Valuing Everyone, Achieving Excellence

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Dear Parent/Carer,

Year 11 mock examination 'fortnight' commencing 22 November 2021

Your child will be sitting mock exams the weeks commencing 22 November and 29 November 2021. Please see schedules below.

Teaching Wk 1	Period 1	Period 2	Period 3	Period 4	Period 5
Monday 22 Nov 2021	ENGLISH				
Tuesday 23 Nov 2021			BIOLOGY 1H 45M COMBINED SCIENCE - Bio 1H 15M		
Wednesday 24 Nov 2021			Opt B		
Thursday 25 Nov 2021			Opt A		
Friday 26 Nov 2021			non ca	Paper 1 Iculator 30m	

Teaching Wk 2	Period 1	Period 2	Period 3	Period 4	Period 5
Monday 29 Nov 2021	CHEMISTRY 1H 45M COMBINED SCIENCE - Chem 1H 15M				
Tuesday 30 Nov 2021			MATHS calcu 1H 3	lator	
Wednesday 1 Dec 2021			Ор	t D	
Thursday 2 Dec 2021			Ор	t C	
Friday 3 Dec 2021			PHYSICS COMBINED SCI 1H 1	ENCE - Physics	

Summer 2022 Exams are due to go ahead with slight modifications for your child. Information and further detail about the expectations for Summer 2022 was sent to you in a letter dated 1 October found here. We are all hoping that students will be given the opportunity to sit their exams as currently planned. It is therefore important that students prepare themselves fully for Summer 2022 and this mock exam period is part of that preparation. If for any reason the system changes and we need to use Teacher assessed grades (TAGs) as we did this Summer; either for a whole cohort or for an individual who may be unable to take an exam, it is important that these mocks along with all other assessments represent the students in their best light.

Student attendance to mocks is extremely important. As with any examinations, we expect students to have all the correct equipment for their exams. Those students who arrive without the correct equipment will be issued with lunchtime detentions.

Revision is best done in small chunks over a long period of time, so these mocks represent the start of that process for students. On the website you will find lots of revision support. Mr Bugh has done two recordings: Revision Video One - Getting the environment right and Revision Video 2 - Revision strategies. Every subject has also produced revision presentations which you can watch with your child to help support them through this crucial year. All recordings can be found on our website in the revision section (under parents - examinations - revision presentations), or use this direct link: https://brookvalegroby.com/revision-presentations/

On the campus website there is also information on how to revise, our big revision guide and examples of revision timetables all of which your child may find useful in preparing for this week - https://brookvalegroby.com/revision-guides/.

Listed below is some additional information about the examinations from the core subjects:

Maths

The mock will consist of two papers, the first of which will be a non-calculator exam, the second a calculator. Students will be examined on all aspects of the course.

Students have recently sat assessments in Maths and we have worked with them to identify areas for improvement using these. Students should use the feedback from assessments as a basis from which to revise for their mocks. In order to give students the very best chance of reaching their full potential, we would advise that they begin studying for their mocks as soon as possible. The mock exams are used as an indicator of how well students are achieving, and it should be noted that interventions at faculty/whole college level will be put into place for students who underperform.

The Maths faculty operates an open door policy and students are welcome to come and see any Maths teacher during lunchtimes for extra support. There will be a series of more formal revision sessions put on in the lead up to their main exams, but in the meantime we would expect students to use their initiative and seek assistance as and when they feel it necessary.

All year 11 students have been provided log in details for the PiXL Maths App which they can use as a revision aid. As students complete questions on the app, topic descriptors will be colour coded and any identified as red or amber should be where to initially focus revision.

English

The mock exam will test student understanding of 'Macbeth' for Literature, and 'Reading Non-Fiction' for Language. For 'Macbeth' students have to answer a thematic or character based question using the extract and then consider the play as a whole. Students have to discuss how Shakespeare is creating his characters and events, linking to context. Spelling, punctuation, grammar, and vocabulary (technical accuracy) is also assessed in the 'Macbeth' question. The second part of the mock is Language Paper 2 Section A which is focused on reading 2 previously unseen articles and answering 4 questions about how the writers are conveying their points of view.

Students should be accessing the revision guides produced by the faculty (available on the student support drives) or asking their teacher for hard copies of practice questions. AQA revision guides are widely available from bookstores. We expect students to be using their initiative and revising in the run up to these mock exams. As always, students can request extra support from their teachers, although revision will be taking place in classes.

Combined Science and Separate Science

The mock exams will consist of 3 separate papers (Biology, Chemistry and Physics). Combined Science papers are 1hr 15mins and Separate Science papers are 1hr 45mins, a calculator will be required for all Science exams. The topics covered include the following:

Working scientifically - applies to all 3 sciences

Biology - B1 Cell biology, B2 Organisation, B3 Infection and response, B4 Bioenergetics

Chemistry - C6 Rate and extent of chemical change, C7 Organic chemistry, C8 Chemical analysis, C9 Chemistry of the atmosphere, C10 Using resources. (Knowledge of C1 Atomic structure and the periodic table, C2 Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter, C3 Quantitative chemistry is also advisable for this paper)

Physics - P1 Energy, P2 Electricity, P3 Particle model of matter, P4 Atomic structure

Students need to ensure that they fully prepare for the mock exams, revision time is planned during Science lessons but students need to be revising at home as well. It is strongly advised that all students should purchase a revision guide if they haven't already done so. Additional resources (mind maps, exam questions) are also available in the GCSE Science revision area on the google drive. The results of the mock exams will be used to confirm tier entry so it is important that students take these mock exams seriously.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any further questions.

Yours sincerely,

Ms Carol Hubbard

(Deputy Headteacher – Progress and Curriculum)