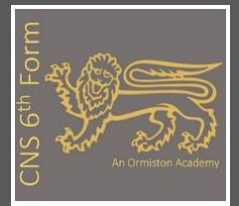




# The 6<sup>th</sup> Form Semester Model



At CNS 6<sup>th</sup> Form we have a semester model of assessments across the 2 years of study.

This intentionally resembles the language of universities and breaks away from the 3-term school calendar. In doing so we have designed a valid assessment programme where students are assessed in a formal way once every three months; it encourages revision and consolidation over a longer period of time rather than simply having topic tests in class.

There are three types of formal assessment:

1. Mid-semester – 90 mins, Gym, normal lessons, narrowed content
2. End of Semester – Up to 3hr papers, Gym, reading week, full content
3. Mock Exams – Full papers, up to three papers per subject, Gym, reading week, full content

What do they count towards?

- All results are recorded on Go4Schools
- Reports sent to parents and students
- The 6<sup>th</sup> form analyse all results and inform interventions
- Informs UCAS forecasts (and CAGs if necessary)



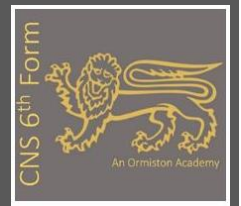
## 6<sup>th</sup> Form Semester Assessment Model 2022-24



Assessment	Date/ Timeframe	Location	Reading week?	Format	Content	Guidance	Grading
<b>Yr12 Gap Tasks</b>	Set on induction day and on the website. Due in from students by Fri 9 <sup>th</sup> Sept.	Home	No	Open	Pre-work to bridge between GCSE and A-Levels.	Students given tasks at induction and website videos: <a href="https://www.cns-school.org/Sixth-Form-Induction-Gap-Tasks/">https://www.cns-school.org/Sixth-Form-Induction-Gap-Tasks/</a>	None / Open – formative /feedback only.
<b>Yr12 Baseline</b>	Assessment is in w/b 3 <sup>rd</sup> Oct (week 5). Data due on Go4Schools Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> Oct. Shared in class.	In class	No	Open format – assesses 25 marks worth of AO1 and AO2 content.	Based on the first 4-5 weeks of A-level teaching only. Music, Art and Tech will be practical based.	Students are told to revise everything covered so far.	Raw score out of 25 marks (no grading)
<b>Yr12 Mid-Semesters 1</b>	w/b 5 <sup>th</sup> December 2022. Data Go4Schools 12 <sup>th</sup> January 2023. Reports published Fri 13 <sup>th</sup> Jan.	Gym	No – no new teaching in lessons	Part exam papers – max of 90 minutes.	Assesses work from any aspect of the course but may focus on a particular topic or paper.	Students can be guided in terms of topics or papers but should still be encouraged to revise a wide range.	A-Level Grade
<b>Yr12 End of Semester 1 Exams</b>	w/b 6 <sup>th</sup> March 2023. Data Go4Schools Tue 28 <sup>th</sup> March. Reports published Thu 30 <sup>th</sup> Jan.	Gym	Yes	Full Exam papers x 1 per subject	All content covered so far.	To use past papers. Students must revise full content. This is preparation for a real exam.	A-Level Grade
<b>Yr12 Mid-Semesters 2</b>	w/b 5 <sup>th</sup> June 2023. Data Go4Schools Wed 28 <sup>th</sup> June. Reports published Thu 20 <sup>th</sup> June	Class	No	Part exam papers – short 45min papers.	Assesses work from any aspect of the course but may focus on a particular topic or paper.	Students should be guided in terms of topics or papers but should still be encouraged to revise a range.	A-Level Grade
<b>Yr13 End of Semester 2 Exams</b>	w/b 18 <sup>th</sup> September 2023.  Data due on Go4Schools on Thu 12 <sup>th</sup> Oct.	Gym	Yes	Full Exam papers x 1 per subject	All content covered so far.	To use past papers. No narrowing of content for revision other than any government guidance so far. Students must revise full content. This is preparation for a real exam.	A-Level Grade
<b>Yr13 Mock Exams</b>	w/b 15 <sup>th</sup> January 2024.  Data due on Go4Schools Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> February.	Gym	Yes	Full Exam papers up to 2 per subject.	All content covered so far.	To use past papers. Only narrow the revision based on any government guidance so far. Students must revise full content. This is preparation for a real exam.	A-Level Grade



