FAMILIES BULLETIN
23rd October

Year 11 GCSE and Vocational Mock Examinations – 2nd to 13th November 2026

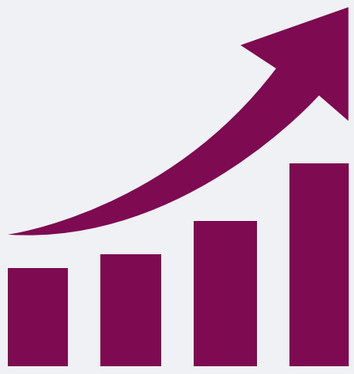
Our first set of Year 11 GCSE and Vocational Mock Examinations will take place from **Monday 2nd November to Friday 13th November 2026.** The timetable can be found here: **Mock Timetable**.

Art Examinations

The Art examinations will take place on **Monday 2nd and Tuesday 3rd November**, with the first full cohort examination taking place on **Wednesday 4th November.**



Why are mocks important?



These examinations are an important opportunity for students to demonstrate their progress and prepare for their final GCSE examinations. The predicted grades generated from these mocks will also be used for sixth form references.

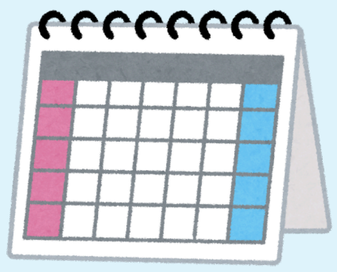
Key Information for parents and carers:

Arrival and exam briefing: Students must arrive on site by **8:30am** and be fully prepared and ready to line up by **8:35am**. The examination briefing will begin promptly at **8:40am**, ahead of examinations starting at **9:00am**.



Students arriving late may not be permitted to sit their scheduled examination and will be required to sit it after school instead.

Students have been issued with personalised examination timetables and should check these carefully.



Some examinations, particularly for students entitled to 25% or 50% extra time, may finish after the normal school day. Please check your child's timetable and make any necessary travel or collection arrangements.



Exam Equipment

Students must bring the correct examination equipment in a clear pencil case, including black pens, pencils, a ruler, eraser, calculator and maths equipment.

If they bring a water bottle it must clear with no label.



Uniform and Belongings

Full school uniform is required. Mobile phones, watches and any other electronic devices must be left in lockers. Water is permitted in clear plastic bottles without labels.

Students will not be permitted to wear blazers in the examination hall, so we strongly encourage parents and carers to ensure their child wears a school jumper to keep warm during examinations.

Your Support

At home, you can support your child by:

- Providing a quiet, clutter-free space for them to revise.
- Removing distractions, such as televisions and mobile phones, during revision time.
- Encouraging active revision by ensuring they produce something tangible, such as revision notes, practice exam answers or mind maps, rather than simply reading through their notes.



Eoin Drumm
Assistant Headteacher - KS4

Support Over October Half-Term

We wish all our families a well-rested break over October Half-Term.

Please note that staff will be limited on-site, and they may not respond to emails or calls during this period.

Below are some helpful contacts for additional support over the break.

ROYAL borough of GREENWICH

To report a concern about a child to the Royal Borough of Greenwich.

Report your concerns to Greenwich here

live well greenwich

Advice and support for health, wellbeing and local services.

Call 0800 470 4831

Online referral form

Royal Greenwich Trust School
Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow
PART OF UNIVERSITY SCHOOLS TRUST

If you have a safeguarding concern during the holiday period, you can contact the school safeguarding team.

Email: rgtssafeguardingteam@rgtrustschool.net

Call: 07886 103582

NSPCC

Advice and support for keeping children safe. You can contact the NSPCC for help, advice, or to report a concern.

Call 0808 800 5000

Email: help@NSPCC.org.uk

SAMARITANS

You can access confidential emotional support at any time from Samaritans, either by calling 116 123 or emailing jo@jamaritans.org

childline
ONLINE, ON THE PHONE, ANYTIME

A free, private, and confidential service for young people up to age 19. You can access support online or on the phone.

