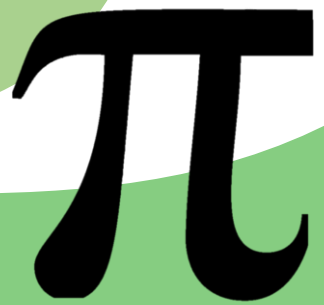
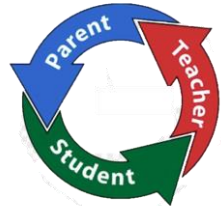


# Cardinal Newman Catholic School

Holy Cross Catholic Multi Academy Company

## GCSE Preparation



## Parent Guidance

MADE FOR GREATNESS

“Knowledge through the light of faith”



CARDINAL  
NEWMAN  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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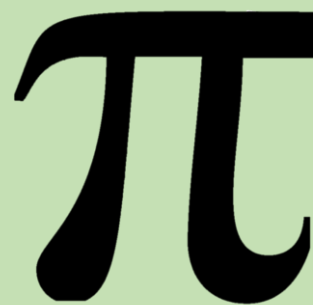
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# Key Dates

## Year Ahead

06/01/2025	TTD	In class assessments - Core & Geog/Hist only				9th January (BTEC Health & Social Exam)
13/01/2025						Spring Mock Launch
20/01/2025						Sixth Form Interviews Commence
27/01/2025						
03/02/2025						
10/02/2025	Mock Exam 2					Technology NEA deadline
17/02/2025	Half term					
24/02/2025	Mock Exam 2					
03/03/2025			DC3 Opens			
10/03/2025			DC3 Closes			Tutor Rotation 3
17/03/2025	Y11 RAP EMS	Y11 RAP		Y11 RAP Open		MFL Mock Speaking Examinations
24/03/2025		Tech Practical	Tech Practical			
31/03/2025			Y11 TE			
07/04/2025						Photography/Art Exams 8th-11th April 25
14/04/2025	Easter Break					
21/04/2025	Easter Break					
28/04/2025	In class assessments					
05/05/2025	Bank Hol					MFL GCSE Speaking Examinations
12/05/2025						Summer Exams begin
19/05/2025						Summer Exams
26/05/2025	Half term					
02/06/2025						Summer Exams
09/06/2025						Summer Exams
16/06/2025						Summer Exams

### Y11 Takeaway Evening!

*Final revision resources distributed*


**Results Day: Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> August 2025**

## Mock Examinations

WC 10<sup>th</sup> February- 26<sup>th</sup> February 2025

**Cardinal Newman  
Catholic School**  
Holy Cross Catholic Multi Academy Company

**Year 11 Spring  
Mock Examinations 2025**



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**"Knowledge through the light of faith"**

CARDINAL NEWMAN  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Final mock examinations before summer examinations commence.

Mock Examination Booklets outline:

1. Timetable
2. Content to revise for papers
3. How to Revise Guidance
4. Signposts additional resources

## Parental Support

1. Students on site by 8.15am

2. Equipped

*Black pens, pencil, ruler, highlighters, scientific calculator, compass, protractor in a clear pencil case*

3. Uniform

**4. Sleep routine:** *Your teen might think that staying up all hours, especially the night before their exams, is a good way to cram in extra revision time, but if they're tired, they won't be up to their full potential. Encourage **sleep hygiene** and a **good routine before bed**.*

**5. Fuel the brain:** *Along with sleep, the right nutritious food and **plenty of water** is the best way to set your student up for success. The odd treat is fine as a reward, but try to supplement that with greens like spinach and kale for those all important vitamins and minerals, **oats in the morning for a slow release of energy**, and **fish for Omega-3s**.*

