



# Ark Isaac Newton Academy

Date: 16/1/23

Dear Parent,

**RE: Spring GCSE Mock Exams, week beginning Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2023**

Year 11 will complete their final set of GCSE mock exams in the window 30<sup>th</sup> January to 28<sup>th</sup> February 2023. **Please note that on the 1<sup>st</sup> of February (which is an Inset Day) all Year 11 students are expected to come in to school to sit their English Literature Paper 2 exam in the morning.** Students are expected to come in full school uniform and leave after the exam has finished.

Please find the timetable attached below. This will provide students and teachers with valuable information, supporting students to maximise the impact of their study time. These mock exams will set your child up for success as they prepare for their actual GCSEs. This period should be taken seriously as it will give you, your child, and their teachers a clear indication of where they are on their path to GCSE excellence.

**During the mock period**

- We will be running revision sessions from 8:00 a.m every morning where students will be provided a free breakfast. **Students should be in school no later than 8.25 am** every day.
- Students should be in school for the full day every day. **Attendance and punctuality during this period remain vital!** Please do not make any appointments for your child during this time.
- As your child completes their exams, they will return to their normal timetabled lesson.

You can help your child by making sure your child has the full equipment they need for their exams. They will require:

- A **clear** pencil case with at least TWO Black Pens, pencil, eraser, sharpener, ruler, protractor and scientific calculator.
- A water bottle (this must be clear with no labels and contain only water).

Our mock exam regulations are very clear and detailed. Not following them can lead to disqualification. To avoid this, students must:

- Begin exam papers only when instructed to do so
- Switch off and hand in all devices, including mobile phones and watches, before the start of each exam. We advise that students **do not** bring these items in on assessment days.
- Follow the instructions given by staff inside and outside the exam hall.
- Not to communicate or distract other candidates during the examination.
- Stay in the exam hall under exam regulations for the duration of each examination (unless otherwise instructed).

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## How to support your son/ daughter

- Students should use a range of online and offline resources, including revision guides, notes from class, flash cards, textbooks, Youtube, specialist websites such as Dr Frost (maths) and Mr Bruff (English).
- Advice for students on how to revise and structure revision:
  - Students should not be revising all day, every day as this is not productive, leading to a drop in concentration and burnout. 4 hours a day during school holidays is sensible.
  - Students should divide their time between the 3 Rs: **Revise, Reward and Recharge**.
  - During revision sessions, **mobile phones should be kept outside the revision room**. They are a source of distraction and not the best tool for revision. **The PC/ laptop works for online revision not a mobile**.
  - After each focused revision session comes the **reward**, e.g. a chat, a snack, a chance to use their mobile phone. These are short time outs to let the brain refresh and for your child to feel pleased with their accomplishments.
  - Build in times to **recharge**, to meet friends, play a sport, watch a film. These should be planned in alongside revision sessions.
  - Encourage your son/ daughter to keep going. It will get considerably easier once good habits are formed.
- Study tips for students:
  - **Retrieval practice** – remember to test yourself on what you have revised/ learned. This makes learning stick. Try **look-cover-write-check** as a method to memorise key knowledge. It feels hard, but it works and you'll see how what you remember grows.
  - **Interleaving** – Mix the order you revise topics in, e.g., revise A then B then C on day 1, B then C then A on day 2, and then C then A then B on day 3.
  - **Highest leverage topics** – Don't start with the easiest nor the hardest content. Instead, focus on the topics you got wrong or made mistakes in. Prioritise these for practice and review.
  - **Practice papers** – the final rather than the first option for revision. These become increasingly important the closer you get to final assessment. These can be found online or ask your teachers.

**Please take time to discuss this with your child.**

GCSE mock exams are a very demanding time for students. We are working hard to prepare them as thoroughly as possible. If you are concerned about your child and wish to seek advice or support please contact the school.



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Finally, we want to thank you for your support and help in preparing your child for their mock exams. I am sure we will join you in wishing them all the best. We look forward to seeing their well-deserved results.

