



4 May 2022

Dear Parents

As we continue to work together to support all of our Year 11s to achieve the best outcomes possible, I am writing to you to confirm some key information intended to support the students in the coming weeks.

The GCSE Examinations for the 2021/22 academic year begin on Thursday 12 May and continue until Thursday 23 June. As you will be already aware we expect full school attendance through the exam season, and there will be a detailed revision and intervention programme which will focus on exam practice until the exams for that subject are over. There may be times during the examination season where students will be dismissed before the end of the school day to study at home, if you would prefer your child to stay in school and work independently in the library please contact Miss Galer using the details at the bottom of this letter.

The new timetable will start on Monday 16th May and this will be shared with students in the coming days. The library will also be open for silent revision between 3pm and 4pm each day.

This approach will still allow students plenty of time to revise at home in the evening and weekends, whilst having access to purposeful revision and exam practice under the direction of their teachers during the day. Furthermore, following the success of the Spring Break intervention programme we will also offer May half term intervention sessions for students to attend, the timetable is also enclosed in this pack.

GCSE Timetable

Students have been issued with a personalised timetable for all their GCSE examinations, A further copy is enclosed in this pack which includes details on the length, time and subject paper.

Location of Examinations

All examinations will take place in Main Hall and Gym. Other rooms may be used for students with approved special access arrangements. These arrangements and rooms will be shared with students before each exam.

Time of Examinations

- All morning exams start at 9.00am. School will be open for students from 8am onwards, they should arrive by 8.30am, collect their free breakfast from the canteen and take it to the Year 7 Base for their pre-exam support session
- Afternoon exams will start at 1.00pm.

Seating plans

All seating plans will be displayed outside the Main Hall and Gym the day before an exam.

Entering the Examination area

Students will be escorted from the Year 7 Base by their subject teachers. They should be in full school uniform, have all the necessary equipment and be prepared to turn off their mobile phone.



Students will be asked to leave their bag and any notes at the back of the hall. Any mobile phones and watches that are not left in their school bag will be collected in at the start of the exam.

Conduct

Students must not speak or communicate in any way with other students in the examination room from the time they enter until the time they leave. Communicating with other students (which includes turning round to attract another student's attention) counts as potential malpractice, and must be reported. If students finish an examination before the allocated time, they will not be allowed to leave the room early. They will be asked to check their paper carefully and sit quietly while other students continue to work around them. No food or drink, except bottled water are allowed in the examination room.

Post 16 destinations

If your child needs any further support to secure their post 16 college or apprenticeship, please contact Miss Clark the school's Student Engagement Coordinator on the following email address - acl@birkenheadparkschool.com

Notification of results

GCSE results day is **Thursday 25th August 2022**. No results will be given out over the telephone under any circumstances. Any results not collected on results day will be sent as 1st class post to your registered address. Further information regarding collecting results on the 25th August will be published closer to the time.

While preparing for these exams is critical, it is also very important that we support students' welfare during the next few weeks. We know exams can be a source of anxiety for some young people, and our pastoral staff will continue to support them to build their resilience and help them to stay positive.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your child's Pastoral Leaders – Miss Galer – aga@birkenheadparkschool.com , Miss Gidman – gid@birkenheadparkschool.com or any member of the senior leadership team.

With Best Wishes

Peter Mee
Deputy Headteacher