



Dear Parents/Carers of Year 10,

## Year 10 Examinations

As you will be aware, next week, Year 10 students are sitting a set of Mock Exams. This will be the first time this year group have sat formal exams in the hall at exam desks, with external invigilators. The Mock Exams are designed to give them an experience akin to their GCSEs in Summer 2026 and to help them to see the end goal behind the hard work that they are already putting in. I would like the students to see these exams as an opportunity to showcase the very best of their knowledge and skills.

Students will receive a briefing from Mr Nilan and me on Friday morning, but I wanted you to be aware of some of the key information so that you can support your son/daughter at home. Please can I ask you to take the time to read through the following:

- Students will be in school as normal throughout their mock exam period. When they do not have an exam, they should attend their usual timetabled lesson. During these lessons they will either have individual, silent revision time or a planned revision lesson delivered by their teacher.
- Students should bring in their revision materials and notes to use during silent revision lessons. Unless they are normally a laptop user, they are not allowed to bring in other devices. They are also not allowed to use their phones or listen to music.
- Having the correct equipment is essential. Please check that you son/daughter has a supply of **black**, ball point pens. They should also bring their scientific calculator for the relevant exams, and Maths equipment such as a ruler, protractor and compass.
- Approved equipment only can be taken into the exam hall in a clear plastic bag/pencil case
- Water bottles should be clear (not coloured) and with no label.
- No mobile phones, watches or smart glasses can be taken into the exam hall
- No air buds must be taken into the exam hall, and we are asked to regularly check students' ears on entry
- There must be no writing on hands, arms or legs, including henna
- Students must not start writing until they are told to do so and must stop writing as soon as instructed by the invigilators.

All exam access arrangements will be in place for students who are entitled to these. If your son/daughter thinks that something hasn't been catered for, please encourage them to raise this at the start of the exam. The invigilators are there to help and it is better to be certain than to worry about it during the exam.

If your son/daughter is ill at any point, please contact the school absence line as always. We will aim to make alternative arrangements for them to sit any missed papers as best as possible during the mock exam schedule.

I appreciate that this is likely to be a stressful period for all the Year 10 students. From speaking with so many of them, I know how seriously they are taking these exams and how well they want to do. Please be there to reassure and support your son/daughter over these two weeks. Help them to maintain a balance of revision and rest, eat healthily and have a good amount of sleep. This will help them navigate the exams as best as possible.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Charlie Cahill

Deputy Headteacher