

# EDUQAS MEDIA STUDIES

## JANUARY 2025 NEWSLETTER

Happy New Year! We hope you had a great break!

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## 1. EXAMINER/MODERATOR VACANCIES

We are now recruiting for the 2025 exam series! If you are interested in enhancing your subject knowledge, getting extensive training on assessment and networking with experienced teachers and professionals, all at the same time as earning money, then you should consider becoming a GCSE, AS or A Level examiner or moderator.

If you would like to know more about what the role of examiner or moderator entails, you can see our Appointee FAQs which are available on the qualification webpages: [Eduqas A Level Media Studies](#) and [Eduqas GCSE Media Studies](#). If you're not sure whether the role is for you, take a look at the 'Being an Eduqas Media Appointee' document, which will tell you what some of our most experienced examiners and moderators have to say about the role.

Complete an online application today or contact [media@eduqas.co.uk](mailto:media@eduqas.co.uk) with any questions.

## 2. SET PRODUCT CHANGES

### A LEVEL

Due to the closure of *gal-dem*, there is a set product change for A Level Media Studies Component 2, Section C: Media in the Online Age.

*gal-dem* has been replaced by *Thiiird* (<https://www.thiiirdmagazine.co.uk/>) for first assessment in 2025.

In assessment in 2025, candidates will be permitted to refer to either *gal-dem* or *Thiiird* as a set product in Group 2. *gal-dem* will no longer be accepted as a set product in assessment from 2026 onwards.

A Circular has been sent to all centres, and more information can be found in the specification on the qualification webpages: [Eduqas A Level Media Studies](#).

### GCSE

We have exciting new set products changes in the GCSE Specification for first assessment in 2027 (first teaching in 2025).

The changes to the GCSE specification are:

- In Component 1 Section A, *This Girl Can* (2015) is replaced by *NHS 111* (2023).
- In Component 1 Section B, *The Archers* is replaced by [Desert Island Discs](#).
- In Component 2 Section A, *Luther* (Series 1, episode 1, 2010, cert. 15) is replaced by *Trigger Point* (Series 2, Episode 1, 2024, cert. 15).

A Circular has been sent to all centres, and more information can be found in the specification on the qualification webpages: [Eduqas GCSE Media Studies](#).

### 3. RESOURCES

#### NEW RESOURCES

We have lots of fantastic new resources available to support teachers in the delivery of all levels of Media Studies.

For AS and A Level, we have new resources to support teaching and learning of Component 2, Section A: Television (specifically *Black Mirror*, *Peaky Blinders*, *Killing Eve* and *Tehran*), and Section C: Online Media (specifically Zoe Sugg, KSI/JJ Olatunji, *Thiiird*, and *Attitude*).

For GCSE, the new resources support the teaching and learning of the music video and online set products in Component 2, Section B for Stormzy, Lizzo, and Taylor Swift.

The new resources and many more can be accessed on the [Eduqas Resources Website](#).

We are also in the process of producing resources to support the teaching and learning of the new set products detailed in Item 2, and updated resources to support the teaching on newspapers at GCSE and AS/A Level, and advertising and marketing at GCSE.

#### EXEMPLAR MATERIALS

Exemplar from the 2024 series is now available for all components for GCSE, AS and A Level. This contains unannotated and annotated responses to selected questions and NEA briefs from the 2024 assessment series. This replaces the Online Exam Review in 2024 and can be found on [Portal](#) (the secure website).

[Portal](#) (the secure website) also includes a range of materials to support teaching, including materials from previous CPD events, past exam papers and mark schemes and non-exam assessment briefs.

Please see our [Useful Resources Guide](#) for further details on all our resources and where they can be found.

### 4. CPD AND PROFESSIONAL LEARNING EVENTS

We held a very successful series of CPD events held in the Autumn term, including a series of events reflecting on the assessments of 2024, and a fantastic session that focused on Teaching Contexts. You can access the materials for that fantastic event on [Portal](#).

In the spring term, we have a mix of face-to-face and online CPD/PL events available, and you can book your places for those events now.

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

| When?                    | Where?     | What?                       |
|--------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|
| 21 <sup>st</sup> Jan '25 | Leeds      | Teaching GCSE Media Studies |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> Jan '25 | Birmingham |                             |
| 23 <sup>rd</sup> Jan '25 | London     |                             |

|                           |            |                                 |
|---------------------------|------------|---------------------------------|
| 28 <sup>th</sup> Jan '25  | Manchester | Teaching A Level Media Studies  |
| 29 <sup>th</sup> Jan '25  | Birmingham |                                 |
| 30 <sup>th</sup> Jan '25  | London     |                                 |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> Feb '25  | Online     | How to teach NEA (GCSE and GCE) |
| 18 <sup>th</sup> June '25 | Online     | Planning your Curriculum (GCSE) |
| 26 <sup>th</sup> June '25 | Online     | Planning your Curriculum (GCE)  |

Book your places here:

[GCSE CPD/PL Events](#)

[A Level CPD/PL Events](#)

CPD Materials from all previous CPD events are available on the [Portal](#) (the secure website).

Please see our [CPD Menu](#) for details about what is available and how to access the resources.

