



Outwood Academy Acklam

Hall Drive, Acklam, Middlesbrough, TS5 7JY
Tel: +44(0)1642 818200 Fax: +44(0)1642 850560

Web: www.acklam.outwood.com

Email: enquiries@acklam.outwood.com

Head of School: Mr Chris Palmer

Lead Principal: Mr Graham Skidmore

6 May 2026

Dear Parent/Guardian and Student,

RE: Essential Year 11 Exam Intervention Masterclasses

As we approach the final stretch of the academic year, the upcoming GCSE examination series is now at our doorstep. This is a pivotal moment in your child's educational journey, and we are committed to providing the highest level of support to ensure they achieve their full potential.

To facilitate this, we are launching a series of **Year 11 Intervention Masterclasses**. These sessions are not merely "extra lessons"; they are high-impact, targeted workshops designed to dismantle complex topics, refine exam techniques, and build the mental stamina required for success. **Please follow the link below to view our Masterclass schedule:**

Summer Exam and Masterclass Timetable GCSE 2026

At the end of this letter, the first two weeks of masterclasses are displayed; the remaining weeks can be found via the link above.

Why Attendance is Non-Negotiable

The correlation between school attendance and academic achievement is undeniable. Every missed day is a missed opportunity to bridge a gap in knowledge. Research consistently shows that students with high attendance rates significantly outperform their peers.

- **Expert Guidance:** Masterclasses are led by subject specialists who focus on "marginal gains"—the small adjustments in understanding that can push a grade from a 4 to a 5 or an 8 to a 9.
- **Confidence Building:** Familiarity breeds competence. Regular attendance reduces exam anxiety by ensuring no student feels "blind-sided" by a question.
- **Direct Support:** These smaller group settings allow for immediate feedback that is often difficult to provide in a standard classroom environment.

A Partnership for Success

We understand that this can be a stressful time. However, the hard work put in over the next few weeks will provide the foundation for your child's future career and further education opportunities.



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We ask for your full support in ensuring your child attends **every** school day and **every** scheduled masterclass.

Let's give our students the best possible chance to walk into that exam hall feeling prepared, composed, and ready to succeed.

Yours Faithfully,

Graham Birrell

Vice Principal for Deep Experience



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GCSE Examinations 2026			
Week 1			
Tuesday 5th May	Wednesday 6th May	Thursday 7th May	Friday 8th May
Breakfast served from 7.50am Masterclass from 8am: Health and Social		Breakfast served from 7.50am Masterclass from 8am: Drama	Breakfast served from 7.50am Masterclass from 8am: Business
Morning Exams - 9am Start			
Health & Social Care Exam 9am - 11am	No Exams	No Exams	Sports Studies Exam 9am - 10.15am
Lunch 30 minutes	Lunch 30 minutes	Lunch 30 minutes	Lunch 30 minutes
Afternoon Exams 1.30pm Start			
No Exams	No Exams	No Exams	No Exams
	Masterclass P4 and 5 - Drama	Masterclass P4 - Drama Masterclass 4 & 5 - Sports Studies	Masterclass P4 - English Y Band Masterclass P5 - English X Band
Enrichment 3pm - 4pm: French			Enrichment 3pm - 4pm: R.S



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GCSE Examinations 2026				
Week 2				
Monday 11th May	Tuesday 12th May	Wednesday 13th May	Thursday 14th May	Friday 15th May
Breakfast served from 7.50am	Breakfast served from 7.50am	Breakfast served from 7.50am	Breakfast served from 7.50am	Breakfast served from 7.50am
Masterclass from 8am: English	Masterclass from 8am: Religious Studies	Masterclass from 8am: Geography	Masterclass from 8am: Maths	Masterclass from 8am: History
Morning Exams - 9am Start				
Masterclass P3 Religious Studies	Masterclass P1 & 2 - Biology X Band P2 - Biology - all students P3 - Biology Y Band	Masterclass P1 & 2 Computer Science		
English Literature: Component 1 Exam 9am - 11am	Religious Studies Exam 9am - 11am	Geography Exam 9am - 11am	Maths: Paper 1 Exam 9am - 10.30am	History Exam 9am - 10.20am
Lunch 30 minutes	Lunch 30 minutes	Lunch 30 minutes	Lunch 30 minutes	Lunch 30 minutes
Afternoon Exams 1.30pm Start				
No Exams	Biology Exam 1.30pm - 3.15pm	Computer Science Exam 1.30pm - 3pm	No Exams	No Exams
Masterclass P4 & 5 - Geography		Masterclass P4 Maths X Band P5 - Maths Y Band	Masterclass P4 & 5 History	Masterclass P4 Chemistry Y Band P5 Chemistry X Band
Enrichment 3pm - 4pm: Science	Enrichment 3pm - 4pm: Science	Enrichment 3pm - 4pm: Maths	Enrichment 3pm - 4pm: History	