Willow Bank School

'Better Together'

Executive Headteacher: Mr S Deadman
Willow Bank School
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2 November 2026

Dear Y11 Parents/Carers and Students,

Welcome back to the second half of the Autumn Term. With a busy lead up to the Christmas holidays we write to update you on a few key events for this half term and beyond.

Mock Exams

Mock exams will take place from **2nd - 15th December**. Please find attached an overview timetable. Students will receive an individual timetable closer to the exams showing when they will take each of their exams. If students are on part time timetables we will endeavour to fit mock exams into their current timetable - this may be different from the attached.

The mock exam for **GCSE Art** will take place on **Wednesday 2nd December** or **Thursday 10th December** 9.30am – 3.10pm. Students will be allocated one of these days - this will be shown on their individual timetable.

Mock exams are a valuable process, not only for finding out what students know but to prepare them for the exam season. Mocks help the school to plan for the needs of all students in the real exams. Our teachers will be working with students to support their revision for the upcoming mocks.

Summer Exams 2027

The final summer 2027 exam timetable has been published and is available on the school website.

As part of contingency arrangements, schools are required to gather evidence of student performance that would be used to determine grades in the unlikely event that exams and assessments could not go ahead as planned. Mock exams will be used for this purpose.

School Website - Exams

Our school website contains a useful section relating to exams. Here you will find timetables, JCQ documentation, handy guides and policies relating to exams. This can be found in the STUDENT section of the website, under EXAMS.

Homework

To support preparation for GCSE courses, students will be set homework by their teachers. Regularly completing additional work at home will help to consolidate learning and build confidence, as well as support helpful routines for revision, as we move towards the final exams.

All students have access to SPARX Maths. We would encourage students to login and complete independent learning tasks.

In addition, there are homework booklets available, which can be found on the school website, if students are looking for further opportunities to work independently.

Attendance and Timetable Increases

Every year we can see the connection between good qualifications and good attendance at school. While part-time timetables have a place in helping students who are unwell to manage school on a stable timetable, students should attend as fully as their health allows. Please contact your child's tutor if further timetable increases can be managed.

If you have any further questions then please contact your child's tutor in the first instance.

We look forward to working with your child.

Yours sincerely,



Diane Davies
Head of Willow Bank School
Director of Curriculum, Assessment and Standards

Year 11 Mock Exam Timetable 2026

AM: 9.20 start / PM: 1.30 start

	1 9.30 – 10.20	2 10.20 - 11.10	3 11.30 - 12.20	Personal Development 12.20 - 12.50	4 1.30 - 2.20	5 2.20 - 3.10
Mon 30/11						
Tues 01/12						
Wed 02/12	Art (Group 1)					
	Health & Social Care (1h 20)					
Thurs 03/12	Language 1 (1h 45)				Biology 1 (1h 15)	
Fri 04/12						

	1 9.30 – 10.20	2 10.20 - 11.10	3 11.30 - 12.20	Personal Development 12.20 - 12.50	4 1.30 - 2.20	5 2.20 - 3.10
Mon 07/12	Chemistry 1 (1h 15)					
Tues 08/12	Maths 1 Non Calc (1h 30)				Physics 1 (1h 15)	
Wed 09/12	Literature 1 (1h 45)				Number & Measure (1h 30)	
Thurs 10/12	Art (Group 2)					
	Film Studies 1 (1hr)					
Fri 11/12						

	1 9.30 – 10.20	2 10.20 - 11.10	3 11.30 - 12.20	Personal Development 12.20 - 12.50	4 1.30 - 2.20	5 2.20 - 3.10
Mon 14/12	Maths 2 Calc (1h 30)				Film Studies 2 (1hr)	
Tues 15/12	Language 2 (2h 05)					