

Devonport High School for Girls



GCSE Non-Examination Assessment and GCSE Examination Guidance

**Middle Years
2026–2027**



Devonport High School For Girls
Opportunity - Nurture - Achieve

GCSE CONTROLLED ASSESSMENT AND NON-EXAMINATION ASSESSMENT GUIDANCE

Aims:

- Encourage teams to think through the issues concerning GCSE examinations and be proactive in their planning.
- Clarify roles, responsibilities and procedures in relation to GCSE examinations.
- Ensure parity
- Provide candidates with the opportunity to achieve their full potential.
- Conform to awarding bodies' regulations.

TABLE 1

The GCSE examination boards for 2026–2027 are as follows:

AQA Art and Design – Fine Art (8202) Biology (8461) Chemistry (8462) Chinese (Spoken Mandarin) (8673) Combined Science (Trilogy) (8464) English Language (8700) English Literature (8702) Geography (8035) Physical Education (8582) Physics (8463) <i>Psychology (8182) – Year 10 only</i> Religious Studies A (8062) option LA	PEARSON EDEXCEL Business (1BS0) French (1FR1) German (1GN1) History (1HI0) option NP Mathematics (1MA1) Music (1MU0) Spanish (1SP1)
	WJEC (Eduqas) Drama (C690QS) <i>Media Studies (680QS) – Year 10 only</i>
	OCR Classical Civilisation (J199) Computer Science (J277)

**TABLE 2: Year 11 Non Examination Assessment and Written Examination Dates
2026–2027**

SUBJECT	NON EXAMINATION ASSESSMENT	DATE NEA COMPLETED BY	GCSE WRITTEN EXAMINATIONS
ART AND DESIGN – FINE ART	Portfolio Externally set assignment	April 2027	Submit to exam board by 31 May 2027
BUSINESS			Paper 1: 12 May pm Paper 2: 21 May pm
CHINESE (SPOKEN MANDARIN)	Speaking	April 2026	Listening: 11 May pm Reading: 11 May pm Writing: 20 May pm
CLASSICAL CIVILISATION			Paper 1: 19 May pm Paper 2: 9 June am
COMPUTER SCIENCE			Paper 1: 10 May am Paper 2: 19 May pm
DRAMA	Performances	July 2026 March 2027	Exam: 14 May pm
ENGLISH LANGUAGE	Spoken Language	End Y10	Paper 1: 24 May am Paper 2: 8 June am
ENGLISH LITERATURE			Paper 1: 12 May am Paper 2: 19 May am
FRENCH	Speaking	April 2027	Listening: 26 May am Reading: 8 June pm Writing: 14 June pm
GEOGRAPHY			Paper 1: 18 May am Paper 2: 26 May pm Paper 3: 10 June pm
GERMAN	Speaking	April 2027	Listening: 10 May pm Reading: 18 May pm Writing: 20 May pm
HISTORY			Paper 1: 20 May am Paper 2: 28 May am Paper 3: 9 June pm
MATHEMATICS			Paper 1: Non-calc 14 May am Paper 2: Calc 27 May am Paper 3: Calc 14 June am
MEDIA STUDIES			No Y11 examinations
MUSIC	Performance (Unit 1) Composition (Unit 2)	March 2027	Exam: 27 May pm
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	Internal Practical Practical DVD Written Task	March 2027	Paper 1: 13 May pm Paper 2: 20 May pm
PSYCHOLOGY			No Y11 examinations
RELIGIOUS STUDIES			Paper 1: 13 May am Paper 2: 21 May am
SPANISH	Speaking	April 2026	Listening: 9 June am Reading: 16 June pm Writing: 17 June pm

SUBJECT	NON EXAMINATION ASSESSMENT	DATE NEA COMPLETED BY	GCSE WRITTEN EXAMINATIONS
SCIENCE: Biology Chemistry Physics Combined (Trilogy)	All required practical work will be completed as an integral part of normal practical work during science lessons		B1: 11 May am B2: 10 June am C1: 17 May am C2: 15 June am P1: 25 May am P2: 18 June am

SAVING YOUR NEA WORK

All NEA work (Word, Excel, Powerpoint documents etc) must be saved on your school OneDrive. This is to ensure that your work is backed up regularly and is not lost.

