

Headteacher: Mrs Kelli Foster
BA (Hons) with QTS

Mark Rutherford School
Wentworth Drive
Bedford MK41 8PX



**MARK RUTHERFORD
SCHOOL**

14th October 2024

Dear Parent/Carers,

Year 11 November core mock examinations

We are writing to confirm arrangements for the Year 11 core mock examinations that are set to take place between **Tuesday 5th November 2024 until Monday 11th November 2024**. You will have already received a timetable earlier this term.

Year 11 students will be sitting mock examinations in **core subjects only** (English, Maths, Science). These examinations will provide students with an understanding of the demands of the GCSEs, as well as providing valuable feedback on their progress in each of the core GCSE subjects. The purpose of the mock examinations is to provide both students and teachers alike with information regarding students' current understanding as well as identify any gaps in their knowledge. It is imperative that students take the mock examinations very seriously in terms of their preparation and conduct. Subject teachers will be marking and moderating papers to ensure we are confident with our current attainment grades and make any relevant adaptations to the curriculum to ensure students have the knowledge required.

Preparation for examinations

All students have copies of knowledge organisers they should be using to prepare revision materials which is now part of our new homework policy to support students to retain knowledge in their long-term memory. In addition to all students have access to online platforms for revision including Sparx for Maths and Educake for English and Science.

You will also find attached to this letter a revision booklet that the Curriculum Leaders have created to support students with their preparation for examinations.

In addition to this, our school shop is open each day before school and at breaktime if students would like to purchase revision books or workbooks.

This week in tutor time, all students will be creating a revision timetable to share with parents to support establish revision routines. Please discuss this with your child and support by providing the time and environment for studying.

Attendance

We would like to take this opportunity to remind you that under regulations, examinations cannot be re-arranged. In order to build resilience for students, it is important that students attend all mock examinations as per their timetable. In the event that your child is too unwell to attend, we ask for medical evidence to support with this. For students with medical evidence and under exceptional circumstances, we may be able to arrange an alternative time for your child to sit this examination. However, please bear this is not something that will take place in the summer external examinations.

We understand this is a pressured time for students and students would prefer to sit their examinations when they are feeling at their best. However, as we are training students to build that resilience as we get closer to the external examinations, please note that the following examples are not acceptable reasons to not attend an

Tel: 01234 290200 • Fax: 01234 290236 • email: mark.rutherford@mrus.co.uk • www.markrutherford.beds.sch.uk

 [mark_rutherford](https://twitter.com/mark_rutherford)

 Mark Rutherford School

Company Number 08316719



examination: a headache, period pains, a cold, generally unwell, nervous about examinations. Please do contact your child's tutor if you have any concerns around your child ahead of mock examinations.

For students who would like to arrive early on the day of their mock examinations, we will be opening the B block foyer for Year 11 to have a quiet space from 8am until 8.20am. We will also be offering a light breakfast and subject teachers will be there to support students with any last-minute queries and revision support.

Formulae and equation sheets

It has been announced this week that Ofqual have launched a consultation on assessment arrangements for GCSEs in mathematics, physics and combined science in England in 2025, 2026 and 2027 regarding the requirement for examination boards to provide formulae and equations sheets. In anticipation this proposal will be confirmed, we will be providing formulae and equation sheets in this set of core mock examinations in November for all Year 11 students.

Examination timetable

Please find attached to this letter another copy of the examination timetable. Students should arrive at their allocated venue at 8.25am for a prompt start. Please note that most examinations take place in the sports hall but some students and specific examinations take place in other venues so it is important that students check on their timetable where they are sitting each exam. Students will receive their own individual timetables with seat number from their form tutors. It is important that students know their own seat number before they arrive to their examination to ensure each examination starts smoothly.

JCQ regulations

During all mock examinations students will be adhering to the JCQ regulations. We will be providing all students with a copy of the Information to Candidates booklet before half term which will require students to sign and return a candidate confirmation form. Please do look out for this and support your child to read all of the information carefully.

As per examination regulations, students must write in black biro. Students are not permitted to wear a watch in the examination room. Students will need to bring a transparent pencil case or clear plastic bag containing their equipment. Students are permitted to take a bottle of water into examinations, but this must be in a clear bottle with no labels or writing on.

We ask you to please support us to ensure your child arrives each day with the following:

- Black biro x 2
- Pencil
- Ruler
- Calculator
- Protractor
- Highlighters (optional)
- Transparent pencil case or clear plastic bag

Thank you in advance for your support during this mock examination time for your child. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's form tutor or Head of Year should you have any queries relating to your child's mock examinations.

Yours faithfully,



Mrs Elvin
Head of Year 11



Mrs Spencer
Deputy Headteacher