

Year 11 Mock Examinations Tuesday 11th to Friday 21st November 2025

Dear Parents, Carers and Guardians

I am writing to share with you information about the upcoming Year 11 mock examinations.

The first four days of the mock examinations, from Tuesday 11th to Friday 14th November, will be a particularly concentrated period of exams, as many students will sit eight papers. We have therefore decided that **students will be permitted study leave**, which means that when not in school for examinations, they can use their time to revise at home. Lessons will be suspended for this period.

From Tuesday 11th to Friday 14th November, students will be expected to leave the school site when their exam has finished, including between morning and afternoon exams. If students are not able to go home between the morning and afternoon sessions due to the distance that they live away from the school, there will be limited provision on site for supervised private revision. If this applies to your child, please make contact with the school by emailing info@northgate.suffolk.sch.uk for the attention of Mr Pettitt as soon as possible, but by the end of **Monday 3rd November at the latest**, to book a place – this will enable us to plan an appropriate venue and staffing. **We will not be able to accept requests after this date.**

Students who are entitled to a free school meal are welcome to access the canteen between 12.35 and 1.10pm during this four-day period.

For the remainder of the mock examination period, from Monday 17th November to Friday 21st November, students will attend lessons when not in an exam. Students with an afternoon exam will be permitted to leave Lesson 3 at 12.35 to have lunch and a break before their exam.

The mock exams will have the same start times as the external exams - morning session at 9.00am, afternoon session at 1.30pm. **Students must arrive 15 minutes before these times** to ensure a prompt start.

The mock exam timetable is available on the Northgate website in the [Learning/Examinations/Year 11 mock exams](#) section. Students with extra time access arrangements should go to the venue on the exam timetable *unless their SEN access arrangement includes use of a laptop or reader*, in which case they should report to A32 in Learning Support at least 15 mins before the start time.

Students will receive their personalised mock examination timetable via the Bromcom Student Portal in due course, once tiers of entry have been finalised. Please take the time to go through this timetable with your child; any errors should be reported to the exams office immediately. In a small number of cases students may find that they have an exam clash; where this is the case they will be contacted prior to half term with details of arrangements for managing this.

I would like to take this opportunity to express how important your role is in ensuring that your child is fully prepared for their exams and approaches them seriously. The results achieved in the mock exams will inform decisions about predicted grades and tiers of entry for the summer series. In addition, whilst we are expecting examinations to take place next summer, if a decision was taken nationally that they could not run, mock exams would be used as a source of evidence to help us determine teacher-assessed grades.

We would appreciate your support in ensuring your child has the correct equipment and arrives on time for all exams wearing full school uniform. Students should only have a clear bottle of clear water that has no label or

writing on it. The exam boards stress that it is the responsibility of the student to come with the correct equipment, so we recommend that a clear pencil case with black biro, ruler, protractor, compass, pencil, rubber and a calculator should be brought to all exams. We will not be loaning any equipment to students. We would ask that students ensure that they visit the toilet prior to taking their exams, as toilet breaks are very disruptive and should only be taken in an emergency or in case of medical need.

Students are not permitted to have the following in their possession in the exam room: earphones/earbuds, mobile phones, any type of watch, iPods, MP3/4 players or similar devices, smart glasses or tablets.

We have produced a number of resources to help students to revise effectively. These can be found on the school website in [Learning/How to Learn at GCSE](#). There are videos on how to learn effectively and useful revision techniques. In addition, there is some subject-specific advice on the relevant curriculum pages of the website. Staff will also be supporting students during lessons and by setting homework tasks. The Revision Centre will be open as usual during the mock period should students wish to use it - Monday to Thursday from 3.15pm until 4.30pm.

Predicted grades will be generated after the mock exams; we will issue them as part of a progress check in the last week of term. Post-16 providers may ask for these grades – it is the grades issued on this progress check that they will need.

Please note that in addition to this mock examination period, there will be two further mock exams, one each for English and maths on Wednesday 11th March 2026. Further information about this will follow nearer the time.

We are required to share with you information from JCQ regarding exam courses in general, written examinations, non-examined assessment and coursework. This can be found on the Northgate website in [Learning/Examinations/Information for candidates](#). We would be grateful if you could read these documents and discuss them with your child.

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely

Mrs A Hope
Assistant Headteacher