## 5. 2024 EXAMINER REPORTS

The GCSE, AS and A Level Examiner Reports on the 2024 series are now available on the subject pages. These reports reflect on the 2024 assessment series, and they offer advice from the Principal Examiners and Moderators that can be used to support effective teaching and assessment strategies.

[GCSE](#)

[AS/A Level](#)

## 6. AS/A LEVEL MEDIA STUDIES KEY DATES

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| Sunday 1 September    | AS Level Component 3 NEA briefs for assessment in 2025 published on <a href="#">Portal</a> (the secure website)         |
| Saturday 1 March      | A Level and GCSE Component 3 NEA briefs for assessment in 2026 published on <a href="#">Portal</a> (the secure website) |
| Monday 10 March       | <b>GCSE</b> - Internal Assessment Mark Input System (IAMIS) opens for Component 3 NEA marks to be submitted             |
| Tuesday 1 April       | <b>AS/A Level</b> - Internal Assessment Mark Input System (IAMIS) opens for Component 3 NEA marks to be submitted       |
| Monday 28 April       | <b>GCSE</b> - <i><u>Recommended</u> C3 NEA mark submission deadline</i>   |
| Monday 5 May          | <b>GCSE NEA SUBMISSION DEADLINE</b><br>Centres' samples must be uploaded to IAMIS <b>BY</b> this date.                  |
| Thursday 8 May        | <b>AS/A Level</b> - <i><u>Recommended</u> C3 NEA mark submission deadline</i>   |
| Thursday 15 May       | <b>AS/A LEVEL NEA SUBMISSION DEADLINE</b><br>Centres' samples must be uploaded to IAMIS <b>BY</b> this date.            |
| Tuesday 13 May (pm)   | Eduqas AS Component 1 Examination   |
| Wednesday 14 May (pm) | Eduqas GCSE Component 1 Examination   |
| Monday 19 May (pm)    | Eduqas A Level Component 1 Examination  |
| Wednesday 21 May (am) | Eduqas AS Component 2 Examination   |
| Thursday 22 May (pm)  | Eduqas GCSE Component 2 Examination   |
| Thursday 5 June (pm)  | Eduqas A Level Component 2 Examination  |
| Thursday 14 August    | AS/A Level Results Day  |
| Thursday 21 August    | GCSE Results Day  |

Source: [Key Dates and Timetables webpage](#).

## 7. NON-EXAM ASSESSMENT: UPDATES

### NEA BRIEFS

The NEA briefs for GCSE and A Level (for assessment in 2025) were released on 1 March 2024.

The NEA briefs for AS (for assessment in 2025) were released on 1 September 2024.

The NEA briefs for GCSE and A Level (for assessment in 2026) will be released on 1 March 2025.

The NEA briefs for AS (for assessment in 2026) will be released on 1 September 2025.

The NEA briefs are available on the [Portal](#) (the secure website). Please see our [NEA briefs guide](#) for details on how to find the NEA briefs.

Teachers are reminded that the briefs change every year, and of the importance of completing the correct brief for the year of assessment.

The Principal Moderators for GCSE and A Level qualifications have produced video walkthrough of the GCSE and A Level NEA Briefs and accompanying Notes for Guidance. These can be found on [Portal](#) (the secure website) under 'Training and Guidance'.

Teachers will need a **username and password** to access the [Portal](#) (the secure website) which is provided by their **Exams Officer**, and **permissions for all areas of the site** to access the briefs.

### COVERSHEETS

Please note that revised versions of the coversheets were released in March 2024, and these **must** be used for assessment in 2025.

The coversheets have been revised to include:

- a statement about the use of AI in the candidate and teacher/assessor declaration
- a reminder that candidates who do not submit a production must be awarded zero marks for the Statement of Aims.

Coversheets are now available in PDF and Word format. The PDF format has been designed to support teachers and candidates to complete and submit the coversheets easily and accurately. **We recommend using a fully featured PDF reader, such as Adobe Acrobat, to complete the form.**

### NEA SUBMISSION – NO MORE SURPASS!

From summer 2025, Media Studies NEA samples, which were previously uploaded via Surpass, must be uploaded via [Portal](#) (the secure website).

Media Studies NEA samples will be uploaded onto our Internal Assessment Mark Input System (IAMIS). This will save time as upload of marks and upload of samples can be completed together within one system without the need to wait 48 hours for a key code (key codes are not necessary on IAMIS).

Please be aware that centres will need to factor in the time needed to upload the sample folders after the sample has been generated, and therefore we do recommend that marks be uploaded a week before the upload deadline.

Further instructions have been sent to Exams Officers, and more information will be provided in our April newsletter.

## 8. CENTRE MAP

[Sign up to our Centre Map](#) to network and share good practice with other centres taking Eduqas Media Studies in your area.

Once you have added your details to the centre map, you will be given the link to view the map. Please save this link so you can access the map in future. If you do lose the link or would like to amend any of your details, please contact [media@eduqas.co.uk](mailto:media@eduqas.co.uk).

## 9. CONTACT US

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the Media Studies team at [media@eduqas.co.uk](mailto:media@eduqas.co.uk) or 029 2240 4308.