HIGH CONTROL ASSESSMENTS

When completing controlled assessments under high control, you **must not have access to potential technological/web enabled sources of information such as an iPod, an iWatch, a mobile phone, an MP3/4 player or a wrist watch which has a data storage device.**

PENALTIES FOR BREAKING THE REGULATIONS

If your work is submitted and it is discovered that you have broken the regulations, one of the following penalties will be applied:

- the piece of work will be awarded zero marks;
- you will be disqualified from that unit for the examination series in question;
- you will be disqualified from the whole subject for that examination series;
- you will be disqualified from all subjects and barred from entering again for a period of time.

Your awarding body will decide which penalty is appropriate.

CONTINGENCY DAY

The Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) has a Contingency Day for GCSE and/or GCE (A-level) examinations, which may be used if an examination is postponed if sustained national or local disruption occurs during the examination series. The Contingency Day for the summer's examinations is **Wednesday 23 June 2027**.

In the event that there is national disruption to a day of examinations in the summer of 2027, the awarding bodies will liaise with the qualification regulators and the Department for Education to agree the most appropriate option for managing the impact. As a last resort, the affected examinations will be rescheduled. Although every effort would be taken to keep the impact to a minimum, it is possible that there could be more than one timetable date affected following the disruption, up to and including the Contingency Day.

Devonport High School for Girls will be alerted if it was agreed to reschedule the examinations and the affected candidates will be expected to make themselves available in such circumstances. Where candidates choose not to be available for the rescheduled examination(s) for reasons other than those traditionally covered by special consideration, they will not be eligible for enhanced grading arrangements.

Information for candidates

Written examinations

Effective from 1 September 2026

This document has been written to help you.

Read it carefully and follow the instructions.

If there is anything you do not understand, ask your teacher.

You should also check with your teacher which calculator you may use in your exams.

A. Regulations – Make sure you understand the rules

- 1 Be on time for all your exams. If you are late, your work might not be accepted.
- 2 **Do not** become involved in any unfair or dishonest practice during the exam.
- 3 If you try to cheat or break the rules in any way, you could be disqualified from **all** your exams.
- 4 You **must not** take any unauthorised material into the exam room, including:
 - (a) notes;
 - (b) earphones or earbuds (e.g. AirPods), MP3/4 players or similar devices, smart devices, smart glasses, tablets (e.g. iPads or iPods);
 - (c) a mobile phone;
 - (d) a watch (e.g. analogue, digital, smartwatch);

Any pencil cases taken into the exam room **must** be see-through.

Remember: possession of unauthorised material is breaking the rules, even if you do not intend to use it, and you will be subject to sanctions and possible disqualification.

- 5 **Do not** use correcting pens, fluid or tape, erasable pens, highlighters or gel pens in your answers.
- 6 **Do not** talk to or try to communicate with or disturb other candidates once you have entered the exam room.
- 7 You **must not** write inappropriate, obscene or offensive material.
- 8 If you leave the exam room unaccompanied by an invigilator before the exam has finished, you **will not** be allowed to return.
- 9 **Do not** borrow anything from another candidate during the exam.

B. Information – Make sure you attend your exams and bring what you need

- 1 Know the dates and times of all your exams. Arrive at least ten minutes before the start of your exam.
- 2 If you arrive late for an exam, report to the invigilator running the exam.
- 3 If you arrive more than one hour after the published starting time for the exam, you may not be allowed to take it.
- 4 Only take into the exam room the pens, pencils, erasers and any other permitted equipment needed for the exam.
- 5 You **must** write clearly and in black ink. Coloured pencils or inks may be used only for diagrams, maps, charts, etc, unless the instructions printed on the front of the question paper state otherwise.

C. Calculators, dictionaries and computer spellcheckers

- 1 You may use a calculator unless you are told otherwise.
- 2 If you use a calculator:
 - (a) make sure it works properly; check that the batteries are working properly;
 - (b) clear anything stored in its memory **and make sure it is in exam mode;**
 - (c) remove any parts such as cases, lids or covers which have printed instructions or formulae;
 - (d) **do not** bring any operating instructions or prepared programs into the exam room.
- 3 **Do not** use a dictionary or computer spellchecker unless you are told otherwise.

