



Wellfield Academy

Executive Headteacher Mrs L Gwinnett
Head of School Mr J Lewis

Thursday 18th November 2021

Dear Parents,

Year 11 Practice Exams – December 2021

Please find attached the Year 11 Practice Examination timetable, which will commence on Monday 6th December and end on Thursday 16th December. The normal school timetable will run during this period and any students not sitting exams will be in lessons. During the exam period, students in lessons may be permitted to revise for other subjects at the teacher's discretion. Students are expected to have revision materials with them and to be prepared to work independently in preparation for their forthcoming exams.

You will be aware that very few subjects now have a coursework element and the majority are assessed through at least two final examinations. The Practice Examinations are intended to give students a realistic experience of final exams including the use of external invigilators and application of the JCQ exam regulations (attached). Furthermore, these exams allow students who are eligible for exam concessions to learn how to use them effectively. Exams will take place in the old gym or an allocated examination room.

The government is firmly committed to exams going ahead in summer 2022. Nevertheless, they need to have contingency plans in place for the unlikely event that exams have to be cancelled again because of the pandemic. If exams have to be cancelled in summer 2022, students' grades will instead be determined by teachers, using a Teacher Assessed Grade (TAG) approach similar to that used in summer 2021. TAGs are based on teachers' assessment of their students' work; therefore, these Practice Exams will also give teachers and leaders robust data to be used in any potential Teacher Assessed Grade scenario.

If we have students who are self-isolating during this examination period alternative arrangements will be made for them to sit the papers which may include them being completed at home. To avoid this as much as possible, subject exams have been spread out over a 9-day period to allow for at least one exam in a subject area to be completed in school.

There will be a 'brown-envelope' results day during the week commencing Monday 24th January 2022, during which time students will be presented with the results of their Practice Examinations, similar to the 'real' results day in August. This will be linked to our PSHCE Careers Information Advice and Guidance programme.

It is vitally important that students positively engage with the Practice Examinations and prepare for them as they would for their final examinations. We will be supporting students throughout the exam period, however If you have any concerns about student anxiety or motivation levels as a parent or have any other queries regarding the Practice Examinations, please do not hesitate to contact us at enquires@wellfieldacademy.org.

Yours faithfully,

VJ Day

Mrs V J Day
Assistant Headteacher – Curriculum & Assessment