

Parents and Carers of Year 11 Students

October 2018

Dear Parents and Carers

Year 11 are almost half their way through their final year of GCSE studies and to help prepare them for the summer examinations they are about to embark on a series of mock examinations.

The mock examinations are a crucial part of their preparation for their final GCSE examinations and should be approached with a similar degree of seriousness and effort. In a sense they are a “dress rehearsal” for the real thing, but additionally, they are part of the learning process required to ensure that students achieve their potential in the summer.

This process of revision and testing helps students to improve their knowledge and skills and this can be built upon even further in preparation for the summer. Conversely, previous experience shows that failure to revise properly for mocks has a long-term detrimental effect on performance in the final exams.

Students have been encouraged to revise for these exams and have been provided with a range of strategies, as well as online learning tools.

Mock Examination Process

Several practical exams will take place towards the end of November including Art, Textiles, Graphics and Computer Science. The main body of the exams will then commence from **Monday 26 November until Tuesday 4 December**.

Please note that most students will return to normal lessons on Monday 3 December.

An overview of the exams timetable is included in this letter. However, **individual exam timetables** will be issued to students and they need to ensure that they follow these and that they are in the correct exam venue at the correct time.

Students will be expected to be at their timetabled venue 10 minutes before published examination times which means at 8:20am for morning examinations and 1:05pm for afternoon examinations.

During this time the normal timetable will be suspended: students will either be in exams or in supervised revision sessions. When in supervised revision sessions students will be expected to be preparing for their forthcoming exams and should bring along material to revise from.

From **Tuesday 27 November** until **Monday 3 December**, students will be allowed to leave College once their afternoon exam is completed. Those who wish to remain in College are welcome to do so and should report to Picassos, where they will be supervised by a member of staff.

Students are responsible for bringing the correct equipment to their exams. In particular, they will need scientific calculators; mathematical equipment, to include a protractor and compass; and coloured pencils (for Design subjects). Students are advised to check what they need in advance with their subject teachers.

External Examinations

As well as sitting mock examinations a number of students will be sitting external examinations. Students who study OCR ICT, BTEC Sport and BTEC Business will be sitting exams on the following days:

BTEC Sport: Wednesday 14 November and Thursday 15 November 2018

OCR ICT: Wednesday 9 January 2019

BTEC Business: Wednesday 23 and Thursday 24 January 2019

It goes without saying that time also needs to be spent revising in preparation for these examinations, the results of which will contribute to the final grade that is awarded.

Mock Results Day: 11 January 2019

To help replicate the process of the summer examinations students will take part in a results day assembly in January, during which they will be given the grades that they have achieved in their mock exams. Please do ask your child to share these with you and outcomes can be discussed with individual teachers at the Year 11 SPRE on Wednesday 16 January 2019.

We thank you for your continued support and please do not hesitate to contact us if there is anything further that we can do to help.

Yours sincerely



Mr Steve Harvey
Vice Principal

Mock Exam Timetable: an overview. Students should refer to their individual timetables for more specific details.

	Monday 12th Nov	Tuesday 13th Nov	Wed 14th Nov	Thursday 15th Nov	Friday 16th Nov
				Art: ALL DAY	Art: ALL DAY

	Monday 19th Nov	Tuesday 20th Nov	Wednesday 21st Nov Normal lessons or exams	Thursday 22nd Nov Normal lessons or exams	Friday 23rd Nov Normal lessons or exams
am				Textiles: ALL DAY Graphics: ALL DAY Computer Science NEA: ALL DAY	Textiles: ALL DAY Graphics: ALL DAY Computer Science NEA P1-3
pm			French Speaking (students will attend individual time slots)	French speaking (students will attend individual time slots)	Textiles: ALL DAY Graphics: ALL DAY Computer Science Exam

	Monday 26th Nov Normal lessons or exams	Tuesday 27th Nov NO YEAR 11 LESSONS	Wednesday 28th Nov NO YEAR 11 LESSONS	Thursday 29th Nov NO YEAR 11 LESSONS	Friday 30th Nov NO YEAR 11 LESSONS*
am	History Dance ICT	English Literature	Maths	English Language	Maths
P 3	REVISION	REVISION	REVISION	REVISION	REVISION
pm	Music, Religious Studies Business Studies	Science	Science	Geography, History	*Graphics & Textiles in lessons Food: NEA DT Computer Science Drama Media

	Monday 3rd Dec NO YEAR 11 LESSONS	Tuesday 4th Dec Normal lessons or exams
am	Maths	French Listening/ Writing PE exam P2 only
P 3	RS/ REVISION	Normal lessons
pm	Science	Normal lessons