D. Instructions during the exam

- 1 Always listen to the invigilator. Always follow their instructions.
- 2 Tell the invigilator at once if:
 - (a) you think you have not been given the right question paper or all of the materials listed on the front of the paper;
 - (b) the question paper is incomplete or badly printed;
 - (c) you think you have not been given the expected access arrangement(s).
- 3 Read carefully and follow the instructions printed on the question paper and/or on the answer booklet.
- 4 **Do not** start writing anything until the invigilator tells you to fill in all the details required on the front of the question paper and/or the answer booklet. **Do not** open the question paper until you are told that the exam has begun.
- 5 Remember to write your answers within the designated sections of the answer booklet.
- 6 Do your rough work on the proper exam stationery. Cross it through and place any additional answer sheets inside your answer booklet. (For CCEA examinations place any additional sheets behind your answer booklet.)

Make sure you add your candidate details to any additional answer sheets that you use, including those used for rough work.

E. Advice and assistance

- 1 If, on the day of the exam, you feel that your work may be affected by ill health or any other reason, tell the invigilator.
- 2 Put up your hand during the exam if:
 - (a) you have a problem and are not sure what you should do;
 - (b) you do not feel well;
 - (c) you need more paper.
- 3 **You must** not ask for, and will not be given, any explanation of the questions.

F. At the end of the exam

- 1 If you have used more than one answer booklet and/or any supplementary answer sheets, place them in the correct order.

Place any loose additional answer sheets inside your answer booklet.

Make sure you add your candidate details to any additional answer sheets that you use.

For CCEA examinations, any loose additional answer sheets should be placed **behind** your answer booklet.

- 2 **Do not** leave the exam room until told to do so by the invigilator.
- 3 **Do not** take any stationery from the exam room. This includes the question paper, answer booklets (used or unused), rough work or any other materials provided for the exam.

Produced on behalf of:



©JCQ^{cic} 2025

Information for candidates

Non-examination assessments

Effective from 1 September 2026

This document tells you about some things that you **must** and **must not** do when you are completing your work.

When you submit your work for marking, the awarding body will normally require you to sign an authentication statement confirming that you have read and followed the regulations.

If there is something that you do not understand, you **must** ask your teacher.

Preparing your work - good practice

If you receive help and guidance from someone other than your teacher, you **must** tell your teacher. They will then record the assistance given to you.

If you worked as part of a group on an assignment, for example undertaking field research, you **must** write up your **own account** of the assignment. Even if the information you have is the same, you **must** describe in your own words how that information was obtained. You **must draw your own conclusions from the data**.

You **must** meet the deadlines that your teacher gives you. Remember – your teachers are there to guide you. Although they cannot give you direct assistance, they can help you to sort out any problems before it is too late.

Take care of your work and keep it safe. **Do not** leave it lying around where your classmates can find it. **Do not** share it with anyone, including posting it on social media. You must always keep your work secure and confidential. If it is stored on the computer network, keep your password secure. Collect all copies from the printer and destroy those you do not need.

Do not be tempted to use any prepared or generated online solutions and try to pass them off as your own work – this is cheating. Electronic tools used by awarding bodies can detect this sort of copying.

You **must not** write inappropriate, offensive or obscene material.

Research and using references

In some subjects, you will have an opportunity to do some independent research into a topic.

The research you do may involve looking for information in published sources, such as textbooks, encyclopedias, journals, TV, radio and on the internet.

You can demonstrate your knowledge and understanding of a subject by using information from sources, or generated from sources, which may include the internet and AI. Remember, though, information from these sources may be incorrect or biased. You **must** take care how you use this material - you cannot copy it and claim it as your own work.

Using information from published sources (including the internet) as the basis for your assignment is a good way to demonstrate your knowledge and understanding of a subject. You **must** take care how you use this material though - you **cannot** copy it and claim it as your own work.

The regulations state that:

'the work which you submit for assessment **must** be your own';

'you **must not** copy from someone else or allow another candidate to copy from you'.

