

7 February 2023

Dear Parents or Carers,

### **Year 11 GCSE preparation updates**

I am writing to update you regarding the preparations we are making ready for the summer 2023 exam series.

Firstly, your child will be given an important exam letter today that contains the exam entries that we are proposing to make for them. This letter needs to be checked at home and then returned to school by Friday 10 February 2023. Letters should be returned to your child's Form Tutor. It is from these important letters that your child's exam entries will be made.

Back in 2021, as a consequence of the pandemic, schools throughout the country were required to move to Teacher Assessed Grades (TAGs); for that reason, a second mock exam series was introduced and this continued in 2022 as part of the pandemic contingency plan.

As we approach the final 11 weeks of study and preparations for your child's summer GCSE examinations, we have reviewed the curriculum delivery across all subject areas and have decided to make some important changes to the second mock exam session to allow more time for curriculum teaching in the classroom.

Accordingly, in March, the scheduled two-week mock exam period will be reduced to a 3-day session, made up of the 3 Maths papers and 2 English mock exams: English Language Paper 1 and English Literature Paper 1 (Macbeth and A Christmas Carol). These exams will be sat on Wednesday 15 March, Thursday 16 March and Friday 17 March. For all other subjects your child will receive in-class assessments that are being planned by Subject Leaders. It is from these assessments that each child's mock exam results will be generated.

All students in Year 11 will have these changes, which I am sure they will be happy with, explained to them in an assembly, as they make their preparations for the summer exams.

Interventions are now being held daily in all subject areas. Each week, your child is given a personal copy of the interventions they are required to attend. I would ask that you strongly encourage them to attend all these interventions as they will help them to be fully prepared for the summer exams.

There will also be holiday classes being offered in the February half-term and Easter holiday sessions. In the February half-term, students studying any DT subjects – Food, Textiles and Graphics/ 3D Design – will be asked to attend sessions on Wednesday 22 February and Thursday 23 February. You will receive a separate letter regarding these sessions.

On Tuesday 28 February, all Y11 students will take part in a revision and motivation activity during the day to help to build their confidence about the exams.

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Chair of Directors: Y Coates

If you would like to discuss any of the above further please contact Mr. Hall, PLM for Year 11 or Miss. Gordon APLM for Year 11.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Humble'.

**Mrs. C Humble**  
**Headteacher**

