



15th October 2024

Dear Parents / Carers

Year 11 Mock Exam 1

Please note that Year 11 students are undertaking their mock exams after the half term break. These take place the fortnight beginning 18th November 2024. This is the first set of mock exams for Year 11, with another set scheduled for February 2025. This mock exam will not be a full mock paper as aspects of the individual courses will not yet have been fully covered in lessons; however, the exam experience will be carried out in the Sports Hall (unless where indicated) to support students in becoming more familiar with exam conditions in preparation for their GCSE exams.

Exam Timetable

The timetable for the forthcoming exam is attached and will shortly be shared on Satchel One. There is also a handbook to help support students through public examinations. Please note that this is also available on Arbor. Students will be allocated seats for each exam. This will also appear on Arbor, hopefully by the end of the week, so that students know where to sit. A paper copy will also be placed on the windows of A3 before the start of the school day. Students will need to line up on the fire drill playground in their correct seating order prior to entering the exam hall. Students who qualify for access arrangements in the Beech Hall will need to arrive at the LRC. All students should arrive 20 minutes prior to the exam start to ensure exams run to time and need to wear full school uniform. Students will not be allowed in the exam hall if they are not in school uniform. All bags should be either locked away in lockers or can be left on tables outside the exam hall.

Exam Conditions

There are strict rules surrounding public examinations which the school as an exam centre must adhere to and we would like to draw your attention to these rules to help prepare students for success. Please see the information from JCQ below outlining the rules.

Warning to candidates



 AQA	 City & Guilds	 CCEA	 OCR	 Pearson	 WJEC
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1

You **must** be on time for all your examinations.

2

Possession of a mobile phone or other unauthorised material **is not allowed** even if you do not intend to use it. You will be subject to penalty and possible disqualification from the exam/qualification.

3

You **must not** talk to, attempt to communicate with or disturb other candidates once you have entered the examination room.

4

You **must** follow the instructions of the invigilator.

5

You **must not** sit an examination in the name of another candidate.

6

You **must not** become involved in any unfair or dishonest practice in any part of the examination.

7

If you are confused about anything, only speak to an invigilator.

The **Warning to candidates** must be displayed in a prominent place outside each examination room. This may be a hard copy A3 paper version or an image of the poster projected onto a wall or screen for all candidates to see.

To help students prepare and to ensure that they are not disqualified from any examination, we have shared the following information with students:

1. Exam conditions as soon as students enter the Exam Room, and until students have left the building.
2. Silence in the exam room, ***no talking or communicating in any way***, you must face forward.
3. Sit in exam seat number given. It will be available to check on the link noticeboard.
4. ***No Mobile Phones***, watches, earphones, anything digital in the room.
5. Check you have all equipment, ***in a clear pencil case***, night before exam (no geometry tins)
6. ***Clear water bottles - No labels on water bottles***, (water only).
7. No writing on your hands, this is considered malpractice.
8. ***You must remain for the whole of the exam. Make sure you go the toilet first.***
9. Any queries raise your hand and an invigilator will come to you.
10. Do not touch exam papers until told to do so.
11. No bags or coats are allowed in the examination room.
12. Smile, breathe and stay calm. Good luck!

Please can we ask that you also discuss this with your child to ensure that they are aware of the rules and that they have the correct equipment for the exam.

Opportunities to use the restroom during exams cannot always be provided immediately, unless there is a known medical need, and therefore students are encouraged to ensure they have used the restroom prior to the exam start time.

It is important to note that students who break the examination rules during their GCSE exams are likely to be disqualified from that subject, and possibly other examinations as well. It is therefore important students take these rules seriously and is why we are practicing them now.

Schools are expected to put in place robust mechanisms to ensure students do not fall foul of malpractice which may result in cancellation of their exams. ***As part of this, we will be undertaking searches using a phone detector to ensure that phones are not brought into the exam room.***

It is important to note that students who qualify for extra-time will be given this opportunity as part of the mock exam experience. ***Students who qualify for extra-time and don't use it may have this opportunity removed from future exam series.*** This process is part of the guidelines that examination centres must adhere to.

Mock Papers

Please note that for this series of mock exams, the school will need to keep the paper, and students will not be able to take it home. Once the paper has been marked, students and teachers can go through the paper and learn from mistakes; however, the paper will then be collected back in. This is for the school to adhere to JCQ guidelines. The school must keep a set of mock papers as evidence of exam performance should there be a pandemic/lockdown in the future and students are unable to sit a public exam. The paper can then be used as part of evidencing student attainment should centre assessed grades be required. It is worth noting that the grade achieved in the mock exam does not automatically become the grade students might be awarded should there be a lockdown in the summer. The exam paper is a part of the evidence required. Students will be supported by their teachers to identify how to improve and collate feedback so that they can learn from and improve their mock experience.

Revision

It is important that students are always revising and not leaving this until just prior to exams. Students should now have a revision timetable and should be revising regularly. The school website has an area dedicated to supporting students with their revision. You will see this under Students and is called The Student Room. Students can access subject topic lists, subject content, revision strategies and the exam timetable in this area. Please note that you will need to use a student school login to gain access to this information.

Support

We know that mock exams can cause students stress. These exams are an opportunity to build confidence and reduce exam anxiety. In all of our messaging to students we are emphasising that these are an opportunity to practice time management skills, to gain valuable experience of being in an exam hall, to identify where their knowledge and skills are strong, and to learn from and improve on the areas that they are still working on, while there is still plenty of time to do so. Students will receive constructive feedback from their teachers which will support them to maximise their progress over the remaining six months before the public exams begin.

We are aware that students often find exam settings stressful and anxiety inducing. Please do let us know if this applies to your child so that we can offer support in school. Below are some other ways in which young people can get support.



Warlingham School
& Sixth Form College

reportit@warlinghamtl.co.uk

Mental Health and
Wellbeing Support



iammeapp
.com

Mindworks
Surrey .org



.org.uk

kooth .com

RUOK?
A conversation could change a life. .org



talkofftherecord.org

Wide Horizons
High Aspirations

Thank you for your support in ensuring that your son/daughter takes these mock exams seriously and gains the maximum benefit from them.

Please don't hesitate to contact the school should you have questions or require support concerning any of the above.

Kindest regards

M Tucker

Assistant Headteacher