When producing a piece of work, if you use the same wording as a published source, you **must** place quotation marks around the passage and state where it came from. This is known as **referencing**. You **must** make sure that you give detailed references for everything in your work which is not in your own words. A reference from a printed book or journal should show the name of the author, the year of publication and the page number. For example: Morrison, 2000, p29.

For material taken from the internet, your reference should show the date when the material was downloaded and **must** show the precise web page, not the search engine used to locate it. This can be copied from the address line. For example: http://news.bbc.co.uk/onthisday/hi/dates/stories/october/28/newsid_2621000/2621915.stm, downloaded 5 February 2027.

Where AI has been used, your reference **must** show the name of the AI tool used and should show the date the content was generated. For example: ChatGPT 3.5 (<https://openai.com/blog/chatgpt/>), 25/01/2027. You should also acknowledge the sources used by the AI tool in generating the content.

You **must** retain a copy of the question(s)/prompts used to generate the AI content and the AI-generated content itself in a non-editable format (such as a screenshot) and provide a brief explanation of how you used it. This **must** be submitted with your work for final assessment so that your teacher can review the work, the AI-generated content and how it has been used.

You may be required to include a bibliography at the end of your piece of written work. Your teacher will tell you whether this is necessary. Where required, your bibliography **must** list the full details of publications you have used in your research, even where these are not directly referred to. For example: Curran, J. *Mass Media and Society* (Hodder Arnold, 2005).

If you copy the words, ideas or outputs from other sources and do not show your sources in references and a bibliography, this will be considered as cheating.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism involves taking someone else's words, thoughts, ideas or outputs and not crediting the source. This includes outputs from AI tools. It could also include AI-produced material. **Plagiarism is a form of cheating which is taken very seriously.**

Don't think you won't be caught; there are many ways to detect plagiarism.

- Markers can spot changes in the style of writing and use of language.
- Markers are highly experienced subject specialists who will be very familiar with work on the topic concerned. They may have read the source you are using or even marked the work you have copied from.
- Internet search engines for detecting plagiarism and specialised computer software can be used to match phrases or pieces of text with original sources and to detect changes in the grammar and style of writing or punctuation.

Sanctions for breaking the regulations

If it is discovered that you have broken the regulations, one of the following sanctions will be applied:

- you will be awarded zero marks for your work;
- you will be disqualified from that component for the examination series in question;
- you will be disqualified from the whole subject for that examination series;
- you will be disqualified from all subjects and barred from entering again for a period of time.

The awarding body will decide which sanction is appropriate.

REMEMBER – IT'S YOUR QUALIFICATION SO IT NEEDS TO BE YOUR OWN WORK.

Reviews of marking: centre-assessed marks

(GCE AS and A level coursework, GCE AS, A level, GCSE and Vocational Technical Qualifications non-examination assessments, Project qualifications)

Devonport High School for Girls is committed to ensuring that, whenever its staff mark candidates' work, this is done fairly, consistently and in accordance with the awarding body's specification and associated subject-specific documents.

Candidates' work will be marked by staff who have appropriate knowledge, understanding and skills, who have been trained in this activity and who do not have any potential conflicts of interest. If AI tools have been used to assist in the marking of candidates' work, they will not be the sole marker.

Devonport High School for Girls is committed to ensuring that work produced by candidates is authenticated in line with the requirements of the awarding body. Where more than one subject teacher/tutor is involved in marking candidates' work, internal moderation and standardisation will ensure consistent marking.

