



11<sup>th</sup> November 2024

Dear Parent/Carers

## **Year 10 February core mock examinations**

We are writing to confirm arrangements for the Year 10 core mock examinations that are set to take place between **Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2025 until Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2025**. Students will have already received a timetable before half term.

Year 10 students will be sitting two sets of mock examinations this year. In February this will be in **core subjects only** (English, Maths, Science). In the summer term this will be for all subjects. The 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 GCSE subjects. The purpose of the mock examinations is to provide both students and teachers alike with information regarding students' current understanding as well 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.

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.

We would like to ask for your support by providing the time and environment for studying at home as well as creating a revision timetable with your child.

### **Attendance**

We would like to take this opportunity to remind you that under regulations, examinations cannot be re-arranged. Therefore, in order to build resilience for students and the experience of the examination period, it is important that students attend all mock examinations as per their timetable. In the event that your child is too unwell to attend school for an examination, 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 any 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 resilience as we get closer to the external examinations, please note that the following examples are not acceptable reasons to not attend an examination: a headache, period pains, a cold, generally unwell, nervous about examinations. If your child is not feeling their best the morning of any examinations, please do contact the school so that we can put support in place for your child. Alternatively, please do contact your child's tutor in advance if you have any concerns around your child ahead of mock examinations.

## Examination timetable

Please find attached to this letter another copy of the examination timetable. Students should arrive at their allocated venue by 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 provide all students with a copy of the Information to Candidates booklet which 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

## Mobile phones

Within JCQ regulations students must hand in any mobile phones, airpods, other electronic devices into the desk pouch for invigilators to collect during external examinations. As this will be mock examinations, we will continue with our school policy of students handing in their mobile phones to their tutor.

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



Miss Silvestri  
Head of Year 10



Mrs Spencer  
Deputy Headteacher