

Friday 18 September 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

RE: Year 11 Mock Examinations

I hope this message finds you well.

Before sharing details about the upcoming Year 11 mock examinations, I would like to take a moment to celebrate the fantastic start our Year 11 students have made to this important year. We have seen a huge improvement in engagement with SPARX, an incredible 104 students attending Period 6 Science revision on Wednesday, and a further 40 students attending History revision this evening. Alongside this, it was wonderful to see so many Year 11 students giving their time and energy to support our Open Evening, and I would also like to thank the many parents and carers who attended our Parent Information Evening earlier this week.

These are all clear signs of a year group that is motivated, ambitious and ready to succeed. We are incredibly proud of the commitment our students are already showing, and we are excited to see them continue to build on this momentum as they approach their mock examinations.

The Year 11 mock examinations will begin on **Monday 19 October** and will run across the half-term period. **Please note that we have a non-pupil day on Friday 23 October**, with mock examinations resuming on Monday 2 November and concluding on **Friday 6 November**.

I have attached a general timetable for your reference. Your child will receive their personalised timetable shortly so they know exactly when and where each examination will take place. Please do not be concerned if the general timetable appears to show any examination clashes. These have already been carefully checked, and your child's personalised timetable will clearly show their individual exam schedule, with any clashes resolved.

Why these mock examinations matter

The mock examinations are an important milestone in your child's GCSE journey. They provide students with the opportunity to demonstrate what they have learned so far and help prepare them for the challenges and opportunities ahead.

The grades achieved will contribute to discussions surrounding Sixth Form, college and other post-16 pathways. They also provide teachers with valuable information about students' progress, helping us identify strengths and areas where additional support may be beneficial.

Most importantly, these examinations give students a chance to practise, learn and grow, ensuring they are as well prepared as possible for their final GCSE examinations next summer.

Attendance and punctuality

To make the most of this opportunity, attendance and punctuality are extremely important. Every examination provides valuable experience and helps students develop confidence in a real exam environment.

We would be grateful for your support in ensuring that your child attends each exam, arrives punctually and comes fully prepared. Working together, we can help them gain the maximum benefit from this experience.

Expectations during examinations

As with the Year 10 summer assessments, students will follow national examination regulations. These include:

- Remaining silent throughout the examination, including when entering and leaving the hall.
- Not communicating with other students during the examination.
- Not bringing electronic devices such as mobile phones, watches, headphones or smart glasses into the examination room.
- Bringing all required equipment, including a calculator where needed, in a clear pencil case.
- Only bringing a clear, colourless water bottle into the examination hall.

These expectations are set by JCQ to ensure fairness and consistency for all students. Familiarity with these procedures now will help students feel confident and comfortable when they sit their GCSE examinations next summer.

Next week, I will write again with details of examination boards, revision materials and subject-specific resources to support students with their preparation.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,



Charlotte Campbell
Deputy Headteacher