

Dear Parents/Carers

Re: Year 11 Exams 2023

I am writing to inform you of the details relating to your child's upcoming Year 11 mock examinations.

Please find enclosed the examination timetable. The main written exams take place between 4th December and 19th December 2023, with additional practical exams noted elsewhere on the attached timetable.

These Year 11 exams will assess your child's learning based on the work completed since the start of their individual GCSE courses. They are vitally important as a progress-check to assess the nature and extent of students' progress over this time so staff are able to inform their planning in the coming months, as well as allowing students a clear focus for independent study to further improve before their final examinations.

Given the recent changing nature of examination formats, with the move to linear exams at the end of Year 11, it is even more important students are given every experience of the nature, style, and format of these final examinations at interim stages in their courses, culminating in their final examination during May/June 2024. As such, all examinations, apart from practical's, will take place in the Main Hall, where students will sit their final examinations at the end of Year 11; enabling them to become more familiar with the required surroundings.

Your child's preparation for these Year 11 mock exams will, therefore, be very important and staff will have spoken to students about them in class already. Students will also have revision tutor-lessons during tutorial time, focusing on effective revision strategies, together with the opportunity to trial different methods every morning in short, sharp chunks, which is our recommended strategy. These will be supplemented by subject-specific guidance in lessons and tasks for homework and it is expected that students will also carry out their own independent revision, during November and December, leading up to the mock examinations. They will have access to a range of revision support materials and study-aids via their subject staff, with signposting on Class Charts, as well as specific guidance within assemblies in the lead up to their examinations. The week beginning 20th November until the end of the examinations will also be dedicated to revision homework tasks only and no new learning.

Teachers will be informing students directly of the topics being assessed in each subject. An overview version of these is also attached so you are able to support your child in their preparation. Subject information pages are also attached and can also be found on the school website.

The first parents evening of the year is a virtual one and through invitation only. We are currently in the process of inviting parents to attend prior to the end of the term, the actual evening is on 16th November 2023.

Important upcoming dates for year 11:

- Y11 Progress review 1 goes home to parents on the 23rd October 2023;
- Y11 Mock examination results 16th January 2024;
- Y11 Progress review 2 goes home on the 31st January 2024;
- Y11 Parents Revision Evening 6th February 2024.

I appreciate your assistance in supporting your child to prepare themselves for these upcoming examinations and please do not hesitate to contact either myself or your child's tutor, if you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely,



Mr S Thomas
Head of Year 11