# Mock Examination Timetable

Year 11 Mock Examinations					
	Period 1	Period 2	Period 3	Period 4	Period 5
<b>Monday</b> 10 <sup>th</sup> February A	Year 11 GCSE English Literature (Paper 1) 2 hours				Year 11 GCSE RE (Paper 2) 1 hour 30 mins
Y11 Normal Lesson	A - English   B - PE	A - English   B - RE	A - RE   B - English	A - Maths   B - Humanities	A - PE   B - Science
<b>Tuesday</b> 11 <sup>th</sup> February A	Year 11 GCSE Maths (Paper 1) 1 hour 30 mins				Year 11 GCSE Media (Paper 1) 1 hour 30 mins Year 11 iMedia (1 hour 30) Year 11 GCSE Computer Science (Paper 1) 1 hour 30 mins Year 11 GCSE Music (Listening) 1 hour Year 11 GCSE PE (1 hour 15 mins) Year 11 GCSE Timbers (1 hour 45 mins) Year 11 GCSE Food (1 hour 45 mins)
Y11 Normal Lesson	A - Maths   B - Science	A - RE   B - Maths	A - PE   B - Humanities	A/B - Block A	A/B - Block A
<b>Wednesday</b> 12 <sup>th</sup> February A	Year 11 GCSE History (Paper 1) 2 hours Year 11 GCSE Geography (Paper 1) 1 hour 30 mins				Year 11 GCSE Physics (Paper 2) 1-hour 15/45 mins
Y11 Normal Lesson	A - Maths   B - Science	A - Science   B - Maths	A - Science   B - English	A/B - Block B	A/B - Block A
<b>Thursday</b> 13 <sup>th</sup> February A	Year 10 and Year 11 English Resit Lang (Paper 1) 1 hour 45				Year 11 GCSE Maths (Paper 2) 1 hour 30 mins
Y11 Normal Lesson	A/B - Block A	A/B - Block B	A - Humanities   B - Maths	A - English   B - RE	A - RE   B - Science
<b>Friday</b> 14 <sup>th</sup> February A	Year 11 GCSE Biology (Paper 2) 1-hour 15/45 mins				Year 11 GCSE Business (Paper 1) 1 hour 30 mins Clash students*
Y11 Normal Lesson	A - Humanities   B - English	A - Humanities   B - English	A - English   B - PE	A - Science   B - Maths	A - PE   B - RE
<b>Monday</b> 24 <sup>th</sup> February B	Year 11 English Literature (Paper 2) 2 hours 30 mins				Year 11 Business (Paper 2) 1 hour 30
Y11 Normal Lesson	A - English   B - PE	A - English   B - RE	A - RE   B - Science	A - Science   B - Maths	A - Humanities   B - English
<b>Tuesday</b> 25 <sup>th</sup> February B	Year 11 GCSE Chemistry (Paper 2) 1-hour 15/45 mins				GCSE Computer Science (Paper 2) 1 hour 30 mins GCSE Media (Paper 2) 1 hour 30 mins
Y11 Normal Lesson	A - Science   B - Maths	A - Maths   B - Science	A - Maths   B - Science	A/B - Block B	A/B - Block B
<b>Wednesday</b> 26 <sup>th</sup> February B	Year 11 GCSE Maths (Paper 3) (1 hour 30)				Year 11 GCSE Geography (Paper 2) 1 hour 30 mins
Y11 Normal Lesson	A - Maths   B - Maths	A - Maths   B - English	A - English   B - Science	A - Science   B - Humanities	A/B - Block A
<b>Thursday</b> 27 <sup>th</sup> February B	Year 11 - Spanish Writing (F 1 hour/H 1 hour 15 mins) Year 11 - French Writing (F 1 hour/H 1 hour 15 mins)				
Y11 Normal Lesson	A - Science   B - Maths	A/B - Block B	A - Maths   B - Humanities		

## Revision Strategies

### Make a timetable

A routine for studying is really important; try to help work out which subjects are the hardest and allocate time accordingly. It's also vital to ensure that this **timetable is achievable**, and not a straight 10 hours a day revising with no breaks.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
<b>Tutor</b>	Tutor	Maths	Maths	Maths	Assembly	Revision 1: RE	Revision 1: Maths Paper 1
<b>Period 1</b>	English Literature	RE	Maths	Maths	Science	Revision 2: History	
<b>Period 2</b>	English Literature	Maths	Science	Media Studies	History		
<b>Period 3</b>	Maths	Health and Social Care	Science	Media Studies	History		
<b>Period 4</b>	Health and Social Care	English Literature	PE	Science	RE	Revision 3: Chemistry	Revision 2: English Literature
<b>Period 5</b>	Health and Social Care	Science	Media Studies	PE	English Literature		
<b>Period 6</b>	History (LF)	Science (DV07)	Maths (AY15)				
<b>After-School Revision</b>	RE	Chemistry	Maths Paper 1	English Literature			

### Create the right environment

Whether the student in your life has a desk in their room, the corner of the lounge, on the dining table or in a shed at the bottom of the garden, they need a study space that will help them get in the zone. You can easily get second-hand desks and chairs on Facebook Marketplace, and painting an old desk can be a fun way to make it their own (and provides a creative break from studying!).



