Headteacher: Mrs Kelli Foster
BA (Hons) with QTS

Mark Rutherford School
Wentworth Drive
Bedford MK41 8PX

MARK RUTHERFORD SCHOOL

10th November 2026

Dear Parents/Carers

Year 13 mock examinations January 2026

Please find below arrangements for Year 13 mock examinations taking place in January 2027. The purpose of the January mock examinations is to provide both students and teachers with information regarding students' academic progress including their current understanding as well as any gaps in their knowledge across all subjects. It is imperative that students take the mock examinations seriously, both in terms of their preparation and conduct.

Students will undertake full mock examinations from **Monday 11th January 2027 until Tuesday 19th January 2027**.

Please note that Art and Photography mocks will take place as follows:

- Photography mock – Wednesday 20th January 2027
- Art mock – Thursday 21st January 2027

During the mock exam period, there are a number of **external examinations** taking place as indicated on the exam timetable:

Date	Subject	Time
Tuesday 12th January 2027	BTEC AAQ – Information Technology	Arrive at 1.00pm
Wednesday 13th January 2027	CTEC - Sport Studies	Arrive at 1.00pm
Thursday 14th January 2027	BTEC AAQ - Health and Social Care exam	Arrive at 1.00pm

Study leave
We have taken the decision to **allow study leave for Year 13 students** during their mock examinations during the week of **Monday 11th January 2027 until Friday 15th January 2027**. Students only need to attend school for their exams during this period, but should use this additional time at home to revise. Students are welcome to use the facilities in school to revise including the SP4L and Sixth Form areas. Students must sign in in the Sixth Form common room if they are on the school site for any periods apart from their exams.

Lessons will recommence on **Monday 18th January 2027** and all students are expected to attend their timetabled lessons as normal, unless they are in a mock exam on Monday 18th January 2027 or Tuesday 19th January 2027.

Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) regulations
During the mock examination series students will be adhering to the JCQ regulations. As per examination regulations, students must write in black biro and store all equipment in a transparent pencil case.

Students are required to bring all of the subject specific equipment they are required to use in their examination. Regarding electronic devices, in particular mobile phones, these must not be in the possession of the student inside the examination room; all such items must be handed in prior to the exam. Under DFE contingency guidance, following the examination marking, student exam papers can be shared with students during feedback lessons but must remain in school.

Punctuality and Attendance

- For a morning exam, students need to arrive at their exam location promptly at 8.25am so that the exam can begin on time at 8.45am.
- For a mid-morning exam, students must arrive at their exam location at 11.20am so that the exam can begin on time at 11.35am.
- For an afternoon exam, students must arrive at their exam location at 1.00pm so that the exam can begin on time at 1.15pm.

Any students arriving after 8.25am, 11.20am or 1.00pm will be viewed as late and students will be informed about attending a meeting to discuss their lateness to exams. Year 13 mock exams will take place in the Sports Hall and the Garner Lecture Theatre. Students' mock exam timetables will show the location and seat number for each exam.

Please be reminded that it is not possible to simply 'rearrange' a mock exam. We understand that mock exams can coincide with periods of illness, but it is also important that resilience is built and that students come into school for mock exams if at all possible. If a student is feeling unwell while attempting a mock exam, they should inform the invigilators. If a student is too ill to attend school for a mock exam, please inform the school in the usual way and please be aware that we ask for medical evidence to support with this; under exceptional circumstances we may be able to arrange an alternative time for a mock exam to take place.

If parents/careers or students have any concerns around the mock exams, please contact the Sixth Form team to discuss these. We understand that the mock exams can be a stressful time for students and Year 13 tutors will be running some tutor sessions in January, about managing anxiety and developing coping mechanisms. The exams are also, of course, an opportunity for students to demonstrate their knowledge and progress, build confidence and focus on any areas they need to improve prior to the Summer exams.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch with tutors or a member of the Sixth Form team if you have any questions about the mock exam period.

Yours faithfully





Mrs Vallance
Assistant Headteacher/Director of Sixth Form

Mr Nicholls
Head of Sixth Form