

St. Mary's Sixth Form

Parent and Carer Information Session

2023-2024

Preparing for Year 13 Mock
Examinations





Session Leads

Mr Turnbull – Assistant Headteacher (Sixth Form)

Mrs Francis – Head of Year 13



Outline Of the Session

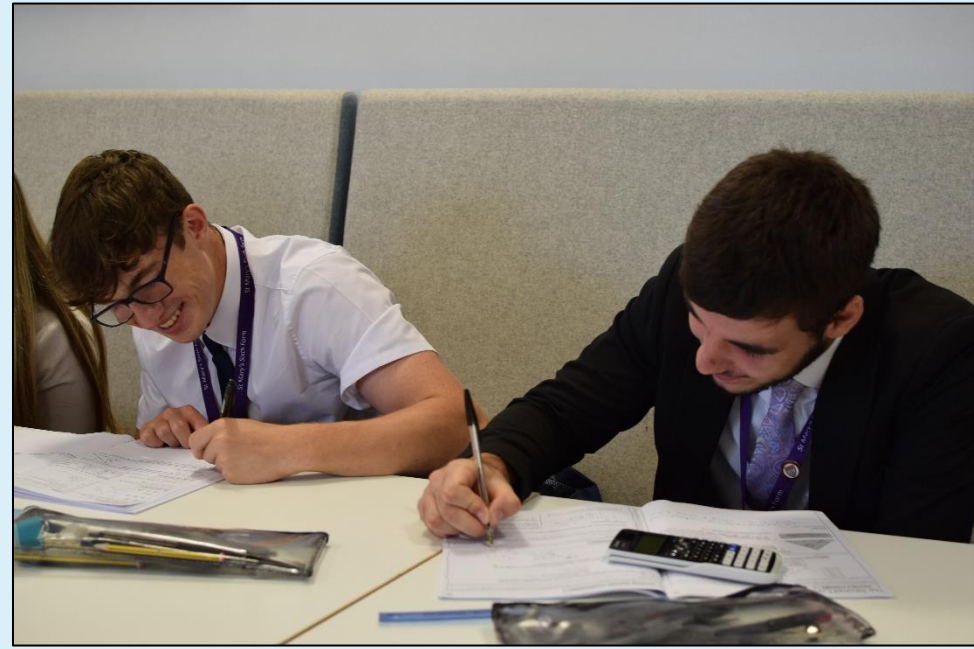
Purpose and Aims

Study Leave

Examination Logistics

Revision and Preparation

Follow-Up





Year 13 – Key Dates

November / December 2023 : Year 13 Mock Examinations 1

December 2023 : Achievement 1 Summary and Parents Evening

March 2024 : Year 13 Mock Examinations 2

March 2024 : Achievement 2 Summary

May 2024 : All NEAs and Coursework Submitted to Examination Boards

May 2024 : Leavers Liturgy and Celebrations

May 2024 (onwards) : Study Leave

May – June 2024: A-Level and BTEC Examinations

June 2024 : Year 13 Prom

August 2024 : Results Day





Examinations

The Year 13 Mock Examinations which take place in November and December 2023 will be an important part of Year 13.

Completing these mock examinations allow:

Students be aware of the standards and expectations of protocols in external examinations.

Students to review how to prepare for examinations effectively.

Students to consider their areas of strength and development in a subject.

Students an understanding of what the external examinations will be like in structure and content.

Teachers the opportunity to review areas of strength and developments for students to provide bespoke support moving forward.





Examinations

The Year 13 Mock Examinations which take place in November and December 2023 will be an important part of Year 13.

These mock examinations will **not**:

Form predicted grades for students for UCAS and employment applications.

Lead to course changes for the students.

Follow the exact format of the summer examination timetable.

Examine students on concepts yet to be covered in lessons.





Study Leave

During Year 13 Mock Examinations, students will be granted the privilege of Study Leave.

Study leave from end of the day on **Monday November 27th** until the end of the day **Tuesday December 13th** .

For students who study vocational courses (and subjects will no examination in the mock examination period) – students attend school as normal.

For students who study A-Level courses only – students only need to present for the examinations.

For students who study a mix of vocational and A level courses:

There is no need to attend lessons:

The afternoon before an exam the next morning

The morning before an afternoon exam

Students who study vocational courses are expected to be in for the entire session in which they have a lesson.

Whilst in school, students should be following the Sixth Form Dress Code.



Examination Logistics

Before the Examination

Students should meet in the Atrium before each examination.

8:50 am for morning exams

1:15 pm for afternoon exams

Students do not need to register but should swipe in to school with their Sixth Form ID Card.

This is very important for our safeguarding procedures.

A member of staff will collect students.

Travel quietly through the school so not to disturb lessons.

Bags, mobile phones, wrist watches and smart watches placed in lockers.

These items are not allowed into the examination room.

No bits of paper in pockets or any writing on hands,

Go to the toilet before going to the examination room.

Whilst in school, students should be following the Sixth Form Dress Code.



Examination Logistics

Examination Equipment

For the mock examinations, the same JCQ procedures will be followed at all times.

All pencil cases must be transparent.

Water bottles must be transparent and no labels.

No bits of paper in pockets or any writing on hands.

You should have a black pen, pencil and rubber for each examination.

Bring specialist equipment:

Calculator

Ruler

Compass

Highlighter

Correcting fluid is not allowed.

It is the student's responsibility to bring this equipment.



Examination Logistics

Examination Timetable

Students will be issued with a paper copy of the timetable on Thursday.
An electronic copy will be placed on Teams.
It is the student's responsibility to check this information.

The examination timetable has been created to spread out subject / similar subjects examinations and minimise clashes for students.

