

Year 11 Key Future Dates 2022/23

Date	Event
Wednesday 10 th May 2023	Assembly outlining final exam information/preparations LINK TO PowerPoint
Monday 15 th May 2023	GCSE Exams start
Tuesday 19 th June 2023	Last scheduled GCSE Exam at Venerable Bede
Friday 30 th June 2023	Year 11 Prom (Ramside Hall)
Thursday 24 th August 2023	GCSE Exam Results Day

Year 11 Exam Season Revision Schedule

We have collated a 'night before' revision schedule which will run throughout the exam season. This will allow for subject specific revision the night before an exam the next day and will replace the current schedule on Friday 12 May. **The 'night before' revision schedule can be found [HERE](#).**

Year 11 Summer 2023 Exams: Ofqual

Here are some frequently asked questions and details of some helpful information ahead of the exams starting next week:

When are exams in 2023?

GCSE exams will start on 15 May 2023 with the final exam for pupils at Venerable Bede scheduled on Monday 19 June 2023.

BTEC exams and formal assessments have been taking place throughout the year and continue this term.

Every pupil has been given a personalised timetable, according to the subjects they study, of when each of their exams are. A generic timetable of ALL GCSE and BTEC Exams can be found [HERE](#)

When is the 2023 GCSE results day?

GCSE students will be able to find out their results on **Thursday 24 August 2023**. Further information will follow about results day after the exams are finished

What is the latest on exam arrangements for 2023?

Most GCSE exams and assessments in England will return to pre-pandemic arrangements this summer. To acknowledge that students may still have experienced some disruption they will continue to be supported in GCSE maths, physics and combined science with formulae and equation sheets during exams.

There will also be protection for students taking GCSEs, AS levels and A levels when it comes to grading, which we explain below.

The GCSE exam timetable has also been designed to space out exam papers in the same subject to give students more time to revise between papers than before the pandemic.

More information on what support is available, how to prepare for exams and who marks your work is available on [Gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk) and through the [Joint Council for Qualifications](https://www.jointcouncil.org.uk).

How will exams be graded?

In September 2021, when students began studying their GCSE course, Ofqual set out a two year plan for grading. Last September, Ofqual confirmed a return to pre-pandemic grading in 2023, with protection in place for GCSEs against the impact of disruption, including from the COVID-19 pandemic.

This year grading will include an allowance for disruption so that overall results will be similar to those of 2019. So where national performance is found to be lower than it was prior to the pandemic, senior examiners will make allowances when setting grade boundaries.

Broadly speaking, this means that a student should be just as likely to achieve a particular grade this year as they would have been before the pandemic.

It's important to remember there is no limit or cap on the number of students who can achieve each grade. Students will be awarded a grade that reflects their performance.

As always, exams will be marked by independent examiners, using the published mark schemes. Grading happens after marking, and to ensure fairness is done year by year because the papers change from one year to the next.

Ofqual makes sure it is no easier or harder to get a grade in a subject between one board and another. [For more on grading and how it works see Ofqual's website](#).

What is 'special consideration'?

Special consideration is any adjustment given to a student who has experienced a temporary event outside of their control **at the time of the exam or assessment** which **significantly** affects their ability to take an assessment or show what they can do in an assessment.

Special consideration is only for things that happen **immediately before or during an exam or assessment** that have a significant effect on a student's ability to take that exam or assessment, or on how they performed.

To be eligible for special consideration you must have been **fully prepared for the assessment and have covered the whole course**. You will **not** be eligible for special consideration because your education was disrupted, either by the pandemic or for any other reason.

There are 3 different types of special consideration:

- changes to the way assessments are taken if you have **temporary injuries or illnesses**, sometimes referred to as 'access arrangements'. For example, a student with a broken arm may have someone write their dictated answers
- a **small number of extra marks** may be awarded if your exam performance is affected by **temporary illness, injury, or other unforeseen circumstance**
- awarding a grade if you unavoidably missed an exam or assessment, **as long as you have completed at least one other exam or assessment for that qualification**

Once I get my results, what should I do if I think there is a mistake in the marking of my exam(s) or in my results?

