



9th October 2026

Our ref: LLO/hsa

Dear Parents and Carers,

Year 11 Mock exams

I am writing with regards to the planned Year 11 internal mock exams.

The Year 11 mock exams will take place between Monday 2nd November and Friday 13th November. Exams will take place in the exam hall and under strict exam regulations.

The mock exams are designed to simulate the conditions of the actual GCSE examinations and provide students with an opportunity to experience an exam series that is similar to the GCSE's. Your daughter has received an assembly from the exams officer and myself explaining all of the examination rules, timings etc. However, please see the attached **JCQ Information for Candidates** for further guidance and clarification.

Attendance and Punctuality: It is crucial that all students attend their scheduled exams on time. Late arrivals may be refused entry to the exam room, which could impact on your daughters overall grade. Morning exams begin at 9.00am and your daughter must be on site at 8.40am.

Exam Conduct: Students are expected to adhere to exam regulations. A reminder that electronic devices, including Apple Watches, phones, and any other electronic items, are not permitted in the exam room. No watches are allowed at all. All personal belongings should be left in the designated area made available.

Tiers: These mock exams will play a vital role to inform tier of entry i.e Higher or Foundation in specific subjects. ***Tier of entry will not be based on student or parental choice or any recommendations from any private tutors. We must see the evidence in mock exam assessments which take place at school to support any tier entry.*** Year upon year, we receive requests from parents and students to move tier entries due to tuition in place or promises of more work. Tier entry will only be based on evidence of assessments in school. There will be no movement of tiers once entries have been made.

Through rigorous testing teachers will make a professional judgement on the tier entry for subjects where they require it. Tier entry is never to hinder the progress of the student, it is

to support them to ensure they achieve the best grade through a paper which is accessible to them. At times, students achieving a score on a Foundation paper can result in a U grade on the Higher paper.

Students have been informed of the units they need to revise for these exams in advance by their subject teachers and have received revision resources. The assessment schedule has also been shared with students. This is on the school website. This provides an overview of the topics which will be assessed throughout the academic year enabling students to plan and prepare effectively for their learning and revision. The link can be found here

[Assessment Schedules | St Bernards High School](#)

We strongly encourage all students to refer to these schedules regularly and use them to support their revision and preparation for assessments.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the mock exams, please do not hesitate to contact myself or Miss Brown (Exams Officer)

I would like to take this opportunity to wish your daughter the best of luck for this exam series beginning after half term.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs L O'Donoghue

Assistant Headteacher: Inclusion & Personal Development

Exams Line Manager

