



Moorside High School

Enriching Lives, Inspiring Ambitions

December 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

It has been really pleasing to see over the past term, the increasing numbers of our Year 11 students who are now accessing the extensive intervention sessions that are available to them. As you are aware, we have breakfast workshops, after school revision classes and Saturday School. Alongside this, all students take part in extra English and maths retrieval and exam practice sessions during R time.

The mock exams will be taking place after the Christmas break, running from Wednesday 10th January until Friday 26th January. All students have been given the mock exam timetable and a copy of this is also available on the school website. The arrangements for the exams are the same as those which were followed for the November English and maths assessments. To view the Mock Timetable, please [click here](#).

Exam start times are at 8.40am and 11.00am. It is imperative that students arrive on time to school and attend Standards time at 8.30am. Students will be escorted from Standards time 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 a locked room 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. Students are allowed to take a bottle of water into the exam, but these must be clear with no labels on.

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 will be informed when and where these will be taking place and reminders will be placed on social media.

Students have been aware of these exams for some time, and we know that many have already started their preparation. There are now four weeks left to ensure they are fully prepared for these important exams which will provide an indication of their current attainment levels. The results will also provide teachers with the information they need to plan and prepare lessons which address gaps in the students' knowledge and allow them to focus on the correct areas of revision in the lead up to the exams in the summer.

A copy of the Summer 2024 Exam Timetable can be found on the school website along with other helpful information.

To help you support your child we have provided you with a Parent Information Booklet which gives more tips and guidance regarding the mock exams. Students have already been provided with a revision equipment pack and a booklet to support them with methods of revising to help make the information stick. Over the past six weeks, students have also had assemblies each week on different techniques, so we hope that they feel prepared and ready. The Parent Information Booklet is available to view [here](#).

We do recognise that some students are feeling apprehensive about the examinations and may feel under pressure in the coming months. To support the students, we have organised for all Year 11 students to take part in a one-hour wellbeing session next Tuesday, 12th December. The year group will be split into five groups and will take part in a session led by the Salford iThrive team. When we return after Christmas, they will then have a follow up assembly on the 9th January to provide them with last minute tips on mindfulness and managing anxiety during the exam period.

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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 provided about this, nearer the time.

Whilst there is a lot of hard work ahead it is important that the students are supported both at school and at home. We will do our utmost to ensure that our Year 11 students have the ideal conditions in which to flourish and be successful.

Please [click here](#) to view the Make it Stick Revision Guide.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully

Miss C Smalley
Deputy Headteacher - Quality of Education



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