

WJEC GCSE History Newsletter, January 2026

Happy New Year. We hope you all had an enjoyable Christmas break.

We hope you find the information in this newsletter helpful as you plan for the remainder of the academic year and as you prepare to begin teaching the new GCSE History qualification.

Summer Examinations 2026

A copy of the full timetable can be found [here](#).

Unit 1 Studies in Depth – Wales and the wider perspective 1hr	Wednesday 13th May (afternoon)
Unit 2 Studies in Depth – History with a European/world focus 1hr	Tuesday 2nd June (afternoon)
Unit 3 Thematic Studies from a broad historical perspective 1hr 15m	Tuesday 9th June (afternoon)

Unit 4: Working as an Historian/NEA Submissions

A full list of key dates can be found [here](#).

Marks must be submitted via IAMIS. Mark input screens for entering June 2026 centre-assessed marks will open on **10th March**. The moderator must receive the sample no later than **5 May 2026**.

Details of your allocated moderator are usually available on the WJEC Portal secure website from April each year. Please do not assume that your moderator will remain the same annually. All resources related to the administration of the NEA can be found [here](#).

When sending the sample, you should also provide the moderator with a separate file containing:

- the H1 form (even though marks are submitted electronically)
- the H2 authentication form for each candidate in the sample
- copies of the exercises, including source packs and the mark scheme if these have been contextualised
- any additional information the moderator may require (e.g., if you have substituted any candidates in the sample)

New GCSE

As we continue to develop assessment materials for the new GCSE, we have made some minor amendments to the Specifications and to the mark schemes for the Sample Assessment Materials. We encourage you to ensure that you are using the most up-to-date versions, which are available on our website. Please also note the upcoming professional learning taking place in January, which will focus on Unit 4.

In **June 2026**, we will be releasing the first series of items for all Unit 2 options in PDF format, ahead of the assessment window running from January to March 2027. These materials will support you in preparing the first cohort of learners for the unit.

Professional Learning

In preparation for delivering Unit 4 of the new GCSE, we will be hosting a **Preparing to Assess** event in January 2026.

- The English-medium session will take place on **20 January**, and you can book your place [here](#).
- The Welsh-medium session will be held on **22 January**, and bookings can be made [here](#)

Exemplar materials will also be provided as part of this event.

GCSE Resources

A full suite of resources to cover the new History GCSE can be found [here](#).

While we're in the process of migrating all content to the new system, existing resources will still be available on our legacy site. If you can't find what you're looking for on our updated site, please visit [our previous resources site](#).

Historic Palaces Inspiring Teaching Awards

This brand-new national award is designed to celebrate teachers. Nominations are free and simple to do and can be submitted by anyone over 18. The charity is encouraging, colleagues, parents, guardians, governors – and teachers themselves – to champion brilliant history teachers making a difference. On Saturday 20 June 2026, a prestigious ceremony will be held at the Tower of London where the 10 regional and national winners will be celebrated, and the overall winner will be revealed. HRP's Inspiring Teaching Awards are now open for entries at <https://teachingawards.hrp.org.uk/>. Entries will close on Sunday 25 January 2026.

Good luck with the forthcoming term, please do not hesitate to get in touch if we can assist you in any way.

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