

April 2025

NEWSLETTER

CLASS of 2026!

Dear Year 10 Parents, Carers and Pupils, Class of 2026,

As we approach the final stretch before the summer GCSE exams, I want to take a moment to commend all of our Year 10 students for their dedication, hard work, and commitment so far. The journey leading up to these exams has been filled with challenges, but the effort each student has put in has been truly impressive. Every lesson, every revision session, and every extra effort has contributed to the foundation of success you are building.

It is important to remember that the hard work does not stop here. The coming weeks will require continued focus and determination. This is the time to build on the progress made, fine-tune your revision techniques, and keep up the momentum. With every bit of effort, you are one step closer to reaching your full potential.

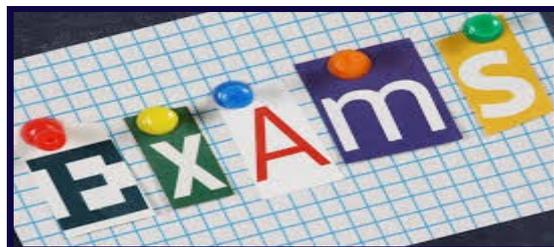
To the parents, thank you for your unwavering support in guiding and encouraging your children. Your involvement and encouragement make a world of difference as we move toward the final exams. Please continue to motivate and assist your child in maintaining a balanced approach to their studies, ensuring they are both focused and well-rested.

Together, let's keep up the hard work, stay positive, and push through to the finish line. We are confident that with continued effort, each student will reach their goals and make us all proud.

Best wishes to all Year 10 students as you continue your revision – we believe in you!

With all our support and best wish

YBA Staff and School Community



As the exam season approaches, we know that many of you are feeling a mix of excitement and nervousness. This is completely normal! To help you prepare effectively, we've put together some useful exam techniques and tips that can help you perform at your best.

1. Time Management: The Key to Success.

Good time management can make all the difference when it comes to revising and sitting exams. Here's how you can manage your time wisely:

Create a revision timetable: Plan your study sessions ahead of time, allocating specific times for each subject. Make sure you include regular breaks to avoid burnout.

Prioritise: Focus on the subjects or topics that you find most difficult. If you're feeling confident in a subject, spend less time on it but still keep reviewing.

Avoid procrastination: Set small, achievable goals. For example, aim to study for 45 minutes, then take a 10-minute break.

2. Active Revision: Don't Just Read, Engage!

Passive revision (just reading through your notes) is less effective than active revision. Here are some techniques to help you engage with the material:

Practice past papers: Doing past exam questions is one of the best ways to prepare. It helps you get used to the format of the exam- **Use flashcards:** Write questions on one side and answers on the other. This method helps reinforce key information.

Teach someone else: Explaining a topic to a friend or family member helps consolidate your knowledge.

Mind maps and diagrams: Drawing out information in visual formats can help you understand and remember complex ideas.

Key Year 10 Exam Dates:

Monday 12th May: English Literature Unit 1—Resits pupils only.

Friday 16th May: GCSE History Unit 1—Yr10 Option Students only.

Tuesday 20th May: English Literature Unit 2—ALL YEAR 10 PUPILS.

Wednesday 21st May: GCSE Religious Studies Unit 1—Yr10 Option Students only.

Monday 9th June: GCSE Biology—ALL YEAR 10 PUPILS.

Friday 13th June: GCSE Chemistry—ALL YEAR 10 PUPILS.

Monday 16th June: GCSE Physics—ALL YEAR 10 PUPILS.

Easter Revision: For further details please click on this link:

[Year 11 Steps To Success 2024/25 - Ysgol Bryn Alyn](#)

3. Exam Technique: How to Tackle the Paper.

Knowing how to approach your exam on the day can significantly impact your performance. Here's how to stay focused during the actual exam:

Read through the paper first: Take 5 minutes at the start of the exam to skim through the paper. This helps you gauge which questions are easier or harder and plan your time accordingly.

Manage your time wisely: If the exam has 10 questions, and you only have 2 hours, don't spend 45 minutes on one question. Stick to the time limit for each question.

Answer the easy questions first: This boosts your confidence and helps you secure marks early on.

Stay calm and stay focused: If you get stuck on a question, move on to another one and come back to it later. Don't let one question waste precious time.

4. Support: We're Here to Help!

Parents, please remember to offer encouragement and create a supportive environment at home. Remind your child that exams are just one part of their academic journey, and that it's okay to ask for help both in school and out of school.

5. Wellbeing: Take Care of Yourself.

It's easy to get caught up in the stress of exams, but looking after your physical and mental wellbeing is essential.

Get plenty of sleep: Aim for at least 8 hours of sleep a night. Sleep helps with memory consolidation and mental clarity.

Eat well: Keep your energy levels high with balanced meals and snacks. Avoid too much sugar, as it can cause energy crashes.

Stay active: Regular exercise can help reduce stress and boost your mood.

Stay positive: Keep a positive mindset. It's normal to feel nervous, but remember that you've worked hard and you're capable.

Further revision tips can be found via our Year 11 Steps-To-Success

<http://www.ysgolbrynalyn.co.uk/curri/year-11-steps->

What to remember on the day of your exam:

- ◆ Be in full school uniform.
- ◆ Pen, pencil, ruler, highlighter and calculator.
- ◆ Tissues
- ◆ Unlabelled bottle with water.
- ◆ Have breakfast.
- ◆ Arrive at school for 8.40 am.
- ◆ Register with form tutor and hand in mobile phone then report to the canteen.
- ◆ Know your seat number.
- ◆ Line up outside for exam 10 minutes before it is due to start.
- ◆ Attempt all questions and do your best.

Attendance during exam season:

Students can not sit exams outside of the time-tabled slot. Missing an exam could significantly impact a child's final grade.

If there is any reason a child is unable to attend their GCSE exam due to illness or family issue please contact the school as soon as you are able, so that we can discuss possible solutions.

Also, if a pupil is running late for an exam please inform the school immediately.

Exam Timetables:

Individual exam time-tables should be available for pupil to access via the New Bromcom Student App.

Make sure you have checked these before the exam. For example, have you been entered for the right tier?

MCAS: My Child At School is our new communication app. This has replaced Edulink. Year 10 parents should have received a link to access this portal.

Students should have activated the Bromcom Student App. Please contact the school for support and further guidance.