



Our Ref: SCU|RCL|018

15th December 2020

Year 11 Important Events Information - Term 3

Dear Parent/Carer,

We are nearly at the end of Term 2 and fast approaching Christmas. The Year 11 students have experienced challenging times. It is important that we support them and prepare them for the forthcoming year. Consequently, I have set out the events that are going to happen in Term 3 so that you and your child can prepare for them. The partnership between School and home has never been more important; please take your time to go over the contents of this letter with your child.

Year 11 Mock Exams - 30th November to 16th December

Students are now approaching the end of the Year 11 mock session and will receive all of their exam results by the middle of January. Students will have the opportunity to review their papers in lessons and subject teachers will provide detailed feedback that outlines a set of actions for improvement. Students should then use this as a platform as they work towards the next set of formal assessments which will be sat in March; I will communicate more details regarding these exams nearer the time.

The Year 11 mock results will be shared with parents and carers via the next Year 11 Report which is due to be sent home on the 18th January. There will also be an opportunity to discuss this in more detail at the Virtual Year 11 Parents' Consultation Meeting on Thursday 28th January 2021.

Across the year group there will be a mixture of emotions regarding this set of mock results which is likely to range from elation to disappointment. The next 6 months are going to test students' resilience and perseverance skills to the limit and they are going to need our support more than ever. Now is the time to ensure that students have a plan for what they are going to do at the end of Year 11 which will help keep them motivated over the next few months. Please look at the section in this letter on careers advice and guidance and ensure that you use the resources available to seek help and support.

GCSE Summer Examinations 2021

On the 3rd December, there was a [government announcement](#) confirming that the summer examination series will go ahead. In comparison to previous years, the following changes have been made:

- **Examination Timetable** - To create more teaching time, most exams have been moved back 3 weeks, with the main exam series taking place from **7th June to 2nd July 2021**. The GCSE examination timetables for each of the exam boards can be accessed via this [link](#)
- **Grading of qualifications** - In recognition of the challenges this year group have faced and is facing, Ofqual has decided that grading will carry forward the overall generosity of 2020, to ensure the 2021 cohort are treated fairly, relative to their 2020 peers.
- **Supporting students** - Students will be supported through providing advance notice of some of the topic areas that will be covered in exams. Additionally, in some subjects, supporting materials, such as formula sheets, will be provided on the day of the exams. This will allow students to focus on depth of understanding in these areas and target their revision in the run up to exams.
- **Absence from exams** -
 - Should a student miss some, or all, of the papers in a subject but have completed sufficient non-examined assessment (as a result of sickness or the need to self-isolate) then they can still achieve a grade through the special consideration process.

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- If a student misses all GCSE or A level assessments in a subject due to sickness related to coronavirus (COVID-19), or the need to self-isolate and is unable to access the special consideration process, they will be eligible to sit a single contingency paper. This will take place between **28th June to 16th July 2021** and timetabled to allow at least a 10-day gap after each subject's final paper in the main series.
- In the event that a student misses all of their GCSE papers in a subject during both the summer series and the contingency series, with legitimate reason, and does not have the required non-examined assessed elements required to access the special considerations process, a validated teacher assessment may be used to award a grade.

The government is due to release additional information regarding the Summer 2021 examination series in the new year.

Careers Advice and Guidance

Having a long term goal really helps with self-motivation and has proven many times over to help students achieve their target grades for GCSE and A level. We have a range of resources, advice and guidance available to support students in reaching their goals. Please take some time to look at the [careers section](#) of the Rednock School website. Go to the student tab and open the section 'Careers – Advice, Guidance, Opportunities'.

There are lots of really interesting links to explore together from online psychometric tests to informative videos about different careers.

All students should be receiving an impartial careers interview in the coming months to help them think about what they want to do and how to get there. Mr Justice is also available for a chat to help students understand all the different opportunities that are out there.

Please contact Mr Justice (Head of CEIAG) via your child's tutor or via the email address tim.justice@rednockschool.org.uk

After all is said and done, we all learn and study in order to prepare ourselves for the world of work. It's really important that students don't get left behind and have a plan!

Rednock Sixth Form

Whilst the deadline for 6th Form applications is **Friday 29th January**, students should aim to have submitted their 6th form application by the end of this term. This will enable the 6th Form Team to offer support and guidance with regards to Post-16 subject choices. At this stage, if students are not sure about courses or combinations, don't worry. There will be meetings with each student in the New Year to discuss their plans in more detail.

Application forms can be submitted to the Main Reception, the 6th Form office or handed into your child's tutor.

Year 11 Parents' Consultation Meeting (PCM) - Thursday 28th January

The Year 11 Parents' Evening will be held on Thursday 28th January. This is a great opportunity to speak to subject teachers about specific concerns and issues. This will be a virtual event and more details about accessing the online meetings will be sent out in the new year. Bookings for this will open the week beginning January 11th 2021.

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Year 11 Events from Term 3 onwards

Year 11 School Photos - These will be taking place on Thursday 11th February 2021 and consist of a whole year group photograph and individual photos.

Year 11 Celebratory Events - The student committees have been set and have met to discuss their initial ideas for the annual celebratory e.g. Year 11 Prom, yearbook and hoodies. As you can appreciate, the Prom is likely to take a different format compared to previous years but the committee is keen to proceed with an event.

Prom Criteria - For students to be eligible to attend the Prom, they must have a good level of both attendance and behaviour during the school year. The criteria this year is that students have:

- no unauthorised absence from Term 2 onwards
- no higher than 35 behaviour points since September
- not received a fixed term exclusion during Year 11

Data and Photo Consent Form - These events provide opportunities for students to celebrate and commemorate their experiences to date at Rednock School. We would like to share photos and details of these events to a wider audience. Towards the end of October, we sent out a 'Year 11 Important Information' letter to all parents / carers. Within this letter we included a celebratory events data collection form. We asked parents / carers to indicate if they are happy for us to use images taken and their child's full name to appear on the Leavers' Hoodies. Please contact Miss Clark via email (rosie.clark@rednockschool.org.uk) if you have misplaced this form as we do require it to be completed.

Finally, I would like to thank you for your ongoing support over the past few months. These are challenging times for all but in particular Year 11 who have the additional pressure of external examinations on the horizon. As a cohort, they have done exceptionally well adapting to the situation and now need to focus on the summer's end goal as we move into the new year. I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a very Happy Christmas and I look forward to working with you and the students in the new year.

Yours faithfully,



Dr Sharron Cunningham

Deputy Headteacher

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