



9 October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Year 11 Key Exam Dates 2020 - 2021

I am writing to share with you some important dates for your diary for this academic year 2020-2021.

Year 11 Mock Examinations - November 2020 and February 2021

Year 11 students will be having two GCSE mock exams sessions over this academic year.

The first session will be held during the weeks beginning 9th and 16th November, and will be for all subjects. The timetable for this exam period is included on the Parent Weekly Bulletin. Students will have received a personalised timetable and exams pack of information via their tutor. The students who have a 'clash' of exams have been advised of the re-arranged time for their clash exam.

All students should attend lessons when they do not have an exam. If they have an afternoon exam they should not go to registration as we will register students in the exam.

Please note that some afternoon exams will run on beyond the end of the school day, so your child may need to arrange alternative means of travelling home.

The second session of mock exams will be held in the week beginning 22nd February 2021 and will be for core subjects only. The timetable for this will be given to students in January.

The mock exams will provide your child with the opportunity to practice exam techniques in relation to the real GCSE exams that they will be sitting next summer.

COVID- 19 Safety procedures for exams

The following procedures will be in place during the exam period:

- Students will be required to sanitise their hands as they enter and leave their exam room;
- All exam desks will have been sanitised before exams start and all students will sit at the same desk for each exam;
- Students who sit their exams in the gym will need to leave their mobile phone switched off either in their bag (unsupervised in the hall), or put in a plastic wallet under their exam desk. It must be switched off and not left in their pocket. Students who sit exams in another room need to take their bag with them, and keep their mobile phone switched off in their bag (bags are kept in the exam room).

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Exam equipment

As we are encouraging all students to have their own writing equipment in school, the following information is particularly important.

Please remind your son/daughter that:

- they must have a **clear pencil case** (or clear plastic bag) for their equipment for all their exams;
- they must do their written work in **black ink or biro only**;
- they need a calculator for all Science exams and the Maths calculator papers;
- drinks bottles must be clear and labels removed;
- they should **not** have a mobile phone, watch, or any electronic devices on them.

There will be limited equipment available in the exams that the exam invigilators can hand out. This equipment will be sanitised before and after each exam, however, it is advisable that students bring their own.

For the students who sit exams in the gym, their bags may be left unattended whilst they are in exams, therefore students must not leave valuables in them. The school is not responsible for valuable items left in unattended bags.

Exam Period - Summer 2021

The GCSE exam period for summer 2021 has not been confirmed yet by the Exam Boards. This will be communicated to you as soon as we have this information. Once confirmed, your child may not be taking exams during every day of the exam period but they will need to be available throughout this whole time period. During the spring term, students will be sent individualised timetables that will highlight when their exams start and finish.

GCSE Exam Contingency Day

In previous years, JCQ (Joint Council for Qualifications) and the Exam Boards have arranged a contingency day. This contingency day was arranged for GCSE examinations in the event of national or local disruption arising during the summer examination series. If this Contingency Day is intended for summer 2021 we will communicate this to you as soon as possible. All students will need to be available from the start of the summer exam series up to and including the Contingency Day date.

Thank you for your continued support of the school. I would like to take this opportunity to wish your child every success in these exams.

Yours faithfully



Mr M Harpin
Head of Year 11