## Revision Strategies

### Active Recall

**What it is:** Testing yourself on the material instead of passively rereading or highlighting.

**How to do it:**

- Use flashcards (physical or apps like Anki or Quizlet).
- Write down everything you know about a topic from memory, then check and correct it.
- Answer past paper questions or create your own quizzes.

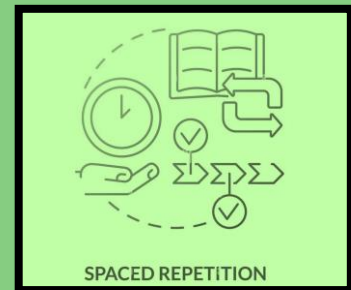


### Spaced Repetition

**What it is:** Revisiting information at gradually increasing intervals to strengthen long-term memory.

**How to do it:**

- Plan revision sessions for topics over days or weeks (e.g., review a topic on Day 1, Day 3, Day 7, etc.)
- Revise your flashcards using a rotation system.



### Chunking

**What it is:** Breaking information into smaller, manageable sections.

**How to do it:**

- Divide large topics into smaller subtopics.
- Memorise lists or processes in groups of 3-5 items.



## Revision Strategies

### Teaching Others

**What it is:** Explaining a topic to someone else in your own words.

**How to do it:**

- Pretend to teach a class, explain concepts to a friend or family member, or record yourself summarizing the topic.
- Answer their questions as if you're the expert.

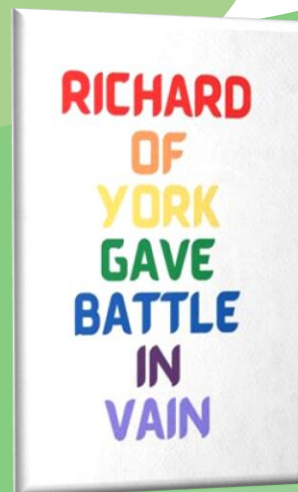


### Use Mnemonics and Memory Aids

**What it is:** Creating acronyms, rhymes, or stories to help remember information.

**How to do it:**

E.g. use SOHCAHTOA for trigonometry or "Richard Of York Gave Battle In Vain" for the colours of the rainbow.



### Past Papers and Exam Practice

**What it is:**

Familiarising yourself with the format and style of questions.

**How to do it:**

- Complete past papers under timed conditions.
- Review mark schemes to understand how marks are awarded.
- Identify weaker areas and revisit those topics.





## Revision Strategies

### Mind Mapping

#### What it is:

Creating a visual summary of a topic by connecting ideas and key points.

#### How to do it:

- Start with a central idea (e.g., "The Water Cycle") and branch out with subtopics, adding examples, diagrams, and definitions.
- Use colour coding for clarity and memory cues.

### Dual Coding

#### What it is:


Combining text and visuals to improve understanding and recall.



#### How to do it:


Create diagrams, timelines, or infographics alongside written notes. Watch videos on a topic while summarising key points with sketches or charts.


**Intro**


- Symbolises capitalism
- Abuse of power & wealth
- older generation
- Refuses to accept responsibility for Eva Smith's suicide


**1) Greedy & Ignorant** 


- Heavy looking
- all mixed up together like bees in a hive 
- unsinkable, absolutely unsinkable 


**2) Selfish capitalist** 

- She had far too much to say 
- They'd soon be asking for the earth 
- I can't accept any responsibility

**3) Unable to change / accept responsibility** 

- By jingo a fake!
- You'd better ask Gerald for that ring back 
- Look at them pair of men - the famous young generation

**4) Prioritises business over family**  

- You stole money... i've got to cover this up
- i'd give thousands, thousands 
- That'll be a public scandal 

**5) Power struggle with inspector** 

- Look here, i'm not going to have this inspector. 
- You'll apologise at once
- i'm a public man 

**Mr Birling**

## Revision Strategies

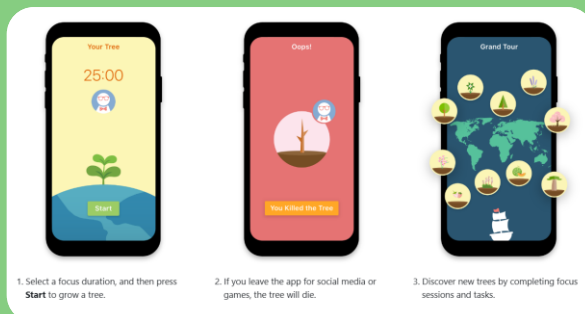
- **Positively You- Revision Workshops**
- **Subject Specific 'How to Revise' sessions**
- **Mock Examinations Guide**

### Online Platforms

- Class Charts
- Seneca
- Educake
- MathsWatch
- BBC Bitesize

### Recommended Apps

- My Exams (Countdown)
- Flora
- Quizlet



# Supporting your child at home

## Supporting Your Child with GCSE Revision: A Guide for Parents

Helping your child prepare for their GCSEs can be a challenge, but with the right strategies and support, you can make a big difference. This guide offers practical tips on how to support your child's revision across different subjects.

