



23<sup>rd</sup> February 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

## Year 11 Mocks

As mentioned in my letter on 11<sup>th</sup> February, the Year 11 mocks will take place during the week commencing 14<sup>th</sup> March and will include most subjects. Students should also have now received information from each subject on what has been included in the advanced information from the exam boards, but we do remind them that, for most subjects, the exam boards have reiterated that they expect courses to still be completed and that other topics could still come up on the exams in multiple-choice, shorter and synoptic questions.

The mock examination timetable is included with this letter, showing exams taking place in the sports hall over this period.

## Arrangements for Year 11 during the mocks

- Breakfast will be available in the hall before form time each day.
- Each morning students will go to their form room to register and then to the hall if they have an exam.
- Break and lunchtimes for Year 11 will be in the earlier time slot, 10:15 and 12:35.
- For the maths exam on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March, students will remain in the exam room until the end of Period 3, so will need to bring revision resources with them.
- If there is a clash (e.g. drama and art), our exams officer Mrs Elliot will be in touch to explain arrangements.
- If students are not in a timetabled exam, they will be in lessons as normal.

For those students who are eligible for access arrangements, Mr Bembridge (SENCO) or a member of his team will contact them to confirm the location for their exams (in the hall or an alternative location).

As for the mock exam periods in October and November, we will run these examinations following the rules that apply for external exams wherever possible, including:

- No mobile phones, iPods, MP3s, MP4s or SmartWatches are to be taken into any examination. All wrist wear, including watches, bracelets etc. should be removed and placed on the desk in clear view.
- No food, sweets or chewing gum allowed in any examination. Students may bring a drink (water only) in a clear plastic bottle with a screw top and label removed.
- Students must bring appropriate equipment with them to all examinations. This includes pens, pencils, eraser, ruler and calculator (if allowed). The equipment should be in a clear pencil case or a clear plastic bag. Please note that there are no calculators available to be handed out in the exam hall.
- Students should follow instructions from staff on where to line up, ready to go into the sports hall and find their designated seat.
- Students are not permitted to communicate with each other whilst in the sports hall during examination times.

## Contingency Plans for 2022

If we are told that external exams cannot go ahead this summer, these mock examinations would be used as part of the Teacher Assessed Grades process. Following the exams, teachers may give an indication of a grade, but we can only apply our best estimate of grade boundaries to past papers and parts of them, and so these are 'indicative' or approximate grades. Ofqual have told us that:

*"Teachers may tell the student the grade at which their performance in the assessment indicates they have performed. They should also be clear that the marking and grading have not been quality assured. Teachers must make it clear to their students that any grade used to indicate the level at which the student has performed is not a TAG. It will not be possible for a teacher to determine a TAG unless and until we set specific guidance on the determination of TAGs for 2022, which we will only do if exams are cancelled."*

## Study Support

- Maths support sessions continue on Wednesdays (Higher and Foundation groups).
- English Literature revision/wider reading continue on Monday B weeks with Miss Hinojosa and Miss Aslam in the canteen.
- Creative Writing (English Language) revision/skills sessions continue on Tuesday B weeks with Mr Bateman in the library.
- Mrs Brown is running a programme of revision and stretch/challenge remote sessions every Thursday from 5-6pm on Teams (these are recorded and accessible to all students via Teams).
- Science will be running additional supported study sessions in the library on Tuesday and Thursday during week commencing 7<sup>th</sup> March.

Mr Bowbanks has put together a very useful Revision Master Class page on our school website, with short videos on several of the most effective revision techniques.

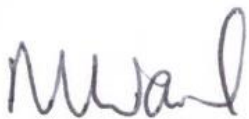
<https://www.queenelizabeths.derbyshire.sch.uk/useful-links/revision-master-class/>

We also have information on every subject (specification, topic lists and revision tips) in the Countdown to Success guide on our website: <https://www.queenelizabeths.derbyshire.sch.uk/key-information/countdown-to-success/>

Please do get in touch if you have any questions, and if there any further ways that we can support you and/or your child. We encourage any students who is worried about these or any other assessments to talk to their form tutor, class teacher, or their Progress Leader Mr Bowbanks.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully



Miss M Ward

**Assistant Headteacher**

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*Encl: mock examination timetable*