



Dear Parent/Carer

November Mock Exams

As part of our comprehensive Raising Achievement programme, we are running mock examinations for students in English, Maths, Science & Humanities during the week commencing 2nd November 2026. Other subjects will also run mock examinations; these will take place in normal lessons times. Subject teachers will inform students directly when these will take place.

Please find a timetable for these mock examinations at the end of this letter.

Research shows that running mock examinations is a very effective strategy in helping children and teachers prepare for the external GCSE examinations. This enables students to have a practice at revising and sitting examinations under examination conditions before the real examinations this summer. It will also enable students and staff to know exactly which areas your child requires teaching and support to achieve their target grade.

Your child should arrive in time for starting at 8:30am. For English Language and Maths, staff will also run an exam warm up session in classrooms prior to the start of the exam. They will then be registered and taken to the Main Hall. If your child has an afternoon exam, they should register as normal with their tutor and will then be escorted to the Main Hall. Students who are entitled to access arrangements **MUST** still register as normal before making their way to the room they have been allocated.

A student's absence will directly affect their achievement at school. Even one day's absence can affect their GCSE outcomes. If a child misses a GCSE examination, they are awarded a U. It is vital that we prepare and practice this during the mock period. Students should attend all November mock exams unless they require medical treatment and can obtain a medical note as to why they were unable to sit the examination exactly as would be required during the summer GCSE examinations.

Evidence shows that a student's progress and attainment drop a whole grade lower than their well-attending peers, if they miss only a few days of school.

Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) important update for all students:

Candidates are responsible for making sure their handwriting is legible so that examiners can read and mark their answers accurately. The candidate's name, number and all answers must be legible to examiners and filled in on the front of all exam papers.

Operational information for all students:

Students will be required to enter the Main Hall in silence before the start of examinations. It is vital that mobile phones are either left at home during this period or are handed in to prevent disqualification.

- Individualised exam timetables with seat numbers will be provided to students prior to the exam period. Students must check this before their first exam to know their venue and seat. We will be using the Main Hall as the main venue which will reflect the summer GCSE exam timetable. For students with medical conditions and access arrangements their rooms will also be detailed on their exam timetable.
- Students must take their equipment into the exam in a clear pencil case or a clear plastic bag. Equipment required for all examinations; black pen, pencil and ruler.



- Students **will need to bring a calculator** for any examination which requires its use; any calculator lids must be removed and left in the student's bag or handed in at the beginning of the exam.
- If your child would like to take a drink into the exam, water can only be taken in a clear bottle with any labels removed.
- All unauthorised items must be removed and left in their bag at the start of the examination. **Mobile phones or any other electronic devices including iPods, MP3 players, smart glasses and all watches are prohibited in the exam hall and will lead to disqualification.**
- Students must follow instructions from the invigilator while in the exam room.

Please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Fitzgerald (English), Mr Vaughan-Evans (Maths) and Miss Eagle (Science) if you have any subject queries, or Mrs Allington (Exams Officer) for any specific questions.

Yours faithfully

Mr P Dougherty
Head of School

	Period 1	Period 2	Period 3	Period 4	Tutor	Period 5	Period 6
Monday 2-Nov							
Tuesday 3-Nov	8:30am - English WTM (Period 1 & 2)					1:20pm - Science Biology (1h 15min) Back to lessons for P6 (approx.)	
Wednesday 4-Nov	8:30am-8:50am pre exam session 9am - Maths P1 (1h 30min)					1:20pm - Business Studies (1h 45min) Back to lessons for P6 (approx.)	
Thursday 5-Nov	8:30am-8:50am pre exam session English Language 2 (1h 45min)					1:20pm - French Writing (1h 15min/20min)	
Friday 6-Nov						1:20pm - French Reading (45min / 1h)	
Monday 9-Nov	8:30am-8:50am pre exam session 9am - Maths P2 (1h 30min)						
Tuesday 10-Nov	8:30am - English Literature 2 (2h 15min)		Extended break			1:20pm - Science Chemistry (1h 15min) Back to lessons for P6 (approx.)	
Wednesday 11-Nov	8:30am-8:50am pre exam session 9am - Maths P3 (1h 30min)					1:20pm - History (1h 20min) Back to lessons for P6 (approx.)	
Thursday 12-Nov	8:30am - Science Physics (1h 15min)			11:50am - French Listening (45min / 1h)			
Friday 13-Nov	8:30am - Geography (1h 30min)						



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