1. Devonport High School for Girls will ensure that candidates are informed of their centre-assessed marks so that they can request a review of the centre's marking before final marks are submitted to the awarding body.
2. Devonport High School for Girls will inform candidates that they may request copies of materials to help them decide whether to request a review of the centre's marking of the assessment.
3. Devonport High School for Girls will, having received a request for materials, promptly make them available to the candidate. This will either be the originals, viewed under supervised conditions, or copies.
4. Devonport High School for Girls will provide candidates with sufficient time, normally at least five working days, to allow them to review copies of materials and reach a decision.
5. Devonport High School for Girls will provide a clear deadline for candidates to submit a request for a review of the centre's marking. Requests will not be accepted after this deadline. Requests **must** be made in writing and candidates **must** explain on what grounds they wish to request a review.
6. Devonport High School for Girls will allow sufficient time for the review to be carried out, to make any necessary changes to marks and to inform the candidate of the outcome, all before the awarding body's deadline for the submission of marks.
7. Devonport High School for Girls will ensure that the review of marking is conducted by an assessor who has appropriate competence, has had no previous involvement in the assessment of that candidate for the component in question and has no personal interest in the outcome of the review.
8. Devonport High School for Girls will instruct the reviewer to ensure that the candidate's mark is consistent with the standard set by the centre.
9. Devonport High School for Girls will inform the candidate in writing of the outcome of the review of the centre's marking.
10. The outcome of the review of marking will be made known to the head of centre. A written record of the review will be kept and made available to the awarding body upon request. The centre will inform the awarding body if it does not accept the outcome of a review.

The moderation process carried out by the awarding body may result in a mark change, either upwards or downwards, even after an internal review. The internal review process is in place to ensure consistency of marking within the centre, whereas moderation by the awarding body ensures that the centre's marking is in line with national standards. The mark submitted to the awarding body is subject to change and should, therefore, be considered provisional.

Updated 15 September 2026

To request a review of Centre-assessed marks for Non-Examination Assessments (NEA)

1. Discuss any concerns with your teacher and your parents/carers.
2. Contact the Examinations Officer via mharrington@dhsg.co.uk to obtain a copy of the materials needed to consider whether to request a review. These include a copy of the work submitted and the marking criteria.
3. Once the materials have been provided, you should consider whether the mark has been awarded in line with the requirements of the awarding body, to decide whether you wish to request a review of your mark formally.
4. If you wish to request a review, you must do so in writing to the Examinations Officer explaining specifically why you are making the request, before the deadline provided on this form. Requests will not be accepted after this deadline.
5. Reviews of marking of centre assessed marks prior to submission to awarding bodies cost £70 per review.
6. By making a request for a review of your mark, you accept the outcome of the review may mean your mark is lowered, confirmed as correct or raised, and this will be the final mark that will be submitted to the Examination Board.
7. Devonport High School for Girls will arrange for your mark to be reviewed by an assessor who has appropriate competence, has no previous involvement in the assessment of your work and has no personal interest in the review.
8. You will be informed, in writing, of the outcome of the review of your mark.

You may also wish to refer to the latest guidance document (Appeals against Internal Assessments of Work), for the most up-to-date information.

All information is available within the Examination Information section of the school [website](#)¹

¹ <https://www.dhsg.co.uk/page/?title=Examination+Information&pid=110>

AI and Assessments

A quick guide for students



What is AI?

- AI stands for artificial intelligence and using it is like having a computer that thinks
- AI tools like ChatGPT or Snapchat My AI can write text, make art and create music by learning from data from the internet, but watch out – they can also make things up and be biased



How can AI be misused in assessments?

AI misuse is when you take something made using AI and say it's your own work.

THIS IS CHEATING!



How do I make sure I don't misuse AI?



1 Know the rules

- You're **not allowed** to use AI tools when you're in an exam
- Your teachers will tell you if you're allowed to use AI tools when doing your coursework – the rules will depend on your qualification
- Even if you're allowed to use AI tools, you can't get marks for content just produced by AI – your marks come from showing your own understanding and producing your own work

2 Reference reference reference!

- If you're allowed to use AI tools, you must reference them clearly
- Name the AI tool you used
 - Add the date you generated the content
 - Explain how you used it
 - Save a screenshot of the questions you asked and the answers you got

3 Declare it's all your own work

– When you hand in your assessment, you have to sign a declaration. Anything without a reference must be all your own work. If you've used an AI tool, don't sign the declaration until you're sure you've added all the references

What happens if I misuse AI?

If you've misused AI, you could lose your marks for the assessment – you could even be disqualified from the subject.

DON'T RISK IT!



REMEMBER
Misusing AI is cheating!
Know the rules
Talk to your teachers
Reference clearly