Call 0800 1111

Website: www.childine.org.uk/

shout
for support in a crisis

24/7 text service, free on all major mobile networks, for anyone in crisis or struggling to cope.

Text 85258 (24/7)

kooth

Free, safe and anonymous online support for young people's mental health and wellbeing.

www.kooth.com/

If a child is in immediate danger, call the police on 999.

Justice Asafo Adjei Jnr
Assistant Headteacher - Safeguarding (DSL) and Attendance

Dates for your diary

Date	Event	Year Group	Timings
Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October	October Half-Term (School Closed)	All	All Day
Monday 2nd November to Friday 13th November	Year 11 Mock Examinations	11	Various
Friday 20th November	INSET Day (School Closed for Students)	All	All Day
Monday 23rd November to Friday 27th November	Year 10 Core Subject Assessments	10	Various
Thursday 3rd December	Year 11 Parents' Evening	11	4-7pm
Monday 21st December to Friday 1st January	Christmas Break (School Closed)	All	All Day
Monday 4th January	INSET Day (School Closed for Students)	All	All Day

Greenwich Sixth Form Open Events

Why open events matter

Please take note of the open events below. It is extremely important that students attend these events wherever possible, as they are a valuable opportunity to see what is available beyond prospectuses and websites.

School / College	Date(s)	Time(s)	Notes
Leigh Academy Halley	Thursday 19th November	5pm to 6.30pm	
Harris Academy Greenwich	Thursday 5th November	4.30pm to 7.00pm	
Leigh Academy Blackheath	Wednesday 11th November	5pm to 7pm	Adult must attend.
London South East Colleges	Tuesday 2nd March Saturday 25th June	5.30pm to 7.30pm 5.30pm to 7.30pm 10am to 1pm	
Plumstead Manor	Thursday 5th November	5pm to 8pm	External students from 6pm Book tickets on Eventbrite
Shooters Hill College	Wednesday 4th November Wednesday 13th January Wednesday 10th March	All events run from 4.30pm to 6.30pm	BSL Signers avaliable upon request
The John Roan School	Tuesday 10th November	5.30pm to 7pm	



Plan your visits
Add dates to your calendar and avoid leaving visits until the last minute



Ask Questions
Ask about courses, entry requirements, enrichment and destinations



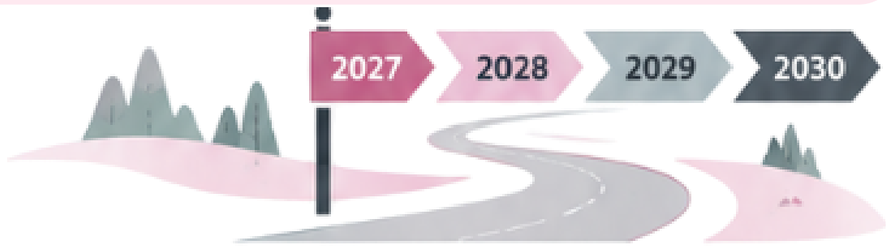
Be Prepared
Check if you need to book or need an adult with you

Ben Dalby
Head of Year 11

Post-16 Education: Important Changes from September 2027

The government is introducing changes to post-16 qualifications from **September 2027**, creating clearer pathways for young people after their GCSEs. These reforms will be introduced gradually between **2027 and 2030** and will provide students with different options depending on their interests, strengths and future career ambitions.

What is changing?



Alongside A Levels and apprenticeships, students will have access to:

V Levels (Level 3)

New vocational qualifications combining practical learning with academic study. Each is equivalent in size to one A Level and can be combined with other V Levels or A Levels.

T Levels (Level 3)

Two-year technical qualifications equivalent in size to three A Levels, including a substantial industry placement. These are designed for students interested in a particular career sector.

Foundation Certificates (Level 2)

One-year qualifications helping students develop the knowledge, skills and confidence needed to progress to Level 3 study.

