



NEWSTEAD WOOD SCHOOL

"creating opportunities for success"

4 February 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

Year 11 Mock Exam Arrangements – 9-27 February 2026

I am pleased to be able to share with you the final details of the mock exams that your child will complete during the spring exam period. These mock exams are an important part of your child's preparation for their GCSE summer examinations. At Newstead Wood School we want to ensure that your child is fully prepared for their public exams and we hope that you will fully support us in delivering a successful mock examination period.

Attendance

During this mock examination period it is critical that Year 11 students attend school on time each day. Spending time in supervised study in school around the exams will help keep them in a good study routine and provide opportunities for independent re-cap and consolidation of learning.

It is important that students do not miss an exam or arrive late as they will not be able to sit the exam at a later date. This is because all mock examinations must be completed in exam-like conditions to ensure they have been administered in a rigorous and robust manner. It is also important that Year 11 revise thoroughly for these mocks so that they showcase their subject knowledge and skills to the best of their abilities. We are unable to authorise any requests for absence or arrange for papers to be taken at a later date as this would compromise the integrity of the examinations. Exam board protocols will also be followed in the event of a clash and students will be supervised between papers should this occur.

Revision Breakfasts

Before every morning exam there will be a revision breakfast session starting at **8.15am**. The revision breakfast is a fantastic opportunity for students to complete final preparations for each exam, including receiving a free hot bacon or sausage bun or croissant. This is an important part of preparing for each exam – just as we will do in the summer GCSE exams – and we hope that every student takes up this opportunity, and benefits from the routine.

Exam Times

Students with a morning exam should arrive at school shortly before 8.15am and remain in the Main Hall. They will then need to attend their form rooms to be registered. Students must arrive at their exam room 15 minutes before the exam start time, with the correct equipment, and wait outside the venue for the exams briefing.

Headteacher: Mr Paul Norman MA, MSc, BSc (Hons), PGCE

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Students should ensure they check Arbor daily for the time and location of exams, in case of any changes. There will be two sessions: 9.00am and 1.30pm each day, just as for the public exams.

If students do not have an exam during period 3 and 4, they will be completing private study in their normal lessons. Students will go to lunch at 12.45pm to allow them a break before their afternoon exams. As afternoon exams begin at 1.30pm Year 11 students will be given priority in the canteen to eat their lunch for a prompt start.

Most students have been timetabled for an afternoon exam – any students who do not have an afternoon exam will return to their normal lessons for private study until the end of period 5, before they are dismissed at an earlier time of **3.10pm**.

Expectations

Previous mock exams have followed the expectations of the school and of the national exam regulations which you can find outlined below:

- Students must remain in silence at all times in the examination hall and must not attempt to communicate with any other student.
- Students must not carry an electronic device – this includes mobile phones, headphones, and watches.
- Students must only have a clear and colourless water bottle or pencil case
- Students must leave all of their belongings in the designated area. These are the basic expectations of the JCQ (Joint Council for Qualifications).
- All students are expected to come fully prepared to sit the examination, including bringing all writing and specialist equipment. Students must be in the appropriate school uniform or they will be refused entry.
- Please read the JCQ candidates' information here carefully: [JCQ Information for Candidates 2025/26](#)

Student misconduct during public exams must be reported to the examination boards to preserve the integrity of national qualifications. Misconduct can lead to being disqualified and not receiving a grade. It is important that students experience the same conditions during their mock examinations so they are familiar and gain confidence and resilience tackling some relatively long papers.

Please get in touch with me at tdaley@newsteadwood.co.uk or Mrs Meader (Head of Year 11) ameader@newsteadwood.co.uk if you have any questions or concerns.

Yours faithfully,



Mr T Daley
Assistant Headteacher, KS4 Progress Lead