

October 22nd 2020

Year 11 Key Information

Dear Parent / Carer,

I hope that this letter finds you and your family well. I am writing to you at the end of a very busy, but extremely successful half-term for our Year 11 students. We are so proud of the way in which they have settled back into the Academy. Year 11 have the best attendance in school so far this year with 95% which is 6.1% above the national average! Engagement in lessons and during Period 6 sessions has been brilliant. We hope that you continue to appreciate the Facebook shout outs and praise texts each week.

We are now in a position to share with you the finalised changes to Summer 2021 examinations; these have been approved by Ofqual and the DfE. The changes to the examinations are as a result of the Covid-19 lockdown period where schools opened only to small groups of students. If a subject isn't listed below, there are no changes to the exams next summer.

Art
This year there is no art examination for students but they still need to complete their portfolio of work for assessment.

Child Development
Students have one unit remaining that they will complete in lesson time throughout Y11. Students will be given an average grade for the remaining two units.

Dance
Students are encouraged to do a solo dance this year and the performance time will be reduced to one and half minutes.

Engineering
The exam and controlled assessment units will be completed this year and students will be given an average grade for the remaining two units.

English Language
The English examination papers will remain the same. The compulsory Spoken Language unit will still go ahead but does not require individual recordings for the exam board.

English Literature
There will be changes to both components in English Literature. Component 1 will now include questions on Macbeth and An Inspector Calls both of which are compulsory. Component 2 includes 3 sections but only 2 are required to be answered. Our English Department are choosing to focus on A Christmas Carol and Unseen Poetry meaning Anthology Poetry will no longer be examined.

French

Students are no longer required to sit a formal speaking examination and, in its place, staff will submit a teacher assessed grade.

Geography

The Geography fieldtrip will no longer go ahead this year but all other elements of the course will remain the same.

Health and Social Care

Students will study the exam unit this year and centre assessed grades have been submitted for the other two units.

History

Students are no longer required to study super power relations but will still cover Nazi Germany, Elizabeth and medicine through time.

Hospitality and Catering

Students will now only need to cook one dish for their coursework portfolio.

Media

Students will complete the examined unit in Y11.

Music

The BTEC Music Tech Award consists of 3 units, 2 internally assessed unit (Unit 1 and 2) and 1 external controlled assessment (Unit 3). Current year 11s are working towards the external component that will commence in January 2021 with a deadline of April 2021. Unit 1 and 2 have already been assessed and completed.

Performing Arts

No changes announced to date.

GCSE PE

Students are only required to be assessed in 2 practical activities instead of 3. These can be 2 team sports, 2 individual or 1 team and one individual. We are awaiting further guidance on the ability to assess in team and contact sports. PE staff will discuss with students the best possible practical activities to be assessed in.

Science

Students are required to sit the full suite of exams with no changes. The required practicals can be carried out as demonstrations.

All students in Year 11 will take pre-public GCSE/BTEC exams (Mocks) across all subjects from Monday 2 November to Tuesday 17 November 2020 inclusive. Personalised timetables for the examinations have been emailed to all students on their school email address. Almost all examinations will be the sports hall, please see the timetable below.

MOCK TIMETABLE NOVEMBER 2020			
Date	Start	Length	Exam
02/11/2020	09:00	1h 30m	Mathematics Paper 1
02/11/2020	12:45	1h	Engineering Opt 2
02/11/2020	12:45	1h 30m	Statistics Paper 1
02/11/2020	12:45	1h 30m	Sport Btec
02/11/2020	12:45	2h	Health & Social Care Opt 2
03/11/2020	09:00	1h 15m	History Medicine in Britain
03/11/2020	09:00	1h 30m	Geography Paper 1 8035/1
03/11/2020	12:45	2h	English Lit Comp 1 Shakespeare
04/11/2020	09:00	1h 15m	Combined Science Trilogy 8464 Biology 1
04/11/2020	12:45	2h max	French Reading/Writing
04/11/2020	12:45	1h 30m	Hospitality & Catering Opt 1
04/11/2020	12:45	2h	Enterprise Btec Opt 1
04/11/2020	12:45	2h	Health & Social Care Opt 1
05/11/2020	09:00	1h 15m	Combined Science Trilogy 8464 Chemistry 1
05/11/2020	12:45	1h 45m	English Language Comp 1
06/11/2020	09:00	1h 30m	Mathematics Paper 2
06/11/2020	12:45	55 mins	History American West/Elizabethan
06/11/2020	12:45	1h 30m	Geography Paper 2
09/11/2020	09:00	1h 15m	Combined Science Trilogy 8464 Physics 1
09/11/2020	12:45	2h	English Language Comp 2
10/11/2020	09:00	1h 30m	Mathematics Paper 3
10/11/2020	12:45	2h	English Literature Comp 1
11/11/2020	09:00	1h 15m	Combined Science Trilogy Biology 2
11/11/2020	12:45	1h	Music Btec
11/11/2020	12:45	1h	Engineering Opt 3
11/11/2020	12:45	1h 30m	Dance
11/11/2020	12:45	1h 30m	Business Studies GCSE Paper 1
11/11/2020	12:45	1h 30m	Hospitality & Catering Opt 3
11/11/2020	12:45	2h	Enterprise Btec Opt 3

