

November 2021

Dear Parents/Carers and Year 11 Students

As you are aware, the first of the mock exam series are starting next week for Year 11. This is a good opportunity for students to put into practice all their hard work and see where they are currently working at. To prepare the students for the summer exams as much as possible, the mock exams will replicate the external summer exams, to give them a real flavour of what to expect.

The exams will run from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> November until Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> November. All students received a mock exam timetable before the half term holiday, a copy of this is also available on the school website. Exam start times are 8.40am and 11.05am. It is imperative that students arrive at school on time and attend registration before being escorted down to the examination venues for the first exams of the day. For the exams which take place after break time, students should assemble at the exam venues immediately after the bell sounds for the end of break. Students will not go to their usual classrooms; they will be registered in the examination venues.

All phones (switched off) and watches must be placed in the students' bags/coats. These will be securely stored in the Fitness Suite for the duration of the exam. This is a requirement for the external examinations as set out from the Joint Council for Qualifications, so it is important that we replicate this for the mock exams.

All students have been assigned the same seat for all their exams and we hope that this will allow students to get seated quickly to ensure a smooth start to the exams. Students will be provided with an equipment pack, although students are welcome to bring their own see-through pencil case with equipment. Students should bring their calculators for exams where they are allowed. We do have some spare calculators, but it is much more beneficial if students use the calculator that they are familiar with.

For some of the exams, there will be a pre-exam workshop which will be available to all students from 08.00 to 08.30 each day. These sessions will help focus the students for their upcoming exam and allow them to ask any last-minute questions. Students have been informed when and where these will be taking place and reminders will be placed on social media.

We fully appreciate what a stressful time, examinations can be, for both the students and their families. Please rest assured, Team Moorside will ensure that our Year 11 students have the correct environment to thrive, and we will guide them each step of the way. It is, of course, important to remember that success requires hard work and persistence. By advocating this message both at home and at school, together we can support them along the way.

We wish all our Year 11 students every success in their Mock Examinations. Following a period of marking, internal and external moderation, students will then experience a Mock Results day. Further information will be circulated about this, and the extensive intervention sessions we will be running in the run up to the second series of mock examinations after the February half term.

Thank you for your continued support

Yours faithfully

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