

5 February 2026

Dear parents/carers,

RE: Year 11 February mock examinations

We have now finalised the arrangements for the next round of mock examinations for Year 11 students that take place next week. The time remaining to the summer examinations is going very quickly, and it is important that students are revising at home to give themselves the best possible chance of success next summer. How quickly the summer exams come round after the Christmas holidays always catches students and teachers off guard; to think there are only 50 school days left until the first whole cohort exam takes place for English literature.

The outline timetable for students is below. The timings of the exams are: 09:00 start for morning exams (students will still need to arrive for 8:30 and go to P1 to get registered) and the afternoon exams starting at 13:15, after lunch. Students will be able to leave site early on Monday 9th, Tuesday 10th and Wednesday 11th February after the science exam to prepare for their exams the next day. There is a late start to the school day on Tuesday 10th February due to the parents evening taking place the previous evening. The year 11 student's exam on that day will start at 10:00. They will be allowed to enter the school site at 9:45 and head straight to the sports hall to sit their exam.

The timetable for the mock examinations:

| | | February | | | | | | |
|--------------------|--|---|--|------------------------------|------------------------------|--------|-------|--|
| | | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | | |
| | | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | | |
| AM | | English Literature 2:15 | (Start at 10:00) English Language 1:45 | Maths Paper 1 1:30 | Maths Paper 2 1:30 | | 09:00 | |
| PM | | Biology 1:10/1:45 | Chemistry 1:10/1:45 | Physics 1:10/1:45 | | | 13:15 | |
| Half-term holidays | | | | | | | | |
| | | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | | |
| AM | | Geography / History 1:30 / 1:30 | Maths Paper 3 1:30 | DT / French W 2:00 / 1:20 | French LR / Catch-up 1:45 | | 09:00 | |
| PM | | Geography / Business 1 / Computing 2 1:30 / 1:30 / 1:45 | Business 2 / Computing 1 1:30 / 2:00 | Hospitality 1:20 | Catch-up | | 13:15 | |

Can you please ensure that all the students are fully equipped for the mock examinations. Having a scientific calculator and any other subject specific materials is essential. I have also included a brief overview what each examination is based upon:

English Language – Paper 1: Fiction and creative writing

English Literature – Paper 2: Section A: 'An Inspector Calls', Section B: The Power and Conflict Poetry Anthology, Section C: Unseen Poetry

Maths – 3 Papers (Paper 1 (Non-Calculator), Paper 2 & 3 (Calculator allowed))

Biology – Paper 2: Ecosystems, Genetics, Evolution, Monitoring and Maintaining the Environment, Feeding the Human race, Health and Disease.

Chemistry – Paper 2: Predicting Chemical Reactions, controlling reactions, equilibria, Improving processes and products, and Earth Systems.

Physics – Paper 2: Wave Behaviour, the Electromagnetic spectrum, Radioactivity, Energy, Power and Efficiency, Physics on the move, Powering Earth

History – A shortened Paper 2 focusing on health: Britain and People as well half of the Norman Conquest unit.

Geography – A combination of Paper 1 and Paper 2; there will be questions on physical and human geography.

Business Studies – Paper 1: Business activity, Marketing and People & Paper 2: Operations, finance and influences on business.

Computer Science – Paper 1: Programming (Python) & Paper 2: Networking, cyber security and ethical issues in computing.

Design Technology – Section 1 has multiple choice questions and a range of short answer questions. Section 2 includes questions on manufacturing, materials and sustainability issues. Section 3 has a range of questions linked to design and making principles.

French – French reading and listening exams taking place.

Hospitality and Catering - working in hospitality, environmental impacts, customer requirements, HACCP and the role of the environmental health officer.

All period 7 sessions will be cancelled for the 2 weeks of the mock examinations. They will restart the week after the mocks have finished and run up to the Easter holidays. The engineering students will not be travelling to Winterbourne Academy the first week of the mock examinations but will travel as normal the following week (Wednesday 25th February).

The first GCSE exam the students complete in the sports hall, is the English Literature paper on Monday 11th May. However, other examinations start before this date, such as the language speaking assessments and the practical based examinations, such as Art and Photography. It goes without saying, but please do not book any holidays during the examination period as the exams must take place on these dates and will not move to another day. I would advise against booking anything from Easter onwards until their last examination which is scheduled for Friday 19th June.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Yours Sincerely,

Mr R Lewis

Assistant Headteacher