 hour 15 minutes**.

What this exam is testing

Biology Paper 1:

Cell Biology; Organisation; Infection and Response; Bioenergetics.

Chemistry Paper 1: Atomic Structure and the Periodic Table; Bonding, Structure and the Properties of Matter; Quantitative Chemistry; Chemical Changes; Energy Changes.

Physics Paper 1: Energy; Electricity; Particle Model of Matter; Atomic Structure.

What are the types of questions to expect?

A mixture of **multiple-choice, short-answer, structured questions, calculations, data analysis and longer extended-response questions**. Students should expect to apply their knowledge to unfamiliar contexts, interpret graphs and tables, use scientific equations and units, and explain processes using appropriate scientific terminology.

Communication sent out by the department

- An email by R Tetlow (Head of Science) The email contains revision links that pupils have been shown in their Science Mastery Seminar.
- In the document the Sequence of learning for year 11 is also contained.

Specification Link

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/science-8464/specification/specification-at-a-glance>



Newsome
Academy

Where
Hearts &
Minds
Connect

Subject: Biology Triple Science (AQA)

What are the total marks

100 marks
Each paper is **1 hour 45 minutes**.

What this exam is testing

Topics 1–4 of the AQA GCSE Biology specification:

Cell Biology
Organisation
Infection and Response
Bioenergetics.

What are the types of questions to expect?

A mixture of **multiple-choice, short-answer, structured questions, calculations, data analysis and longer extended-response questions**. Questions may require students to apply their knowledge to unfamiliar contexts, interpret graphs/tables and carry out calculations

Communication sent out by the department

- An email by R Tetlow (Head of Science) The email contains revision links that pupils have been shown in their Science Mastery Seminar.

Specification Link

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/biology/gcse/biology-8461/specification/specification-at-a-glance>



Newsome
Academy

Where
Hearts &
Minds
Connect

Subject: Chemistry Triple Science (AQA)

What are the total marks

100 marks
Each paper is **1 hour 45 minutes**.

What this exam is testing

Topics 1–5 of the AQA GCSE Chemistry specification:

Atomic Structure and the Periodic Table
Bonding, Structure and the Properties of Matter
Quantitative Chemistry
Chemical Changes
Energy Changes.

What are the types of questions to expect?

A mixture of **multiple-choice, short-answer, structured questions, calculations, data analysis and longer extended-response questions**. Students will need to apply their knowledge to unfamiliar contexts, interpret graphs and tables, complete chemical equations, use calculations and explain chemical processes using appropriate scientific terminology.

Communication sent out by the department

- An email by R Tetlow (Head of Science) The email contains revision links that pupils have been shown in their Science Mastery Seminar.

Specification Link

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/chemistry/gcse/chemistry-8462/specification/specification-at-a-glance>



Newsome
Academy

Where
Hearts &
Minds
Connect

Subject: Physics Triple Science (AQA)

What are the total marks

100 marks
Each paper is **1 hour 45 minutes**.

What this exam is testing

Topics 1–4 of the AQA GCSE Physics specification:

Energy
Electricity
Particle Model of Matter
Atomic Structure.

What are the types of questions to expect?

A mixture of **multiple-choice, short-answer, structured questions, calculations, data analysis and longer extended-response questions**. Students will need to apply equations, rearrange equations, use units, interpret graphs and tables, and apply their knowledge to unfamiliar contexts.

Communication sent out by the department

- An email by R Tetlow (Head of Science) The email contains revision links that pupils have been shown in their Science Mastery Seminar.

Specification Link

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/physics/gcse/physics-8463/specification/specification-at-a-glance>