Occupational Certificates (Level 2)

Two-year qualifications focused on developing the practical skills needed for particular jobs or apprenticeships.

What does this mean for students?

From **September 2027**, the first V Levels will be introduced in Education, Accounting and Finance, and Digital Systems and Data. Further subjects will follow in subsequent years.

Some existing vocational qualifications will gradually be replaced as the new pathways are introduced.

These changes are particularly relevant to current **Year 11 students**, who will begin their post-16 education in **September 2027**.

What happens next?

At RGTS, we will continue to review the reforms and their implications for our Sixth Form curriculum, ensuring that our offer supports students' aspirations, future education and employment opportunities.

Families are encouraged to discuss post-16 options with their children and consider which pathways best match their interests and ambitions. Not every qualification will be available at every school or college, so it is important to check individual providers' offers.

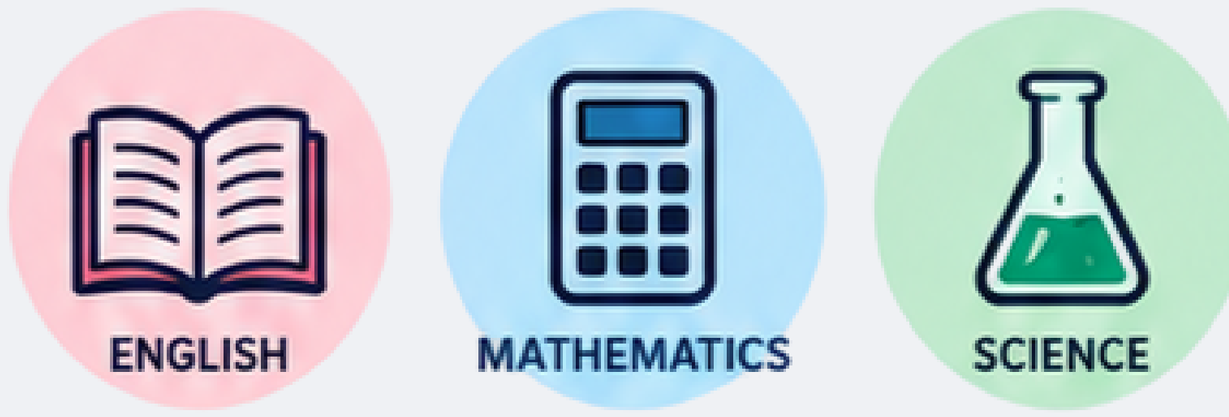
Find out more: **Read the Department for Education's guide to post-16 pathways**.

Tom Williams
Deputy Headteacher - Curriculum

Year 10 Core Assessments – Week Beginning Monday 23rd November 2026

During the week beginning Monday 23rd November, all Year 10 students will complete formal assessments in **English, Mathematics and Science.**

These assessments are an important part of students' GCSE preparation and will provide teachers with a clear understanding of their current progress. The results will help identify strengths, highlight gaps in knowledge and inform the support and intervention needed to ensure students continue to make good progress throughout Key Stage 4.



Key Information for parents and carers:

Assessment Guidance

Please review the Year 10 Mock Exam Guidance - Students & Parents.docx, which outlines the topics students need to revise for each subject, provides hyperlinks to useful revision resources and confirms the length of each examination paper.



Preparation and Revision

Students should begin preparing now by using the guidance document to plan their revision, reviewing key topics and completing all work set by their teachers.

Attendance

It is essential that students attend school regularly, particularly during assessment week, to ensure they do not miss these important assessments.

Attitude and Effort

Students should approach these assessments seriously, giving their best effort and demonstrating what they have learnt so far.

Support at Home

We encourage parents and carers to support their child in establishing a regular revision routine, using the resources provided and seeking help from teachers where needed.

We recognise that students are still in the early stages of their GCSE courses and are not expected to have mastered the full curriculum. However, these assessments provide an important opportunity to establish a clear starting point, build confidence and develop the examination skills and study habits needed for future success.

