

Tuesday, 04 October 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

Mock Examinations

I am writing to update you with information regarding the forthcoming Mock Assessments for Year 11 which are due to take place between Monday 14 November and Friday 2 December.

Mock Assessments are an ideal opportunity for students to experience the preparation, organisation and expectations required for the GCSE period. Consequently, the exams are run under the same regulations used during the summer exams and behaviour should be exemplary. Students failing to abide by exam board regulations will be sanctioned accordingly.

This year the Government has indicated that exams will return to the pre pandemic standard of deliver. This means that students will **not** be provided with advanced information for their examinations, which they were provided with last year. There is currently a consultation from the Government around the use of formula sheets for Science and Mathematics examinations. Prepandemic these were not provided for exams. Last year they were provided as a supportive measure put in place for students. The consultation is seeking the views of teachers, parents, carers and students whether formula sheets are beneficial to support students this year for these subjects. Subject leaders have already completed this consultation and I would highly encourage parents, carers and students to also respond. The link to the consultation is DfE Consultation.

Please remind your child of the importance of these mock exams. Mock assessments will be run under the same regulations used during the GCSE exams. JCQ, the governing board who oversee exams, have stated that any incidents of malpractice during mock exams must be reported to exam boards. Examples of malpractice would be being in possession of/using a mobile phone or submitting fabricated evidence or plagiarised work. Such incidents would constitute malpractice and centres must report these to the appropriate awarding organisations. This means that behaviour should be exemplary, and all exam conditions must be adhered to.

Teachers will be providing students with revision materials this term, to support them in preparing for their upcoming Mock Assessments. Students should be preparing for these assessments using the materials provided.

If your child has been granted access arrangements via the JCQ they will be provided with these for exams. All access arrangements are given based on the candidates' normal way of working and if they are not used correctly they will be removed for future assessment and examination series.

Students will attend school as usual. A timetable will be sent out to you as once this has been finalised. This will support you to prepare your child in preparing for their assessments. If they are not in an exam, then they will be expected to attend their scheduled lessons.

Students are expected to bring with them all their equipment. Any specialist equipment needed for the assessment will be supplied by the Academy.

Please note the exams that are scheduled for P5 will finish past 3:00pm.

We wish your child the best of luck with the assessments.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs T Deane

Assistant Principal