

October 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

We are writing to inform you that mock examinations for Year 11 students will begin on Monday 18 November 2024 and will run for two weeks. These exams are an important part of your child's preparation for their final GCSE examinations and you can find the exam timetable on the Year 11 page of our website or via this link: <https://tinyurl.com/yk4d76jb>.

The mock exams will cover topics studied since the beginning of Year 10 and teachers will use the results to assess students' progress, identify areas for improvement, and address any gaps in learning. These exams provide invaluable experience, not only academically but also in helping students become familiar with the conditions they will face during their actual GCSEs. It is imperative that students revise thoroughly, as the results of these mocks will, in many cases, play a significant role in determining offers for college places. Revision lists for all subjects will have been sent out before the October half term, if they have not already been provided.

All morning exams will begin during tutor time and it is essential that students are not late for school and arrive with time to prepare themselves. Please note that students must attend all examinations that they are entered for and exams cannot be rearranged. Where students are not in examinations during the two weeks in which these take place, they will be in normal lessons, so it is imperative that they are in school even if they do not have an exam on that day.

Mock examinations at Appleton are conducted in accordance with both the Academy's expectations and the national exam regulations, as set by the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ). We want to ensure that students are well-prepared and familiar with these expectations before their actual GCSEs. The key regulations that students must follow during mock exams include:

- Silence at all times - students must remain silent in the examination hall and must not communicate with other students.
- No electronic devices - students must not bring mobile phones, headphones, smart watches, or any other electronic devices into the exam room.
- Permitted items - students may bring only a transparent water bottle and/or pencil case. All other necessary equipment will be provided for each exam.
- Personal belongings - all personal belongings must be left in the designated area outside the exam hall.

These regulations are the basic expectations of the JCQ and are essential to preserve the integrity of national qualifications. Any misconduct during GCSE exams is reported to the exam boards and can lead to disqualification, resulting in no grade being awarded. It is vital that students experience the same conditions during mock examinations as they will when sitting their GCSE's, not only to avoid such issues but also to build their confidence and resilience in preparation for the Summer.

Together with our community we achieve extraordinary things



We appreciate your support in ensuring your child is fully prepared and understands the importance of these exams. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Yours faithfully

Mr Bellwood
Head of Year 11

Miss Derrington
Deputy Headteacher