Eoin Drumm
Assistant Headteacher - KS4

October Half-Term 2026 – Free Activities for Families

With October half-term just around the corner, we have put together a selection of **free activities**, **events and days out** for families to enjoy from **Saturday 24th October to Sunday 1st November 2026**. From creative workshops and museum adventures to outdoor activities and Halloween-themed fun, there are plenty of opportunities to explore, learn and spend quality time together. Our guide includes activities across Greenwich, Bexley and wider London, with options suitable for children of all ages, including teenagers and those with additional needs. Some activities may require advance booking, so we encourage families to check the event details and availability before attending. We hope you have a wonderful and enjoyable half-term break!

Greenwich

National Maritime Museum – October Half-Term Activities

Creepy-crawly themed craft workshops, storytelling, science activities and family trails. Many sessions are drop-in, with something different happening throughout the week.

Queen's House – Family Workshops and Trails

Meet historical characters on 25th October and 1st November, explore free family trails, or enjoy creative workshops including Crimson Marvels (28th October), Silk Moth Magic (29th October) and Spectacular Spider Badges (30th October).

Eltham Junior parkrun – Sunday 25th October and Sunday 1st November

A free weekly 2 km event for children aged 4–14 at Eltham Park South.

Greenwich Park and Blackheath – Throughout half-term

Free outdoor walks, open spaces and family exploration. No booking required for general park access.

Bexley

The Exchange – Free Creative Activities

A particularly strong range of activities:

- 24th October, 11am–1pm: Make Your Own Macramé Halloween Keychain
- 29th October, 6–8pm: Board Games Club and Crafters Club
- 30th October, 2–5pm: Black History Celebration
- 31st October, 11am–1pm: Family Art Club

Most are free drop-in activities; the Black History Celebration requests free registration.

Additional free Bexley events:

Rhythm Around the World – Wednesday 28th October, 1.30pm: Steelpan and African drumming workshop at Crayford Library.

LEGO Robotics Workshop – Thursday 29th October: Thamesmead Library at 1pm and Bexleyheath Central Library at 4pm.

Mystery Makers – Friday 30th October, 3.30pm: A creative author event with Gareth P. Jones at Erith Library.

Bexley BMX Half-Term Sessions – Monday 26 October: BMX Wingz at 10.30am and a Women and Girls session at 11.45am, Martens Grove Park.

Families are encouraged to check for any requirements before the events on the following page: **https://whatsgoingon.london/browse/events/free/bexley?**

Museums

London Museum Docklands – Halloween Half-Term

Discover London legends, spooky superstitions and creative activities. The programme includes Beastly Bookmarks, clay charm-making (26th–30th October), a fairy-tale performance (26th October) and family storytelling.

All activities are free, although some need advance booking.

Natural History Museum – Discover Dinosaurs and Wildlife

Explore dinosaurs, wildlife, volcanoes and earthquakes, including the famous blue whale skeleton. Free general admission; advance tickets are recommended.

Science Museum – Science and Discovery

Enjoy space, engineering, technology and interactive science displays. General museum admission is free, although attractions such as Wonderlab and Power Up cost extra.

Young V&A – Art, Design and Creativity

Explore creative displays about play, imagination and design, with activities suitable for younger children and families.

London

Southbank Centre – Free Exhibitions and Book Swap

Families can explore Koestler Arts: Rock, Paper, Scissors, a free exhibition running until 29th November, or take part in the London Literature Festival Book Swap, running until 1st November.

Horniman Museum and Gardens – Museum and Outdoor Exploration

Discover natural history, cultural collections, beautiful gardens and outdoor play spaces. Some special half-term activities and attractions, including the aquarium, have an additional charge.

Other options include exploring the riverside at South Bank, walking through Greenwich Park, or combining the free South Kensington museums into a full family day out.