Yours sincerely,

Sabah Ghani  
Assistant Principal



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Date	Start	Time Allowed	Exam
30/01/2023	08:30	132 (105) mins	Y11 Drama Component 3
30/01/2023	13:50	94 (75) mins	Y11 Music
31/01/2023	08:30	75 (60) mins	Y11 PE Paper 1
31/01/2023	13:50	132 (105) mins	Y11 Religious Studies (Y11 RS Paper 1)
01/02/2023	08:30	169 (135) mins	Y11 English Literature Paper 2
02/02/2023	08:30	75 (60) mins	Y11 PE Paper 2
02/02/2023	13:50	113 (90) mins	Y11 Computer Science Paper 1
03/02/2023	08:30	94 (75) mins	Y11 History Paper 1
03/02/2023	13:50	113 (90) mins	Y11 Geography Paper 1
06/02/2023	08:30	132 (105) mins	Y11 English Language Paper 1
06/02/2023	13:50	100 (80) mins	Y11 French Foundation (Y11 French Listening + Reading Foundation)
06/02/2023	13:50	100 (80) mins	Y11 Spanish Foundation (Y11 Spanish Listening + Reading Foundation)
06/02/2023	13:50	105 mins	Y11 French Higher (Y11 French Listening + Reading Higher)
06/02/2023	13:50	105 mins	Y11 Spanish Higher (Y11 Spanish Listening + Reading Higher)
07/02/2023	08:30	113 (90) mins	Y11 Maths Higher (Y11 Maths Paper 1 Higher)
07/02/2023	08:30	113 (90) mins	Y11 Maths Foundation (Y11 Maths Paper 1 Foundation)
07/02/2023	13:50	113 (90) mins	Y11 Geography Paper 2
08/02/2023	08:30	94 (75) mins	Y11 Combined Science Higher (Y11 CS Biology Paper 1 Higher)
08/02/2023	08:30	94 (75) mins	Y11 Combined Science Foundation (Y11 CS Biology Paper 1 Foundation)
08/02/2023	08:30	132 (105) mins	Y11 Biology Higher (Y11 Biology Paper 1 Higher)
08/02/2023	08:30	132 (105) mins	Y11 Biology Foundation (Y11 Biology Paper 1 Foundation)
08/02/2023	13:50	132 (105) mins	Y11 Religious Studies (Y11 RS Paper 2)
09/02/2023	08:30	132 (105) mins	Y11 English Literature Paper 1
09/02/2023	13:50	132 (105) mins	Y11 History Paper 2
10/02/2023	08:30	113 (90) mins	Y11 Maths Foundation (Y11 Maths Paper 2 Foundation)
10/02/2023	08:30	113 (90) mins	Y11 Maths Higher (Y11 Maths Paper 2 Higher)
10/02/2023	13:50	82 (65) mins	Y11 French Foundation (Y11 French Writing Foundation)
10/02/2023	13:50	94 (75) mins	Y11 Spanish Foundation (Y11 Spanish Writing Foundation)
10/02/2023	13:50	80 mins	Y11 French Higher (Y11 French Writing Higher)
10/02/2023	13:50	80 mins	Y11 Spanish Higher (Y11 Spanish Writing Higher)
20/02/2023	08:30	94 (75) mins	Y11 Combined Science Foundation (Y11 CS Chemistry Foundation)
20/02/2023	08:30	94 (75) mins	Y11 Combined Science Higher (Y11 CS Chemistry Higher)
20/02/2023	08:30	132 (105) mins	Y11 Chemistry Higher (Y11 Chemistry Paper 1 Higher)
20/02/2023	08:30	132 (105) mins	Y11 Chemistry Foundation (Y11 Chemistry Paper 1 Foundation)
20/02/2023	13:50	100 (80) mins	Y11 History Paper 3
21/02/2023	08:30	132 (105) mins	Y11 English Language Paper 2
21/02/2023	13:50	94 (75) mins	Y11 Physics Foundation (Y11 Physics Paper 1 Foundation)
21/02/2023	13:50	94 (75) mins	Y11 Combined Science Higher (Y11 CS Physics Paper 1 Higher)
21/02/2023	13:50	132 (105) mins	Y11 Physics Higher (Y11 Physics Paper 1 Higher)
21/02/2023	13:50	132 (105) mins	Y11 Combined Science Foundation (Y11 CS Physics Paper 1 Foundation)
22/02/2023	08:30	94 (75) mins	Y11 Geography Paper 3
22/02/2023	13:50	94 (75) mins	Y11 Combined Science Foundation (Y11 CS Biology Paper 2 Foundation)
22/02/2023	13:50	94 (75) mins	Y11 Combined Science Higher (Y11 CS Biology Paper 2 Higher)
22/02/2023	13:50	132 (105) mins	Y11 Biology Foundation (Y11 Biology Paper 2 Foundation)
22/02/2023	13:50	132 (105) mins	Y11 Biology Higher (Y11 Biology Paper 2 Higher)
23/02/2023	08:30	113 (90) mins	Y11 Maths Foundation (Y11 Maths Paper 3 Foundation)
23/02/2023	08:30	113 (90) mins	Y11 Maths Higher (Y11 Maths Paper 3 Higher)
23/02/2023	13:50	94 (75) mins	Y11 Combined Science Foundation (Y11 CS Chemistry Paper 2 Foundation)
23/02/2023	13:50	94 (75) mins	Y11 Combined Science Higher (Y11 CS Chemistry Paper 2 Higher)
23/02/2023	13:50	132 (105) mins	Y11 Chemistry Higher (Y11 Chemistry Paper 2 Higher)
23/02/2023	13:50	132 (105) mins	Y11 Chemistry Foundation (Y11 Chemistry Paper 2 Foundation)
24/02/2023	08:30	94 (75) mins	Y11 Combined Science Higher (Y11 CS Physics Paper 2 Higher)
24/02/2023	08:30	132 (105) mins	Y11 Physics Higher (Y11 Physics Paper 2 Higher)
24/02/2023	08:30	132 (105) mins	Y11 Physics Foundation (Y11 Physics Paper 2 Foundation)
24/02/2023	08:30	132 (105) mins	Y11 Combined Science Foundation (Y11 CS Physics Paper 2 Foundation)
24/02/2023	13:50	113 (90) mins	Y11 Computer Science Paper 2
27/02/2023	13:50	132 (105) mins	Y11 Further Maths Paper 1
28/02/2023	08:30	132 (105) mins	Y11 Further Maths Paper 2