

April 2025

NEWSLETTER

CLASS of 2025!

Dear Year 11 Pupils, Class of 2025,

As you stand on the threshold of your exams, we want to take a moment to send our very best wishes and encouragement. This is a time to reflect on all the hard work, dedication, and determination you've shown throughout the year. You have come so far, and we couldn't be prouder of everything you've achieved.

The road ahead may seem challenging, but remember that you are not alone. You have the support of your form staff, teachers, families, and the entire school community behind you, all cheering you on. Take each exam as an opportunity to show the incredible potential we know you have inside you.

Believe in yourselves, stay focused, and remember that success is not just about results, but the growth and resilience you've shown along the way. Whatever happens, know that we are proud of you and excited to see the great things you will accomplish in the future.

Good luck, Class of 2025 – we're all rooting for you!

With all our support and best wishes,
YBA Staff and School Community

Key Dates This Term:

14/4/25—25/4/25: Easter Revision.

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

Monday 28th April: Training Day

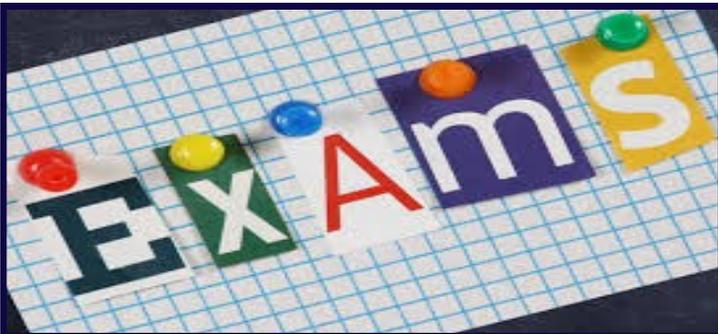
Monday 5th May: Bank Holiday

Wednesday 7th May: GCSE Exams begin.

Friday 23rd May: Year 11 Leavers Assembly. Year 11 pupils should continue to attend all lessons until their final exam.

Thursday 3rd July: Year 11 Prom

Thursday 21st August: GCSE Results Day



MCAS: My Child At School is our new communication app.
This has replaced Edulink.

Year 11 parents should have received a link to access this portal on Tuesday 26th March. If you are yet to sign up to this communication app then please e-mail:

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?

Use these exam timetables to plan your revision.

What to remember on the day of your exam:

- ◆ Be in full school uniform. YBA Leavers Hoodies can be worn instead of a blazer.
- ◆ Pen, pencil, ruler, highlighter and calculator.
- ◆ Tissues
- ◆ Unlabelled clear bottle of 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.

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.

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.

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.

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-to-success-202425/>

YEAR 11

Thursday 21st
August 2025

GCSE RESULTS DAY



PROM
3/7/2025

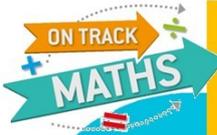
Yr11 Study
Leave Begins
DATE ?

GCSE Exams
Begin
7/5/2025

NEA Coursework
Deadlines - 30/4/25



May Half-term
Revision



English/Maths/
Science
Interventions



Easter
Revision

TERM 3

8 Days To Exams

MAT Achievement
Sessions

Check Edulink and the YBA website for details of holiday revision opportunities.
[Exam Information 2024/25 - Ysgol Bryn Alyn](#)

Exam Stress
Workshop

Check Edulink for targeted REACH sessions for A*/A pupils.

Form Time
Revision
Strategies

Welsh Oracy Exams
24/3/25—
27/3/25



MOCK Exams 2
FEB. 25

YBA



Prom
Passport

Parents
Evening
16/01/25

NEA Science
Assessments

121 Days To Exams

TERM 2

English/Maths
Interventions

MOCK EXAMS
Start SOON

Next Steps
Drop Down
Day 1/25

Check Edulink and the YBA website for details of After school revision opportunities.
[Exam Information 2024/25 - Ysgol Bryn Alyn](#)

Brown Envelope Day
19/12/24

School Photographs
6/12/24

MOCK Exams 1
NOV. 24

Steps to
Success

Form Time
Revision
Strategies

Check out this link:
<https://www.ysgolbrynalyn.co.uk/curriculum/year-11-steps-to-success-202425/>

GCSE Numeracy Exams
5/11/24 - 7/11/24



Core Evening
10/10/24

244 Days To Exams

TERM 1



English/Maths
Interventions

KEY EVENTS
YBA ACHIEVE SUPPORT