Inclusive and SEND-Friendly Activities

Gunnersbury Park Museum – Relaxed Museum Session

A dedicated quieter session for neurodivergent children and young people aged 5–25 and their families, featuring reduced sound levels, adapted activities, a quiet room and an indoor picnic space.

Free advance booking is required, with limited numbers to maintain a calmer environment.

Flu Immunisation - Parent/Carer Consent Required

Flu vaccinations is an important way of helping to protect children and young people from flu. Good uptake also helps reduce the spread of flu within schools and the wider community.



Please complete the NHS flu immunisation consent form for your child.

Parents/Carers should complete the form with either a **YES** or **NO** response.

Important information for parents/carers

Please complete the consent form with either a **YES** or **NO** response.

If you have already completed the consent form, you do not need to complete another one.

If a parent/carer submits a **NO** consent, their decision will be recorded, and they will not receive further communication from the Immunisation Team.

If you wish to withdraw or change your consent after submitting the form, you must contact the Immunisation Team directly by email or telephone.

Tel: 020 3903 3345

Email: krft.greenwichimms@nhs.net

Any changes or withdrawals must be made at least 3 working days before the school's vaccination visit, as this is when the online consent link will close.

Complete the online consent form here: https://cypcis.kingstonandrichmond.nhs.uk/flu/2026/greenwich

Greenwich Immunisation Team

GREENWICH SEND VOICE
Parent Carer Forum

Together for a brighter future

Everyone Welcome!
Children, young people, parents, carers and professionals

SEND Information Fair

Come along to meet a range of organisations and services supporting children and young people with SEND (0–25) in Greenwich.

- **Local Authority Services**
- **Health Services** (such as Oxleas)
- **Support Organisations**
- **Information and Advice**
- **Discover What's Available**

Wednesday
4th November 2026

10:00am – 12:00pm

Woolwich Library
Woolwich Centre
35 Wellington Street
Woolwich, SE18 6HQ

- Meet services and support organisations
- Find out about local support, resources and activities
- Ask questions and get advice
- Connect with other families
- All are welcome – no need to book, just drop in!

Stronger together

Information
Support
Advice
Connections

A more inclusive Greenwich for a brighter future



info@greenwichsendvoice.co.uk
www.greenwichsendvoice.co.uk
@greenwichsendvoice

ROYAL borough of GREENWICH | Oxleas NHS

Working together for children and young people with SEND

You're not alone. We're here for you.

GREENWICH SEND VOICE
Parent Carer Forum

Connect
Share
Support
Together

SEND COFFEE MORNINGS

For parents and carers of children and young people with SEND



A friendly, welcoming space to connect, share experiences, get advice and learn about local services and support.

- Meet other SEND Parent Carers
- Find out about local services and support
- Chat with representatives from the local authority, health and support organisations
- Relax in a friendly environment

Everyone's experience matters – together we make a stronger community.

LOCATION
Woolwich Library
[Woolwich Centre, 35 Wellington St, London SE18 6HQ]

TIME
10am – 12pm

DATES
Fortnightly on Thursday. See dates or visit GSV website for more dates for next year.

All families. All needs. A stronger Greenwich.

COFFEE MORNING DATES

Thursday 22 October
SEND REFORM SESSION – Martyn Patterson - RBG

Thursday 5 November
SHORT BREAKS SESSION - Royal Borough of Greenwich

Thursday 19 November
HEALTH ADVISER - Noel Oxleas School Nursing Team

Thursday 3 December
TRAVEL ASSISTANCE – TRANSPORT SESSION
Royal Borough of Greenwich

Thursday 17 December
GUEST SPEAKER:
DIGITAL ID WRISTBAND & TECH
Lumiio - Charlotte

PLEASE BOOK FOR ATTENDANCE
due to room capacity.

Scan me to book!

Or book online:
bit.ly/GSV-coffee-mornings

For more information:

www.greenwichsendvoice.co.uk
info@greenwichsendvoice.co.uk
Greenwich SEND Voice
Instagram: Greenwich SEND Voice