



PARKSIDE

COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Small School ♦ Strong Values ♦ Great Experiences

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LAS/SRU

November 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

On Monday 15 November, Year 11 will begin their Mock Exams, which will run up to and include Thursday 25 November. The complete timetable is attached and we are working with students to prepare for the exams that are specific to them.

The Government have stated that exams will take place as normal next summer. The forthcoming mock exams therefore give us an invaluable opportunity to practice performing well under exam conditions, and to get feedback to inform next steps in learning. Mock exams provide the school with a very accurate picture of where individual students are at in their journey towards achieving their potential. This year will be all the more important given their absence from school during lockdown last year, the need to know where gaps in knowledge and skills exist, and how we can best use the time between now and the summer of 2022.

As we know, for the last two years schools have provided Teacher Assessed Grades, as exams have been cancelled. We are not expecting this to happen again. It is important, though, to be mindful of the fact that in both of those years, schools were required to draw upon all available evidence to decide on teacher assessed grades.

For the reasons given above, it is extremely important that students prepare well for their mock exams. Revision at home will help to consolidate learning in school. Students are strongly encouraged to undertake a range of practice and retrieval activities to support knowledge retention in each subject. All details of what to revise are available on SMHW. Please encourage your child to log-in to Satchel One (SMHW) on a daily basis to access any revision materials their class teacher may have uploaded. Last but not least, please encourage your child to limit their screen time, eat and drink healthily and get at least 8 hours of sleep per night during this very important time in Year 11.

The mock exams will take place in the Main Hall and are designed as much as possible to replicate the experience of sitting GCSE exams. This is a demanding time in any normal school year and we appreciate the impact the ongoing pandemic is having on students and families. Please do contact us if you have any concerns or would like some support. We know parents/carers will be concerned if a student has to self-isolate during the mock examinations. Please be assured that we have a contingency plan in place should this happen, and all students will receive support if this situation arises.

We are immensely proud of the commitment being shown by Year 11 since their return in September. They are a credit to themselves, to you and the wider school community. Now is the time to be positive, focussed, and to push on and use all the resources available to them to prepare effectively for their forthcoming exams, these next crucial months of learning, and success in the summer and beyond.

Kindest regards,
Mrs Asher
Assistant Headteacher Curriculum



Year 11 Mock Examination Timetable November 2021

Morning session start time: 8:40.

Please ensure you register with your mentor at 8:30.

Afternoon session start time: 1:10

Please arrive from lunch promptly.

When you do not have an exam, you will be in your normal lesson.

Date	Morning session	Exam length	Afternoon session	Exam length
Monday 15 November	Maths Paper 1	1hr30	English Language	1hr45
Tuesday 16 November	History Paper 1	55 mins	Combined and Separate Science Biology	1hr10 1hr45
Wednesday 17 November	English Literature	1hr35	Geography Paper 1	1hr45
Thursday 18 November	Maths Paper 2	1hr30	Combined and Separate Science Chemistry	1hr10 1hr45
Friday 19 November	Spanish Writing	F – 1hr H – 1hr15	Engineering	1hr10
Monday 22 November	Maths Paper 3	1hr30	Combined and Separate Science Physics	1hr10 1hr45
Tuesday 23 November	Geography Paper 2	1hr30	History Paper 2	1hr20
Wednesday 24 November	Spanish Reading	F – 45 mins H – 1hr	No exam	
Thursday 25 November	Spanish speaking individual time slot	F – 7-9 mins H – 10-12 mins		

*Spanish listening exams will take place during normal lesson time: Wednesday 24 November Foundation listening 35 mins and Friday 26 November Higher tier 45 mins.