

November 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

In order to fully prepare our Year 11 pupils for the challenges of the summer examination period, we have planned a mock examination season which will run from **Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2022 to Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2022.** A generic plan of when the examinations will take place is attached to this letter and pupils have been given their own, personalised, copy for reference.

The mock examinations are a crucial part of Year 11 pupils' preparation for their final GCSE examinations, and should be approached with the same degree of seriousness and effort. In a sense they are a "dress rehearsal" for the real thing, but additionally, they are part of the learning process required to ensure that pupils achieve their potential in the summer. The process of revision and mock testing helps pupils to improve their knowledge and skills and this can be built upon even further in the summer. Conversely, failure to revise properly for mocks is bound to have a long-term detrimental effect on performance in the final examinations. Pupils and parents are also advised that colleges, sixth forms and training providers will often request mock examination results as part of a pupil's application to them for post-16 study.

All examinations will be held in our usual examination venues and will be undertaken and invigilated in formal conditions. Pupils are responsible for bringing the correct equipment for examinations and are advised to check what they need in advance with their subject teachers. For those SEND pupils who qualify for access arrangements, such as having a reader or extra time, these modifications will be provided for throughout the mock examinations.

Pupils should approach these examinations with a determination to do their best and, therefore, prepare thoroughly. Each pupil's examination result will indicate overall attainment and illustrate how well they are achieving compared to the targets set at the start of Key Stage 4 and outlined on the school report that was sent home recently.

We have already been talking to pupils of the need to undertake revision towards these examinations, and to act upon the advice and guidance given to them by their subject teachers in lessons and in most cases, shared with you during the recent Year 11 Parents' Evening.

## **Results**

Following the examinations, subject staff will mark the papers and use this information to identify individual strengths and areas for improvement. The results will be published to pupils and parents on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2023, during an official 'results day', similar to what they will experience next August.

As ever, thank you for your support in helping your child achieve their very best. We would appreciate you ensuring that they understand the significance of the forthcoming mock examinations and that they develop effective habits of studying at home to support their learning in school.

If you have any questions, please do contact me.

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Yours sincerely,

Mr J Morland Senior Assistant Headteacher/Head of Key Stage 4

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