



PROUD TO BE A PART OF



WALTON HIGH SCHOOL

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Year 11 Mock Examinations – December 2025

As part of our continued commitment to preparing students for their final GCSE examinations in Summer 2026, Year 11 students will be sitting a full set of *mock examinations* between **Thursday 27th November and Friday 12th December 2025**. The general **mock exam timetable** is attached to this letter and is also available on the school website under Student Information – Exams; students will also receive a personalised copy of their mock exam timetable with only the subjects that they study in November via their Form Tutor.

These examinations are an important milestone in your child's academic journey, providing both students and teachers with a clear picture of current progress and areas for further development. They also give students valuable experience of sitting exams under *formal JCQ (Joint Council for Qualifications)* conditions, mirroring exactly how the summer series will operate.

Examination Arrangements

The mock examinations will run in the same way as the **Summer 2026 GCSEs**, with all JCQ rules and regulations applied. This includes following exam hall protocols, seating plans, invigilation, and the use of approved materials only.

The schedule for the mock examinations is as follows:

- **English:** Language Papers 1 and 2, and 1 Literature Paper
- **Science:** 3 papers in total – one for each discipline (Biology, Chemistry, and Physics) for both Combined and Triple Science students
- **Mathematics:** A full suite of 3 papers covering all topics
- **Non-core subjects:** 1 paper per subject
- **French/German:** Writing papers completed in class time
- **Drama:** additional practical assessments completed in class time
- Subjects may assess additional aspects of the course during lesson time during the month of December to support an accurate collection of current assessment data if they require – your child's subject teacher will inform your child if this will be scheduled.

Due to the differing lengths of mock examinations, students may receive different breaktimes to those offered to the rest of the school and may wish to bring their own breaktime refreshments. Year 11 lunchtime will remain as normal. Afternoon examinations start at 1.30pm; in the case of an afternoon examination finishing earlier than the end of the school day, students will be released to go home from 3.10pm at the earliest. If your child has formal Exam Access Arrangements approved, these Access Arrangements will be planned for and provided for them. If your

child is eligible for extra time during examinations, transport home may be affected for afternoon exams so please take this into consideration when making transport/collection arrangements. If your child is eligible for extra time, they have the right to use the full amount or to use none/part of this extra time; they will be asked to sign to say that they do not wish to use their full quota of extra time if they wish to leave the examination hall before the end of their exam in line with JCQ rules.

Please support your child's progress and attainment by ensuring their attendance during this important examination period. If your child is absent for any of their Mock examinations, every effort will be made to support them to sit their examination papers in exam conditions week commencing 15th December, which are scheduled contingency days.

Preparing Effectively for the Mocks

To help students perform to the best of their ability, we encourage them to begin **structured revision now**. Effective preparation involves:

- **Creating a realistic revision timetable** that balances all subjects and includes regular breaks.
- **Using class notes, revision guides, and past papers** to consolidate knowledge and practise exam-style questions.
- **Attending revision sessions** offered by departments and asking teachers for support on any difficult topics.
- **Reviewing feedback** from class assessments and targeting weaker areas.
- **Maintaining healthy routines** – including good sleep, balanced meals, and time for rest and exercise.

We recommend that parents support their child by providing a quiet study space, monitoring their progress against a revision plan, and encouraging positive study habits. A timetable of Year 11 revision sessions that your child is able to access in school is attached to this letter, as well the GCSE Exam board information and a parent and student guide on Effective Revision Strategies.

The Importance of the Mock Exams

Mock exams form an essential part of the preparation process. Results will help teachers to identify strengths and areas needing improvement, inform targeted intervention, and support decisions about exam entries and estimated grades. They also give students a realistic understanding of what to expect in the final examinations. Mock examinations are incredibly important as students' mock examination grades may be used in the event of major disruption to the public examinations series in accordance with **The JCQ Joint Contingency Plan for the Examination System in England**.

We appreciate your continued support as we work together to ensure that every student feels confident and prepared for their GCSEs. Students and parents will receive the mock examination results at their '**Mock Results Day**' on **30th January 2026**; this will enable you the opportunity to have in depth conversations with your child's teachers about their attainment at **Y11 Parents Evening on 3rd February 2026**. A detailed report on your child's progress and attainment will be sent out in late February 2026.

If you have any questions about the mock examinations or your child's preparation, please do not hesitate to contact **Miss Humphries, Head of Year 11** or your child's subject teachers.

Yours sincerely,
Mrs S Barker

Deputy Headteacher

Walton High School