



'RESPECT RESPONSIBILITY EXCELLENCE'

NEWRY HIGH SCHOOL

April 2026

Dear Parent / Guardian

I am writing to you in order to clarify the examination and study leave arrangements for Year 11 external GCSE modular examinations. Year 11 students have GCSE examinations in the following subjects:

| Date | Start | Length | Subject / Module |
|----------------|-------|--------|---------------------------------|
| Thurs 30 April | 10.00 | 01:15 | Btec Sport Unit 1 |
| Tue 5 May | 13:30 | 01:00 | LLW Unit 1 |
| Thurs 7 May | 09:15 | 01:45 | English Lang Unit 1 |
| Fri 8 May | 09:15 | 01:00 | L.L.W. Unit 2 |
| Mon 11 May | 09:15 | 01:45 | English Lit Unit 1 [Prose] |
| Mon 11 May | 13:30 | 01:30 | Business Studies Unit 1 |
| Mon 11 May | 13:30 | 01:45 | Chinese listening & reading |
| Tue 12 May | 09:15 | 01:30 | RE unit 6 |
| Tue 12 May | 13:30 | 01:00 | Das: Biology Unit 1 [H] & [F] |
| Tue 12 May | 13:30 | 01:00 | SAS: Biology Unit 1 |
| Wed 13 May | 09:15 | 01:30 | Geography Unit 1 |
| Thurs 14 May | 09:15 | 01:00 | Maths unit 1/2/3/4 |
| Mon 18 May | 09:15 | 01:00 | Das: Chemistry Unit 1 [H] & [F] |
| Mon 18 May | 13:30 | 01:15 | Chinese Writing Test |
| Wed 20 May | 09:15 | 02:00 | Bus & Comm Systems (ICT) unit 1 |
| Fri 22 May | 09:15 | 01:30 | Das: Physics Unit 1 H] & [F] |
| Thurs 28 May | 13:30 | 01:30 | Tech and Design Unit 1 |
| Tue 02 Jun | 13:30 | 01:45 | Polish listening & reading test |
| Wed 10 June | 13:30 | 01:00 | Tech & Design Unit 2 |
| Fri 12 Jun | 13:30 | 01:15 | Polish Writing Test |

These examinations contribute to the pupils' final GCSE grades that the pupils will achieve in August 2027. The examinations start on the 5 May, and this is a stressful time for our students. However, it is important to find a balance between allowing students adequate preparation time for their examinations and minimizing the disruption to all their other subjects over this period of time.

Therefore, the arrangements for this period are as follows:

- **Study leave for Year 11 pupils (except for 11V2) on Tuesday 5 May, Wednesday 6 May and Thursday 7 May.** There will be **no formal classes / teaching during this period.**
- At all other times pupils are **allowed 1 day of study leave** the day **before** they have an examination
- Pupils are allowed study leave in **the morning** if they have an examination in **the afternoon**
- **At all other times pupils are expected to attend all lessons as normal** e.g., **pupils must return to class after a morning examination**
- The **normal teaching timetable will continue in classes from Friday 8 May**
- Staff in all subjects have been instructed not to set normal homework for Year 11 pupils from Tuesday 5 May until Friday 22 May (revision homework for examination subjects may still be set)

- A study room (room 3) will be available for any pupil who cannot get home in between an exam / study leave session or would prefer to revise / study in school.

Examination timetables have been issued to all pupils along with the examination procedures, rules and regulations provided by the examination boards. Please remind your son/daughter to carefully check the date and time of each of their examinations and to follow all school rules for examinations. In order to minimise the disruption to teaching, I would appreciate the support of parents/carers in ensuring that all Year 11 students correctly follow the above arrangements.

Also, for your information the examination boards have a range of guidance and support documents on their websites. The main links for the CCEA examination board are:

- <https://ccea.org.uk/students-parents>
- <https://ccea.org.uk/students-parents/exams-results-support>

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our pupils every success in their examinations and if you wish to discuss this issue further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully



Mr. I. Brown

(Principal)