

Nonsuch High School for Girls

Sixth Form: Year 13 Parents Information Evening 2025

Mr Coy, Head of Year 13

Ms Johns, Director of Sixth Form



NONSUCH
HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS
FORGING OUR PATHS; BUILDING THE FUTURE

Warm welcome

- Mock exams
- Support
- Attendance
- UCAS offers and choices
- HE Finance



Year 13 Mock Exams

- Monday 3 – Friday 14 February
- Students are on study leave during this time and only expected in for their exams
- Study leave can be taken at home, or in school – students must sign in and out with Mrs Abedini if they come into school to work so we know they are on school site
- The exams are run as per the summer A level exams so students have experience of this
- Students have been issued with a revision guide which was also emailed to you

Exam Procedures

- Register by 8:25 or 13:00 – location may vary
- Absences must be reported by a parent or carer by 8:30 (whether it's a morning or afternoon exam)
- Students will need to know their seat numbers and bring in their ID cards
- No watches
- No henna please

Absence During Mock Exams

- Make us aware before 8:30am on the day of the exam
 - Contact Mrs Abedini as usual via the Gateway app
 - In addition, email Mrs Penman and Mr Coy
Penman-e@nonsuchschool.org
Coy-j@nonsuchschool.org
- Sickness – GP visit on the same day and a doctor's letter submitted. Students will be given 0 on their paper without medical evidence.
- In-school support can be put in place for extenuating circumstances

Absence During Mock Exams

- Make us aware as soon as possible if you have an interview scheduled during the exam period.
- If a student has an exam the day before an interview, it will go ahead.
- If a student has an interview on an exam day, we may look at rescheduling the exam, depending on the time of the interview.

Working together...

Lead up to the Mock Exams:

- Attendance is key
- Students need to be in school every day
- Lost opportunity for students to learn

Guided learning and structured revision

- Teaching content
- Structured lessons
- Teacher focused support
- Instant teacher feedback



Revision Guide

- Mock Exam timetable
- Exam procedures
- Help Clubs List
- Tips and strategies on revising
- Wellbeing Toolkit
- Subject pages with specific content and revision tips for the mock exam



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Year 13 Mock Exams

Revision Support Guide



Biology

Type of Assessment The mock will consist of 2 papers. One paper will be based on the Biological Processes and Biology Diversity content and the second will be based on the Unified Biology type questions.

Duration Paper 1 will be 2 hours and 15 minutes
Paper 2 will be 1 hour and 30 minutes

Topics to Revise	1.1	Examinable practical skills	4.1.1	Communicable diseases, disease prevention and the immune system
	2.1.1	Cell structure	4.2.1	Biodiversity
	2.1.2	Biological molecules	4.2.2	Classification and Evolution
	2.1.3	Nucleotides and nucleic acids	5.1.1	Communication and Homeostasis
	2.1.4	Enzymes	5.1.3	Neuronal communication
	2.1.5	Biological membranes	5.1.4	Hormonal communication
	2.1.6	Cell division, diversity and organisation	5.1.5	Plant and animal responses- animal responses only (g-1)
	3.1.10	Exchange surfaces	5.2.1	Photosynthesis
	3.1.2	Transport in animals	5.2.2	Respiration
	3.1.3	Transport in plants	6.1.2	Patterns of inheritance
			6.3.1	Ecosystems
			6.3.2	Populations and sustainability

Where to go for help Email: fisher-j@nonsuchschool.org
Help club: Wednesdays at 12:40 in S3

Strategies for Revising

There is no one correct way to revise and each person will have their own approach. Below are a few strategies that may help...

1. Look at the appropriate subject pages in this booklet
2. Identify what areas you need to focus on
3. Go through your work, or through revision guides, and create some revision resources (mind maps, flashcards, lists)
4. Once you have these revision resources you can use them to revise:
 - a. Testing yourself – Hide the resource away or conceal answers (this is why flashcards with answers on the back are so useful!). Do you remember all of the information?
 - b. Get others to test you – give the resource to a family member or friend and ask them to ask you questions relating to the information.
5. Look at some of the more relevant questions you have done throughout the year in your folders – redo the questions using your revision resources as help. Practice makes perfect! Just because you have done something once, doesn't mean you won't benefit from doing it again! That goes for past papers too, you can do the same paper multiple times if you need to.
6. Use [The Golden Hour](#) to work in 1 hour sustainable chunks...

At home...

- Regular meals
- Sufficient sleep in a regular pattern
- Exercise and fresh air
- Regular breaks (but don't procrastinate)
- Encourage students to study in a place / way where they won't be distracted (eg we recommend they put their phones in another room)
- Encourage students to revise in an effective manner (check the guide for ideas) - simply re-reading notes is not particularly effective
- Encourage students to seek subject help from teachers
- Tell tutors / Sixth Form Team of concerns



Up-Learn

- Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Economics
- 4 hours per subject per week
- Twilight catch up after school on Thursdays
- Practice questions from past papers are on Up-Learn



School support

Designated study areas

- Silent work - library
- Quiet work - canteen
- Supervised study- upstairs common room
- Group work – downstairs common room
- Twilight – until 17:00 Monday-Thursday
- Subject help clubs - lunchtime and after school (listed in the Revision Guide)



School support

Sixth Form Team

Form tutors

Class teachers

Sixth Form Pastoral Support
Officer

School counsellor

ELSA

School nurse

Drop ins are available or we can
make an appointment.



What if the Mocks don't go to plan?