### English Language & Literature

- **Encourage Reading:** Reading widely improves vocabulary and analytical skills. Encourage them to read newspapers, novels, and sample essays.
- **Practice Writing:** Help them practice structuring essays and answering exam-style questions.
- **Discuss Themes:** Talk about the themes, characters, and key quotes in set texts.
- **Use Flashcards:** For key quotes, techniques, and vocabulary.
- **Online tools:** The 'Educake' platform has a number of quizzes to support with recall

### Mathematics

- **Practice Makes Perfect:** Encourage your child to work through past papers and timed questions.
- **Focus on Weak Areas:** Identify topics they struggle with and dedicate extra time to those.
- **Use Online Tools:** Platforms like Hegarty Maths or Maths Watch offer tutorials and practice questions.
- **Explain Concepts:** If you're confident, try explaining concepts or reviewing their work together.

### Science (Biology, Chemistry, Physics)

- **Key Words:** Have your child create revisions cards for the key words in each topic across the subjects using the key word booklets
- **Practical Booklet:** Have your child rewrite the practical exam responses and their own words
- **Use Diagrams:** Encourage the use of labelled diagrams for processes like the water cycle or cell division.
- **Memorisation Techniques:** Help them create mnemonics for formulas and key concepts.
- **Watch Videos:** Platforms like BBC Bitesize or YouTube channels (e.g., Freesciencelessons) can clarify tricky topics.

# Supporting your child at home

## History

- **Timeline Practice:** Help them create timelines to understand key events and dates.
- **Source Analysis:** Encourage them to practice analysing primary and secondary sources critically.
- **Essay Writing Skills:** Focus on structuring essays with clear arguments and evidence.
- **Revise Key Topics:** Help them review key events, figures, and movements thoroughly.

## Geography

- **Case Studies:** Ensure they know specific case studies for physical and human geography topics.
- **Map Skills:** Help them practice interpreting maps, graphs, and data.
- **Revise Processes:** Focus on understanding physical processes like erosion or plate tectonics.
- **Practice Questions:** Encourage them to answer questions requiring extended explanations or evaluations.
- **Online Quizzes:** Educake has full quizzes for each unit that are self-marking and addresses misconceptions

## Modern Foreign Languages (e.g., French, Spanish)

- **Practice Speaking:** Have short conversations in the target language or encourage them to record themselves.
- **Flashcards for Vocabulary:** Regularly test them on vocabulary and phrases.
- **Listen and Watch:** Encourage them to watch films or listen to music in the target language.
- **Grammar Practice:** Help them with verb conjugations and sentence structure.
- **Online support:** Access Kerboodle for exam practice questions

## Media Studies

- **Understand Key Concepts:** Help them revise media theories, terms, and concepts (e.g., representation, audience).
- **Analyse Media Texts:** Practice analysing adverts, TV shows, or films for meaning and techniques.
- **Case Study Preparation:** Ensure they are confident discussing their set texts and how they relate to exam questions.
- **Practice Exam Questions:** Focus on structuring answers and using media terminology effectively.

# Supporting your child at home

## Computer Science

- **Practice Programming:** Encourage them to write and debug code in languages they study, like Python or Java.
- **Understand Key Principles:** Help them revise algorithms, data structures, and computational thinking.
- **Use Online Tools:** Platforms like W3Schools or Codecademy can provide coding practice.
- **Work Through Past Papers:** Focus on both theoretical and practical questions.

## Business Studies

- **Key Terms and Definitions:** Use flashcards to test their knowledge of business terminology.
- **Real-World Examples:** Discuss current business news and relate it to concepts they're learning.
- **Practice Data Analysis:** Help them analyse graphs, tables, and case studies.
- **Review Exam Techniques:** Focus on how to write structured answers for different types of questions.

## Religious Education (RE)

- **Learn Key Beliefs:** Encourage them to revise the key beliefs and practices of the religions they study.
- **Debate Ethical Issues:** Discuss moral and ethical questions to help them develop balanced arguments.
- **Practice Essay Writing:** Focus on building clear, well-supported arguments.
- **Memorise Quotes:** Help them learn key quotes from sacred texts to support their answers.