12/11/2020	09:00	1h 15m	Combined Science Trilogy Chemistry 2
12/11/2020	12:45	1h	Engineering Opt 4
12/11/2020	12:45	1h 30m	Geography Opt 4
12/11/2020	12:45	1h 45m	Physical Education GCSE Paper 1
12/11/2020	12:45	2h	Enterprise Btec Opt 4
12/11/2020	12:45	2h	Drama Btec
12/11/2020	12:45	2h	Performing Arts
13/11/2020	09:00	1h 15m	Combined Science Trilogy Physics 2
13/11/2020	12:45	1h 15m	Geography Paper 3
13/11/2020	12:45	1h 20m	History Weimar & Nazi Germany
16/11/2020	09:00	1h 30m	Business Studies GCSE Paper 2
16/11/2020	12:30	2h	Creative Media Ms Robinson
16/11/2020	12:45	1h 30m	Statistics Paper 2
17/11/2020	09:00	1h 15m	Physical Education GCSE Paper 2
17/11/2020	12:45	1h 15m	Geography Opt 4 Paper 3
18/11/2020	12:30	2h	Creative Media Ms Dakin

By introducing students to formal exams at an early stage, we help them to become familiar with the strict examination protocol and thereby ease feelings of apprehension. Actual GCSEs will be staffed by external invigilators who follow very closely the strict examination protocol set by the Joint Council for Qualifications. We follow these regulations closely in all internal mock examinations. Students who are not able to adhere to expectations will be sanctioned and will do the test again in its entirety after school.

During the assessment period, students should attend school every day as normal. It is important that students take these Mocks seriously, as it gives them the opportunity to experience exam questions before their official exams in summer 2021. Equally, this gives teaching staff an early indication of progress and attainment in each subject which enables them to identify gaps in learning or where concepts need additional revision. In addition, students should of course follow advice given by subject teachers on what and how to revise.

The results of these Mocks will help to measure progress towards targets, establish predicted grades, inform teaching staff of specific gaps that need addressing and allow us to plan for appropriate intervention where necessary. After the assessment period, pupils will receive a summary sheet of their Mock results as well as predicted and target grades and ATL. **During the 2 week mock assessment period, there will be no period 6 lessons for students. Please also note that some examinations may not finish by 2:35pm and will end later for students who have additional time.**

Year 11 have the opportunity to purchase, through the school, revision materials at a reduced cost. These will be available to purchase on the My Child at School (MCAS) app after October half-term. It will be live for approximately two weeks and then it will close so that the revision materials may be ordered. The following are available to purchase:

OCR Foundation Revision Guide - £2.85
OCR Foundation Workbook - £2.85
OCR Higher Revision Guide - £2.85
OCR Higher Workbook - £2.85
Collins Science Foundation GCSE Grade 9-1 Revision All-in-One - £9
Collins Science Higher GCSE Grade 9-1 Revision All-in-One - £9
GCSE English Eduqas Revision Guide and Workbook - £5.50
Macbeth Text Guide - £2.85
Macbeth Workbook - £2.85
Inspector Calls Text Guide - £2.85
Inspector Calls Workbook - £2.85
Christmas Carol Text Guide - £2.85
Christmas Carol Workbook - £2.85
Edexcel GCSE Statistics Revision Guide - £3.25
Edexcel GCSE Statistics Workbook - £3.25

A number of students still haven't completed their future plans questionnaire on Google Classroom set by Jo Sergeant our Careers Advisor; the deadline for completion was last Friday. If you haven't completed the online survey, please do so as soon as possible as we are unable to plan careers appointments without this key information.

Finally, to ensure that all Year 11 students can complete the practical components of their courses, we will be moving Year 11 to lower school after Half Term. This will enable students to have access to ADT workshops, Art rooms and PE, dance and drama studios / gyms. Year 11 will keep the same timings for their school day but will now use the middle gate near the Library building to enter and leave site. They will use the quad area and Café Zest toilets at break and lunchtimes and have their lunch in the canteen. A polite reminder to Year 11 students that they need to arrive at school at 8:45am please to ensure a prompt start to the day.

Should you require further information or additional assistance in supporting your child, please contact specific subject teachers and Mrs Dakin, Year 11 Progress Leader.

Yours faithfully



Miss Proctor
Principal