- Reports will be published after the mocks with exam results and Most Likely Outcomes
- Students will get feedback in class before that and they should reflect on their areas of development and make a plan on how they can improve them
- Subjects will continue to run help clubs and drop-in sessions for those who need them
- Some subjects may invite specific students to targeted Easter holiday revision sessions



Year 13 Parents' Evening

Thursday 27 March

16:00 – 18:30 in school

students book appointments directly
with their teachers, on your behalf

Attendance – why does it matter?

Performance	Average attendance
Meets all three UCAS grades	98.5%
One grade below in one subject	92.8%
One grade below in two subjects	89.9%
One grade below in three subjects	87.8%

95% attendance may sound excellent, however this is still 8 days of Y13 lost.

This is about 30 hours of lessons.

Below 90% persistent absenteeism must be supported with medical evidence.

Students may be asked to pay for their exam entries when attendance is below 90% and there is insufficient medical evidence

Applying to university
through UCAS

UCAS

Making a Firm Choice



- Students should **not confirm choices** until they have received reports and discussed them with their tutor /6th Form Team
- Are they being realistic? MLOs vs offers
 - Use Mock Exam report
- Meeting with tutors will begin in late March to discuss Firm and Insurance choices.
- Accept Firm and insurance offers by 4 June (if you receive them before 14 May, otherwise it's the 23 July)
- Apply to 'Extra' (no offers or student has declined all offers)

UCAS Extra

- **26 February – 4 July**
- If your child has used all five choices, and they are not holding any offers, they can add another choice through Extra.
- Extra is another chance for them to gain a place at university or college. They will be able to apply to additional universities, one at a time.
- If they don't get the offer they want through Extra, don't worry – they can still use Clearing to add another choice later.

UCAS Clearing

- 5 July – 21 October
- If you have no offers and haven't secured a course through Extra, you can apply for a course using Clearing
- Or if you have declined your firm place using the 'decline my place' button in your application you can now apply through Clearing
- There is no guarantee of the courses or universities available in Clearing each year, you may have to be flexible

On results day, 14 August...

- From 8am, students will be able to see in UCAS if their place is confirmed at either their Firm or Insurance choice university
- This does not tell them their A level grades – they need to come into school for this!
- If they are unsuccessful, they will be placed in Clearing where they can now look for an alternative course
- We advise students to ring universities directly to discuss Clearing places as these change rapidly on the day
- The 'nominated access' can also ring on the students' behalf, but the school do not have student permission

Applying for Finance

- Two main costs:
 - 1) Tuition Fees
 - 2) Living Costs
- A tuition fee loan of up to £9535 will be paid directly to university or college each year
- Students can also apply for a maintenance loan to pay for rent / living costs. The size of the loan varies according to household income
- Loans will start being paid back once a graduate is earning an income
- The amount paid back is proportional to the salary of the graduate
- Applications for Finance for 2025-6 courses will open in April 2025
- We have PSHE on Student Finance on 22 January
- [Student Finance Information](#)
- [Student Finance England - YouTube](#)
- [Student Finance \(UCAS page\)](#)

Student Finance advice from Martin Lewis

https://www.moneysavingexpert.com/students/



MoneySavingExpert

Cutting your costs, fighting your corner

Founder, Martin Lewis · Editor-in-Chief, Marcus Herbert

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Travel

Insurance

Deals & Shopping

Income & Budgeting

Students

Students

Funding Uni

Student Money


Broadband & Mobile

Uni Travel

Students A-Z

STUDENTS

Guides and tools to help you save money while studying



Calculators & guide – how much are you expected to give your kids for uni?

- [Living costs: parents expected to fill gaps](#)
- [Child at uni? Use our parental contribution calc](#)
- [Planning for future? Use our parental savings calc](#)

Guide

Student bank accounts

Free 0% overdrafts, free railcards and free cash – banks love to ree...

Banking



Martin Lewis: Student Loans Decoded

Martin Lewis: Student Loans...

Student Money



Student Loans

Ignore newspaper headlines about students leaving university with...

Funding uni



Student checklist

With student maintenance loans lagging behind inflation, it's even...

Money



Student loan interest is 6.5% – should I panic or pay it off?

You leave university, looking...

Guide



Student loan repayment

It's a simple question spilling from the lips of over four million former...

Guide



Beware paying uni fees upfront

With £9,250-a-year tuition fees, many parents are desperate to build uni fun...

Guide

Martin Lewis: 'This is a big increase to the cost of uni' – ...

The Government has announced...

News

Student budgeting planner

There's lots to think about when you go to uni, but sorting your budget should ...

Student money

Graduate accounts

Don't just stick with your student bank account after uni – loyalty can cost!...

Banking

Any Questions?

Points covered from the questions raised included:

- Year 13 Parents Evening is definitely on **27 March** – apologies that one letter mentioned a different date.
- On results day, students will only be able to accept their firm offer if they receive high enough grades for it – the insurance offer will have been transferred to someone else. Students cannot plan to accept their insurance offer if they would rather not go to their firm choice university – they would have to decline the offer and go through clearing.
- Students cannot make changes to their university choices once they have been submitted, unless they have put fewer than 5 choices on their original application and wish to add one. They can go into UCAS Extra if all of their choices fail to receive offers.
- We provide support for international applications but students must inform us in good time of their intentions. We are not experts in each country's procedures so students should do as much research as possible.
- We do not yet know when the timetables for the final A level exams will be published – the provisional dates are on the exam boards' websites. We will let students know when these details are available.
- We emphasised again that a student's insurance choice should have lower grades than their firm choice – they cannot be the same or higher. If no choice is suitable, then students should only put down their firm choice.