## Physical Education (PE)

- **Revise Anatomy and Physiology:** Use diagrams to label body parts and systems.
- **Understand Key Concepts:** Ensure they know rules, tactics, and strategies for sports they study.
- **Practical Application:** Encourage them to relate theory to their own physical activities.
- **Past Papers:** Practice both multiple-choice and longer written questions.



# Supporting your child at home

## Design and Technology: Timbers

- **Material Properties:** Help them revise the properties and uses of different woods and manufactured boards.
- **Practice Sketching:** Encourage them to draw and label design ideas.
- **Review Tools and Techniques:** Test their knowledge of tools, machinery, and construction methods.
- **Sustainability:** Discuss the environmental impact of materials and processes.

## Food & Nutrition

- **Practice Recipes:** Help them perfect key recipes they might need to demonstrate.
- **Nutritional Knowledge:** Test their understanding of nutritional content and dietary needs.
- **Food Safety:** Ensure they revise food hygiene and storage principles.
- **Mock Exams:** Encourage timed practice of both theory and practical tasks.

## Creative Subjects (e.g., Art, Drama, Music)

- **Provide Materials:** Ensure they have the necessary supplies (e.g., art materials, sheet music).
- **Encourage Practice:** For performance-based subjects, encourage regular rehearsal.
- **Review Feedback:** Go over teacher feedback and help them identify areas for improvement.
- **Show Interest:** Take an active interest in their projects and offer constructive praise



# Supporting your child at home

The Online Resources Hub provides a huge boost to parental engagement, sparking conversations about learning and personal development that otherwise wouldn't have taken place .

**Positively  
you** *Inspiring  
empowered  
learning*



## Benefits

- Students have 24/7 access to high-quality video content and a wide range of printable resources
- Designed to be accessible for a wide range of year groups
- Encourages students to work autonomously
- Promotes high levels of parental engagement



## What's included?

The content is divided into four modules, each containing:

- A user-friendly, fully responsive interface
- High quality animated video content
- Exclusive content delivered by our expert presenters
- Downloadable and printable guides and templates



## Practicalities

A fully responsive digital platform, the Online Resources Hub can be accessed on any device with any screen size.

**Website:**

**<https://hub.positivelyyou.org.uk>**

**Username: PosYouHub**

**Password: AppleTree88**

## Managing exam stress

So, they've got the revision part down, but what's the best way to deal with the inevitable stress that comes with this time of year? We've got a few ideas to bring a sense of calm.

## Schedule time for relaxing activities

Figure out the calming method that works – breathing exercises, yoga, a walk, music, podcasts, and make sure your teen is being available for these activities so they can unwind.

## Make fun plans:

Much like the rewards during revision time, having plans to look forward to is a great stress-buster for exam season. Even a dedicated time to watch your favourite film together with some popcorn is a welcome distraction!

## Communicate:

Keep communication open so they know they can talk to you if they need to. For a lot of teens, this is the first time in their lives that they will feel this sort of stress and pressure, so mental health is a priority.

## Help with testing:

Offer to help with practice tests, flashcards and quizzes. Sometimes this can be the best way to identify knowledge gaps.

## Comparison is the thief of joy:

Remind them not to compare themselves to their peers. Everyone is different, and everyone succeeds in their own way. Just because their friend has done a TikTok revising in the library doesn't automatically mean they'll get a higher grade.





