

Dear Parents/Carers,

## RE: YEAR 11 MOCK EXAMS

As we approach the Year 11 mock examinations I thought it would be helpful to outline some key information which will support the preparation of your child. Up to now, we have had an overwhelming number of Year 11 students accessing revision support sessions, as well as excellent engagement with our revision apps GCSEPod and Tassomai. We are very encouraged by the work ethic of our Year 11 students and feel confident that we are in a strong position as we edge ever closer to the mock examinations.

As I have stated before, it is important to remember that whilst the mock examinations are essentially a 'dress rehearsal' for the external GCSEs taking place in June, they also serve as an important factor in us determining the progress of the students so far. This year in particular, mock examinations could end up being used in one form or another to make judgements about overall performance when it comes to final GCSE grades in the event that a student cannot sit exams for any reason. However, please reassure students that mock exams will certainly not be the only piece of data used. They absolutely should take these exams seriously, but also remember that hard work and consistency throughout the year will be more important than ever as the keys for them to achieve success. In the event that your child is absent for any of the mock examinations, either because they need to self-isolate or due to unavoidable illness on the day, we will look to make alternative arrangements. We will be in touch with those impacted by this individually.

The mock examination timetable has been made available on the school website and you can see it by [clicking here](#). This will support students in knowing which subjects to prioritise in their final weeks of preparation.

As you will see, the morning sessions will begin promptly at 8.30am and so we really need your support in ensuring that your child is on site by 8.15am. We will be asking Year 11 students to line up in their forms on the Languages Yard to support with a calm and safe entry into the examination venues. This year, more than ever, is it essential that students have their own equipment with them. As a minimum, this should include:

- 2 black pens
- Pencil
- Rubber
- Sharpener
- Ruler
- Scientific calculator
- Protractor
- Compass

Students will also be expected to wear a face covering as they enter and exit the examination venues but are free to remove this once sat at their own desk. Students should also have their own bottle of hand sanitiser

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with them which has any labels or writing removed. We would advise students to bring a bottle of water with them into their exams, but again, any labels should be removed prior to the exam.

As per official examination guidelines, students must switch off mobile phones and smart watches and ensure that they are left in their bags.

We wish all of our Year 11 students the very best of luck in their mock examinations, we will continue to support and encourage them in these final few weeks. Should you wish to have any further information about how you can support your child at home with effective revision strategies, please refer to our [‘Make it Stick’ presentation](#) which has been adapted this year to allow you to access at home. As always, please do not hesitate to get in touch should you need anything.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized loop followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

**Mrs E Feast**

**Assistant Headteacher- Raising Standards and Achievement**