# Revision



Revision for A-Levels should be continuous. Every lesson should be followed up by revisiting and restructuring your notes, reading the textbook on that topic and attempting the questions.

Your subject teachers will let you know the topics that will be assessed.

## **STEM subjects:**

- Read your notes on that topic.
- Use textbooks to support the reading.
- Seneca learning.
- Retrieval roulette questions.
- **CRUCIALLY:** Use past papers, mark schemes and examiner reports that are available on all of the exam board websites. Use the mark schemes alongside the papers initially, this will help speed you up and also you will get used to examiner language used.

## **Essay/Text subjects:**

- Read your notes on that topic.
- Revisit set texts: be aware of plot, chronology of events, themes, character development.
- Use past papers and mark schemes for question types and styles.
- Practice essay based responses to previous questions and ask your teachers for feedback in class.

## Top Tips from “What Uni?”

<https://www.whatuni.com/advice/sixth-form-life/top-ten-a-level-revision-tips/10372/>

### Be organised

Plan out your revision by making a revision timetable. This will also allow you to split up your study into chunks, making it seem much more achievable. Be realistic when creating this timetable, to not cram too much revision into one day.

### Give yourself plenty of time

The earlier you can start your revision, the better. You'll be more prepared heading into your assessments and can spend more time studying the topics you find difficult.

If you're unsure when to start revising for A-Levels, we spoke to some sixth form students to ask when they begin revising and how to get going.

### Understand the assessment objectives

Make sure you understand how you'll be assessed and what questions might come up. This should dictate both what and how you study. The more knowledge you have of the assessment before it happens, the better prepared you'll be when the time comes.

### Try different learning methods

Switch up how you learn by engaging some different senses. If you typically learn best by reading and writing, try also verbalising your revision out loud or teaching it to a friend. Adding variety can help to commit ideas more firmly to memory.

### Use different learning materials

Don't just stick with learning a topic through a textbook. The Internet is your oyster. Watching documentaries or videos on the topics you're trying to learn can be a new and engaging way to revise. Seek out articles, podcasts and books on the topic too.

### Practice past papers

Past papers are a great indicator of what might come up in your assessment. Time yourself while doing them to see how you perform under test conditions. This way, when it's time to be tested, you'll feel more prepared.

Ask your teachers and tutors for past papers. You can also usually find past papers online.

### Take breaks

To revise effectively, you'll need to split up your study with breaks. It's not wise to study for hours on end without stepping away from your work. Taking breaks allows your brain to refresh and reset. This is particularly useful if you're finding a certain topic challenging.

Incorporate exercise into these breaks too, as moving your body will give you more energy to continue learning.

### Remove distractions

Avoid having your phone with you while you study. The allure of social media, and other apps, can be too distracting. Try leaving your phone in another room so you don't get tempted to reach for it. If you need it nearby, download the Forest app which will motivate you to stay focused and not use your phone.

### Sleep

You'll struggle to study effectively without sufficient rest. You'll find it difficult to concentrate on your work and your motivation to study can fade. Lack of sleep also impairs memory, making it hard to recall important ideas when it matters. Prioritise getting between 7 to 9 hours each night.

### Be mindful of what you eat

What you put into your body will affect the quality of what you put out. Fuelling your brain and body with a balanced, nutritious diet will only benefit the effectiveness of your revision. Foods that'll ensure your brain is firing include fruit, nuts, seeds, wholegrains and vegetables. Don't forget to supplement this with plenty of water.