

23 May 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

## Year 10 Summer External and Internal Examinations

Thank you for continuing to support your son/ward in preparation for his GCSE statistics examination. We have also now published the [Year 10 summer internal examinations timetable](#). The bulk of these important assessments take place between Tuesday 18 June and Friday 5 July. Please note:

- Some other assessments for practical subjects may take place at a different time. Your son/ward will be notified in advance.
- We will apply sanctions if students are not following the official JCQ examination regulations that are [signposted on the school website](#). Your son/ward has also attended an assembly to ensure he fully understands the strict regulations.
- After the May half-term, students will receive a personalised timetable with details of which room and seat number he has been allocated for each examination.

### GCSE Statistics

A reminder that your son/ward is sitting their GCSE Statistics on:

- Wednesday 5 June - afternoon
- Monday 17 June - afternoon

It is important they have a functioning scientific calculator for this examination.

### Revision

Given the above, it is now vital that your son/ward revises both in the lead-up to and during the May holiday period. To support this expectation, your son/ward should follow several steps:

#### QUANTITY OF REVISION

Ensure that your son/ward revises for three hours each day over the holiday period and for at least 90 minutes every school evening. There is no such thing as having no PPA (homework); active revision is PPA. If he hasn't started revising already, it's never too late to do so. During the school holidays, active revision is best carried out in the morning and afternoon - the timing of his actual examinations.

#### QUALITY OF REVISION

Your son/ward must use the range of *active revision* techniques which he has been taught. These techniques are outlined on the [school website](#). Passive revision techniques such as simply reading and/or highlighting text are wholly ineffective. Also, encourage him to:

- switch subjects and topics within subjects every 30 minutes; this is called interleaving and is a proven, highly effective technique to support long-term memory; and

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- revise in a public space (not in his bedroom) until he has developed some “earned trust”. Ask to view the evidence of his revision on a daily basis.

## EXAMINATION COVERAGE

The internal examinations cover the full range of subjects. Given this, it is crucial that your son/ward revises for all his subject areas and not just his favourite subjects. A list of other recommended websites to aid *active revision* are posted on the school website. Other revision resources including the personalised learning checklists (PLCs) can be found on both Teams and SharePoint. If any parent/carer has not purchased revision guides and/or workbooks, these essential items can be bought online using our payment system, [SCOPAY](#). Students on Free School Meals (FSM) can obtain revision guides free of charge by visiting the [school shop](#).

## ABSENCE ON THE DAY OF AN EXTERNAL EXAMINATION

You should do everything you get your son/ward to attend examinations as this is by far the best way for him to demonstrate his ability. If there is a short-term illness or injury, please inform us as soon as possible by ringing the school. It is really important to make contact as we may be able to support him through the issue. In exceptional circumstances, we can apply for a “special consideration”. Please note that we can only submit this if:

- the centre has no reason to “suspect that this may be a fraudulent claim”
- makes it clear to students and parent/carers that a false claim carries heavy consequences
- asks students and parent/carers to sign to say they understand they risk disqualification if they claim to be ill when they are not.

This is only relevant for any short-term health issues.

## Next Steps After Year 11

Over the next ten months, your son/ward will be interviewed by an independent advisor for careers. Good career guidance is the key to social mobility; it is about showing young people the options open to them, whatever their social and family background. We need to help them make them the right choices to set them on the path to rewarding and future careers.

## Eid al-Adha

We appreciate that this will impact on examinations in June and specifically the GCSE Statistics Paper 2 on Monday 17 June. This examination cannot be moved or be sat at a different time. Any students taking religious observation will be allowed to attend for the examination only on that day. For any internal examinations we will do our best to provide alternative dates.

We hope the preparation over the half term and the lead up to these examinations goes well. Thank you for your support.

Yours faithfully,



**Simon Fisher**  
Co-Headteacher



**Jo Higginbottom**  
Co-Headteacher