# Summer Examination Timetable

## Year 11 Summer Examination Timetable

Date	Start time	Duration	Exam Board	Qual	Subject	Paper / Unit	Yr Group
06/05/2025	9AM	2h	Edexcel	BTEC L2	Health and Social Care	Component 3	11
09/05/2025	13.30PM	1h 30	OCR	GCSE	Business	1	11
12/05/2025	13.30PM	1h 30	OCR	GCSE	Computer Science	1	11
12/05/2025	9AM	2h	WJEC	GCSE	English Literature	Component 1	11
13/05/2025	13.30PM	1h 45	AQA	GCSE	Biology	1	11
13/05/2025	13.30PM	1h 15	AQA	GCSE	Combined Science Biology	1	11
13/05/2025	9AM	1h 30	WJEC	GCSE	RE	Component 1	11
14/05/2025	9AM	1h 30	Edexcel	GCSE	Geography	1	11
14/05/2025	13.30PM	1h 30	WJEC	GCSE	Media Studies	Component 1	11
15/05/2025	9AM	1h 30	Edexcel	GCSE	Mathematics	1	11
16/05/2025	13.30PM	1h 30	OCR	GCSE	Business	2	11
16/05/2025	9AM	2h	AQA	GCSE	History	1	11
19/05/2025	9AM	1h 45	AQA	GCSE	Chemistry	1	11
19/05/2025	9AM	1h 15	AQA	GCSE	Combined Science Chemistry	1	11
19/05/2025	13.30PM	1h 30	Edexcel	GCSE	Physical Education	Component 1	11
20/05/2025	13.30PM	1h 30	OCR	GCSE	Computer Science	2	11
20/05/2025	9AM	2h 30	WJEC	GCSE	English Literature	Component 2	11
21/05/2025	13.30PM	1h 30	WJEC	GCSE	RE	Component 2	11
21/05/2025	9AM	1h	AQA	GCSE	French	Reading	11
21/05/2025	9AM	35m	AQA	GCSE	French	Listening	11
21/05/2025	9AM	45m	AQA	GCSE	French	Listening	11
21/05/2025	9AM	45m	AQA	GCSE	French	Reading	11
22/05/2025	9AM	1h 15	AQA	GCSE	Combined Science Physics	1	11
22/05/2025	13.30PM	1h 30	WJEC	GCSE	Media Studies	Component 2	11
22/05/2025	9AM	1h 45	AQA	GCSE	Physics	1	11
23/05/2025	9AM	1h 45	WJEC	GCSE	English Language (Resit)	Component 1	10
02/06/2025	9AM	45m	AQA	GCSE	Italian	Listening	11
02/06/2025	9AM	1h	AQA	GCSE	Italian	Reading	11
03/06/2025	13.30PM	1h	AQA	GCSE	Polish	Reading	11
03/06/2025	13.30PM	45m	AQA	GCSE	Polish	Listening	11
04/06/2025	13.30PM	1h	WJEC	GCSE	RE	Component 3	11
04/06/2025	9AM	1h 30	Edexcel	GCSE	Mathematics	2	11
05/06/2025	13.30PM	1h	AQA	GCSE	French	Writing	11
05/06/2025	13.30PM	1h 15	AQA	GCSE	French	Writing	11
05/06/2025	9AM	2h	AQA	GCSE	History	2	11
06/06/2025	9AM	2h	WJEC	GCSE	English Language (Resit)	Component 2	10
06/06/2025	13.30PM	1h 30	Edexcel	GCSE	Geography	2	11
09/06/2025	9AM	1h 45	AQA	GCSE	Biology	2	11
09/06/2025	9AM	1h 15	AQA	GCSE	Combined Science Biology	2	11
09/06/2025	13.30PM	1h 30	OCR	Cambridge National	Creative Imedia	1	11
09/06/2025	13.30PM	1h 15	AQA	GCSE	Italian	Writing	11
09/06/2025	13.30PM	1h 15	Edexcel	GCSE	Physical Education	Component 2	11
10/06/2025	9AM	1h	AQA	GCSE	Spanish	Reading	11
10/06/2025	9AM	35m	AQA	GCSE	Spanish	Listening	11
10/06/2025	9AM	45m	AQA	GCSE	Spanish	Listening	11
10/06/2025	9AM	45m	AQA	GCSE	Spanish	Reading	11
11/06/2025	9AM	1h 30	Edexcel	GCSE	Mathematics	3	11
12/06/2025	9AM	1h 30	Edexcel	GCSE	Geography	3	11
13/06/2025	9AM	1h 45	AQA	GCSE	Chemistry	2	11
13/06/2025	9AM	1h 15	AQA	GCSE	Combined Science Chemistry	2	11
13/06/2025	13.30PM	1h 15	AQA	GCSE	Polish	Writing	11
16/06/2025	9AM	1h 15	AQA	GCSE	Combined Science Physics	2	11
16/06/2025	13.30PM	1h 15	WJEC	GCSE	Music Component 3 Appraising	3	11
16/06/2025	9AM	1h 45	AQA	GCSE	Physics	2	11
17/06/2025	13.30PM	1h 45	WJEC	GCSE	Catering	1	11
17/06/2025	9AM	1h	AQA	GCSE	Spanish	Writing	11
17/06/2025	9AM	1h 15	AQA	GCSE	Spanish	Writing	11
18/06/2025	9AM	1h 45	Edexcel	GCSE	D&T (Timbers)	1F	11