

WJEC GCSE & A Level Art & Design Winter 2026 Newsletter

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1. Key dates for summer 2026

Externally Set Assignment paper released to teachers/candidates	GCSE: 2 nd January 2026 A Level: 1 st February 2026
Final Entries deadline	21 st February 2026
Moderator to contact centre to arrange visit date	End of April 2026
Externally Set Assignment GCSE - 10 hours A Level - 15 hours	Date(s) to be set internally within the centre
Marks to be submitted to WJEC	31 st May 2026
Creative/Learner Statements & Mark Sheets completed/printed	To be ready for your moderator on arrival
Moderation window	GCSE: 1 st June – 3 rd July 2026 AS/A Level: 8 th June – 3 rd July 2026

2. Informing candidates of their marks

This is a reminder that before submitting marks, centres must ensure that they have followed their internal appeals procedure. Candidates must be informed of their centre assessed marks so that they may request a review of the centre's marking before marks are submitted to WJEC.

Candidates must be informed of their marks for all units and JCQ suggest they are given at least 5 working days to request a review of marking within the centre.

Further information is available in the [JCQ Guidance Document](#).

3. Internet use during the ESA 10/15 hours

During the Externally Set Assignment sustained focus period, candidates can access web-based software applications, however no other use of the Internet is allowed.

Once the sustained focus period has commenced, learners must not have access outside the sustained focus period sessions, either to their preparatory study and research work, or to work produced during the sustained focus period. This includes digital files and cloud storage. At the end of each sustained focus session, all candidates' work must be stored securely by the centre.

4. Exemplar Materials

NEA Exemplar from the 2025 cohort is now available on Portal under:

'Resources' > 'Subject-Specific Support Material inc CPD and Exemplars'.

Filters: Subject> Art & Design, Level> GCSE or GCE, Type of Document> Exemplar Materials, Brand> WJEC.

5. Contact Us

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the Art & Design team at artanddesign@wjec.co.uk or 029 2240 4304.