If you think there has been a mistake in the marking of your exams or assessments, you need to **let school know on results day or as soon as possible after that**. We will discuss this with you and can ask the awarding organisation to check if there were any errors in how your exam or assessment was marked. If school decides not to take forward your request for an awarding organisation to review the marking of your work, you can us to review that decision.

If school asks for a review of marking and the awarding organisation does not find any mistakes, your mark will not change, so your grade will not change.

If the awarding organisation finds a mistake, **your mark could go up or down**. If your mark changes, this could mean that your grade stays the same, goes up or goes down.

An awarding organisation cannot give you extra marks just because your mark was close to a grade boundary or because you did not get the grade your school or college predicted. If you don't get the grade school predicted, it does not automatically mean something has gone wrong with the marking or grading of your exam.

Year 11 Seneca Learning

Seneca Premium is ideal in supporting your child's revision in the final run up to their examinations this summer.

What is Seneca & How should my child use Seneca Premium?

Seneca Learning is an online learning platform that has high-quality courses for all GCSE subjects. Your child will be able to log into Seneca on a phone, tablet or computer and study any of their school GCSE subjects. All pupil accounts have been set up with their school email addresses – please see below. There is a useful PowerPoint [[LINK](#)] that Seneca have put together with top tips for pupils about how to use the package.

Logging in (information for pupils)

All pupils have a Seneca Premium account. They can login to Seneca by visiting app.senecalearning.com

Pupils can access their Seneca Premium account using the following account details:

- If you already have a Seneca account linked to a school email, your login details will not change.
- If setting up a new account with **your school email address**, when logging in for the first time, please use the following version of your email address:

fred.bloggs23@venerablebede.co.uk

(i.e. **NOT** the shortened fbloggs@venerablebede.co.uk version)

and the password: **seneca2020**

It is REALLY important that pupils change their password the first time they log in.

Year 11 Sources of Revision

Our [2022/23 Examination Preparation & Revision Guide](#) is an ideal place to find key information to help support your child as they approach their exams. It is also a great place to find ideas for how to revise. Exams can be a challenging time for us all but hopefully, by working in partnership, we can ensure that pupils are as supported and prepared as they can be for any exams they need to take, knowing that we all 'did our best' along the way. The following table shows some recommended revision websites for each GCSE subject:

Subject & Exam Board	Recommended Revision Website(s)
English Language (Edexcel)	BBC Bitesize: Language Edexcel: English Language
English Literature (Edexcel)	BBC Bitesize: Literature Edexcel: Literature Oak National Academy
Mathematics (AQA)	Corbett Maths Mr Barton Maths Maths Genie Dr Frost Maths
Biology (Edexcel)	BBC Bitesize: Biology (Separate Science) Free Science Lessons Cognito
Chemistry (Edexcel)	BBC Bitesize: Chemistry (Separate Science) Free Science Lessons Cognito
Physics (Edexcel)	BBC Bitesize: Physics (Separate Science) Free Science Lessons Cognito
Combined Science (Edexcel)	BBC Bitesize: Combined Science Free Science Lessons Cognito
Religious Studies (Eduqas)	BBC Bitesize: Religious Studies Eduqas: Religious Studies
Geography (AQA)	BBC Bitesize: Geography Cool Geography
History (Edexcel)	Medicine Through Time: BBC Teach BBC Bitesize: History
Spanish (Eduqas)	BBC Bitesize: Spanish Eduqas: Spanish
Resistant Materials (AQA)	Technology Student BBC Bitesize: Resistant Materials
GCSE PE (Edexcel)	Seneca Learning BBC Bitesize: GCSE PE The PE Classroom
Music (AQA)	BBC Bitesize: Music Teaching Gadget