

EDUQAS GCSE MEDIA STUDIES

APRIL 2026 NEWSLETTER

Contents

1. Examiner/moderator vacancies	2
2. RESOURCES.....	2
3. Audio-Visual Materials	2
4. Specification Updates.....	2
Set Product Changes.....	2
5. NON-EXAM ASSESSMENT	3
NEA BRIEFS	3
SUBMISSION.....	3
CHANGES TO THE NEA SAMPLE SIZE	3
6. GCSE Media Studies Key Dates.....	4
7. Centre map	4
8. Contact us.....	4

1. EXAMINER/MODERATOR VACANCIES

We are now recruiting for the 2026 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 with any questions.

2. RESOURCES

We have released a video produced by the Principal Moderator to support accurate assessment of NEA. This resource is designed to help centres to assess their NEA work accurately and discusses a range of work and the commonly observed issues that lead to inaccurate assessment of NEA folders.

It is available on [Portal](#) under Subject Specific Support Material > Non-Examination Assessment Tasks.

3. AUDIO-VISUAL MATERIALS

From the summer 2026 examination series, Eduqas will no longer be despatching DVD materials to centres for assessments with audio-visual content. This material will be made available to centres as an MP4 resource only, downloadable through our Portal site.

These files will be created as a single, complete file including pauses as per the outgoing DVD provision.

In line with previous years, these files will be available one working day prior to the assessment date to allow centres adequate time to set up equipment for the examination. Centres are not permitted to check the content of the recording.

4. SPECIFICATION UPDATES

SET PRODUCT CHANGES

Centres are advised that the newspaper front pages set for Component 1, Section A are changing to help ensure the specification is kept up to date:

- *The Guardian*, (January 18, 2022) has been replaced by *The Guardian*, (May 06, 2025).
- *The Sun*, (January 01, 2021) has been replaced by *The Sun*, (March 22, 2025).

These changes will take effect for first teaching in September 2026 and first assessment in 2028 onwards. The changes were first communicated via circular in September 2025.

Centres are reminded that there are three set product changes for GCSE Media Studies for first teaching in September 2025 and for first assessment in 2027 (revisions first communicated via circular in September 2024).

- 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).

Full details can be found in the updated specification on the qualification webpage: [Eduqas GCSE Media Studies](#).

The new set products can be found in the set products booklet on Portal. Centres must ensure that they download the appropriate set product booklet for each year of teaching.

5. NON-EXAM ASSESSMENT

NEA BRIEFS

The NEA briefs for GCSE (for assessment in 2026) were released on 1 March 2025.

The NEA briefs for GCSE (for assessment in 2027) were released on 1 March 2026.

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.

SUBMISSION

Please note that the deadline for submission of Non-Exam Assessment (NEA) for assessment is:

- **GCSE – 5th May**

This date is set, and does not change from year to year.

Media Studies NEA marks will be uploaded onto our Internal Assessment Mark Input System (IAMIS) on [Portal](#). 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.

If you are responsible for entering marks and uploading work on IAMIS, please ensure you have an account on [Portal](#). Your Exams Officer will set you up with this account.

Please ensure when uploading work that all candidate declaration forms have been signed by **both** the candidate and the teacher prior to uploading.

We have several guides which provide information on how to submit the NEA work on IAMIS for moderation:

- [Media Studies NEA e-Submission Guide](#) (available under 'non-exam assessment')
Summarises key information about the NEA submission and moderation process.
- [Eduqas E-Submission webpage](#)
Contains guidance about all aspects of the NEA submission process, including frequently asked questions.
- [E-Submission Centre Guide](#)
Guidance on the process of submitting work for moderation.
- [E-Submission Subject Guide](#)
Published in the Spring term, provides details on accepted file types/upload limits etc. for each subject.
- [Internal Assessment Mark Input System \(IAMIS\) step-by-step guide](#)
Describes how to submit marks and upload work to IAMIS.
- [Centre's guide to using IAMIS for NEA submissions](#)
Video guide on submitting marks and uploading work to IAMIS.

CHANGES TO THE NEA SAMPLE SIZE

In line with other JCQ awarding organisations, from summer 2026 we will increase the initial sample size collected from centres as per the following table.

Number of candidates entered for the NEA component	Number of candidates included in the NEA sample
Up to 5	All
6-10	All
11-15	All
16-100	15
101-200	20
Over 200	25

The sample will be generated electronically by [Portal](#).

There is no change to the moderation process; collecting a slightly larger sample on the NEA submission deadline date means that we are less likely to contact you later during the moderation period to request additional samples. However, we do still reserve the right to request the whole cohort should we deem it necessary. Therefore, centres must ensure that all candidate work and relevant NEA forms are stored securely in the centre.

6. GCSE MEDIA STUDIES KEY DATES

Sunday 1st March 2026	Component 3 NEA briefs (for assessment in 2027) released
Tuesday 10th March 2026	GCSE - Internal Assessment Mark Input System (IAMIS) opens for Component 3 NEA marks to be submitted.
Tuesday 5th May 2026	GCSE NEA SUBMISSION DEADLINE Centres' samples must be uploaded to IAMIS BY this date.
Monday 18th May (pm) 2026	GCSE Component 1 Examination
Tuesday 2nd June (pm) 2026	GCSE Component 2 Examination
Thursday 20th August 2026	GCSE Results Day

7. 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.

8. CONTACT US

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