

Friday, 12th December 2025

Dear parent/carers,

SUBJECT: Year 11 Mock Examinations (PPEs)

I would like to start by thanking all of our Year 11s for their fantastic behaviour and effort during our recent "Walking, Talking" Mocks (WTMs). These sessions have provided all of our pupils with an invaluable opportunity to receive focused support in preparing for their actual GCSE exams. We will be sharing a link to the videos, which will aid in revision and assist any pupil who may have been absent.

I am also writing to let you know about the upcoming **Pre-Public Examinations (PPEs)** for our Year 11 pupils. These exams are essential preparation for their actual GCSE exams.

Important Dates:

EVENT	START DATE	END DATE
Year 11 Mock Exams	Monday, 12th January	Friday, 30th January

These mock exams will be run **exactly like the real GCSEs**. This helps pupils practice being in a formal exam room, manage their time, and get used to the pressure.

Why These Exams are Important:

The results from these mock exams help us find out exactly **what your child knows well and where they still have gaps** in their learning.

Teachers will use this information to **focus their teaching** over the final months of school. This targeted work will ensure pupils leave with the best grades possible in the summer.

What Happens During the Exam Period:

- **Lessons:** Normal lessons will happen when pupils are not sitting an exam.
- **Revision Time:** We will hold focused revision sessions to get pupils ready for their exams:
 - During **morning registration**.
 - Before the **afternoon exams**.
- Your child will be expected to be in school as normal during the mock examination period.
- They should be in full uniform throughout (as is our usual practice)

Exam Timetable:

- The full exam timetable and other information linked to examinations are available on the school website here: [PPE Timetable](#)
- Your child will also be given their own timetable, which shows their specific room and start times for each exam.

Exam Procedures:

To make sure pupils are fully ready for the real GCSEs, we expect them to follow all expectations as if they were the real GCSEs

Exam awarding bodies can also ask for mock examination results to support the awarding of GCSE grades as a contingency in unforeseen circumstances. Therefore, maintaining proper exam conduct is essential to support this process.

- Mobile phones and other electronic devices are **strictly prohibited** during the exam period. If a pupil is found with a phone or other prohibited device on them during a GCSE examination, even if by accident, then this will need to be reported to the awarding body, and they would be at severe risk of losing the mark for that examination.
- Pupils must remain in the examination room for the entire duration of the examination. If a pupil walks out, they are at severe risk of losing the mark for that examination.
- Pupils are expected to maintain a high level of conduct throughout the exam period, including during breaks and in the exam hall. They must not communicate with friends from the moment they enter the examination room.
- Should they require any assistance during an exam, they should raise their hand respectfully, and the invigilator team will support them.
- Pupils should inform the school of any medical or other extenuating circumstances that may affect their ability to complete an exam.

Study Support: Top Tips for Supporting Your Child During PPEs

These mock exams can be stressful. Here are some simple ways you can help your Year 11 child prepare and perform their best:

1. Help Them Plan and Stay Organised

- **Make a Schedule:** Help them create a simple, realistic revision timetable. It is better to study for short, focused periods (e.g., 30-45 minutes) with regular breaks, rather than long blocks of time. Pupils can create a [FREE revision timetable at GetRevising](#).
- **Use the Timetable:** Check that they know the dates, times, and subjects for each mock exam using the personalised timetable they received.
- **Check Equipment:** Help them prepare all their equipment the night before each exam (black pens, pencils, ruler, approved calculator).

2. Create the Right Environment

- **Quiet Space:** Ensure they have a quiet, comfortable space free from distractions (like a TV or loud music) where they can focus on their studies.
- **Good Sleep:** Encourage a consistent sleep schedule. A well-rested brain performs much better than a tired one. Aim for 8-10 hours of sleep each night, especially during the exam period.



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- **Healthy Meals:** Make sure they eat balanced meals and stay hydrated. Proper nutrition is fuel for the brain!

3. Offer Encouragement and Perspective

- **Stay Positive:** Be encouraging. A positive attitude helps reduce stress and improve focus.
- **Listen:** Let them talk about their worries or difficult subjects without judgement. Sometimes just talking about stress helps.
- **Keep Perspective:** Remind them that these are practice exams. The purpose is to find out what they need to work on. They are a tool for improvement, not the final result.

By working together, we can ensure your child uses these mock exams effectively to secure their best possible grades in the summer.

We are here to support our pupils throughout this crucial period. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Helpful Links for Your Reference:

- [Exam Information](#) (including PPE Timetable)
- [Revision](#)
- [Exam Board Information and Revision Guides](#)

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,

JAYates

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