

2 November 2017

SN/DF

Dear Parent/Carer

Your son is now entering the final stage in his GCSE preparations, both in terms of his coursework and exams. In order for him to experience the formal examination process, all Year 11 students will be sitting their GCSE mock exams the week beginning **20 November**. During this time they will sit a series of exams under formal exam conditions. The timetable for these is enclosed with this email.

To make the mock exam period as effective as possible your son should be using evenings and weekends to prepare and organise himself. He should be spending time using a variety of activities ranging from making revision summaries, using revision guides, using revision websites and self-testing. Clearly, there is a fine balance between using evenings and weekends to rest and become refreshed, but at the same time thorough preparation now will likely result in success in eight months' time.

The mock examinations are designed to replicate, as far as possible, what your son will experience next summer, and to give us and him an indication of his progress and any areas for development that will need to be addressed over the coming months as we prepare for the 'real thing'. It is, therefore, important that the mock exams are treated seriously and, as such, the students will be subject to the same criteria and guidelines they will face next summer in terms of their conduct and behaviour in the examination room.

Once the mock exams have been marked, you will receive a summary of your son's results and target grades. This will allow you to see where progress has been made and where there needs to be further time invested.

The school expects all of the students to take the mock exams seriously, as there is a close link between mock exam performance and the final outcome. I hope to see your son achieving highly and he should, by this stage, be very close to meeting his target grade. This will help him see that his revision is effective and give him an important confidence boost.

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me at the above address.

Yours faithfully



Mr S Newell
Head of Year 11