If there is an examination clash, the students must make the Sixth Form Pastoral Team aware.





Examination Logistics

Examination Timetable – Week 1

Date	Time	Subject	Paper	Length
Wed 29 Nov	am	English Language	Language, the individual and society	2h30
	pm	Maths	Pure and statistics	1h30
Thu 30 Nov	am	Economics	8ECO Markets and Market failure	1h30
		Drama and Theatre	Theatre Makers in Practice (A & B)	1h40
		RE	Christianity	2h
		Spanish	Listening, Reading, Writing & Translation	2h30
	pm	Physics	Paper 1	2h
		Psychology	Introductory topics in Psychology	2h
Fri 01 Dec	am	Biology	Paper 1	2h
	pm	Fine Art	Component 1: Personal investigation	2h
		Computer Science	Paper 1D	2h
		English Literature	Paper 1A: Literary Genres - Aspects of Tragedy (A & B)	1h30



Examination Logistics

Examination Timetable – Week 2

Mon 04 Dec	am	Film Studies	Component 1: Varieties of film and filmmaking	1h40
		History	Germany 1L	2h30
		Health and Social Care	Unit 4: Enquiries into Current Research in H&SC	45m
		Product Design	Paper 1: Technical Principles	1h
	pm	Chemistry	Paper 1	2h15
Tue 05 Dec	am	BTEC Applied Science	Unit 3: Science investigation skills	2h15
		French	Listening, Reading, Writing & Translation	2h30
		Further Maths	Pure core	2h
		Geography	Component 1: Physical	1h30
	Sociology	Education with theory and methods	2h	
	pm	Biology	Paper 2	2h
Wed 06 Dec	am	English Language	Language diversity and change	2h30
	pm	Maths	Pure and mechanics	1h30
Thu 07 Dec	am	Film Studies	Component 2: Global filmmaking perspectives	1h30
		History	Britain 2M	2h30
		Product Design	Paper 2: Design & Making Principles	2h
	pm	Computer Science	Paper 2	2h
Fri 08 Dec	am	Chemistry	Paper 2	2h15
	pm	Economics	8ECO The UK Economy	1h30
		RE	Philosophy	2h



Examination Logistics

Examination Timetable – Week 3

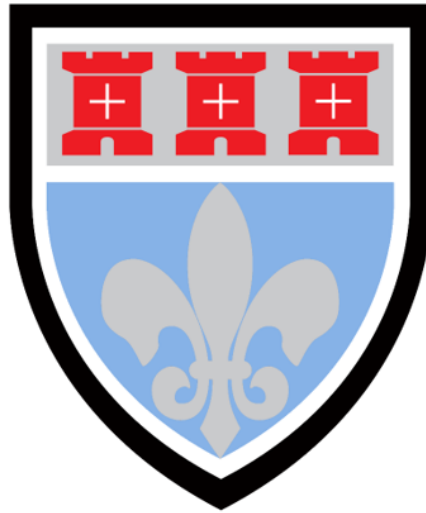
Mon 11 Dec	am	Physics	Paper 2	2h
		Psychology	Psychology in context	2h
	pm	English Literature	Paper 2A Texts and genres: Elements of crime writing	2h
Tue 12 Dec	am	Further Maths	Additional Pure and Further Mechanics	2h
		Geography	Component 1: Human	1h30
		Sociology	Topics in Sociology (Health and Media)	2h



Examination Preparation

For the Year 13 Mock Examinations, students will be issued with an Information, Advice and Guidance Booklet.

It contains detailed information, advice and guidance from subject teachers for each subject.



St Mary's Catholic School

**Year 13 Mock Exams:
Information and Guidance**

**Mock Exams
November 2023**



Examination Preparation

For the Year 13 Mock Examinations, students will be issued with an Information, Advice and Guidance Booklet.

In their lessons subject teachers will take students through the guidance. It is essential that students refer to this information in planning out revision, and regularly during the revision period, to enable them to prepare effectively.

St Mary's Catholic School Information and Guidance for Year 13 Students English Literature	
Teachers: Mrs Clough and Miss Hornsby	
Title of the exams Paper 1: Elements of Tragedy Paper 2: Elements of Crime	Which content/ topics should I revise? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• King Lear• Richard II (all scenes studied so far)• How to approach unseen extracts for paper 2• The Murder of Roger Ackroyd• Crabbe, Browning and Wilde's poetry
Date of exams See timetable	
Length of exams Paper 1: 2 hours and 30 minutes Paper 2: 2 hours	What should I use to revise? (Use this as a checklist to ensure you have all the revision materials) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Set texts• Knowledge Organisers• Notes in books and feedback on essays• Re-read each of the set texts• Watch a version of King Lear/Richard II to revise dramatic method• Complete at least 2 extract style questions on King Lear as full answers or detailed mind-maps.• Complete at least 1 traditional essay on King Lear/Richard II as full answers or detailed mind-maps• Revise the roles of individual characters in King Lear/Richard II and learn key quotations from each text• Identify key tragic elements and bullet point key ideas and text references that are relevant to the tragic element.• Revise all notes and annotations from all crime texts• Revise notes on Ackroyd/Poetry and related crime elements linking quotations to key elements of crime• Re-visit unseen essays, and redo sections building on feedback from your teacher.
Format of the exams Paper 1: This is a closed book exam. Section a) extract from King Lear – explore tragic elements Section b) traditional essay on King Lear Section c) essay on Richard II Paper 2: This is an open book exam. Section a) unseen extract from a crime text No section B Section c) element/s of crime applied to The Murder of Roger Ackroyd or poetry	



Examination Preparation

Before Study Leave

For students to get the most out of the mock examinations, they should prepare thoroughly for the examinations.

Overview

Organise schedule according to timetable.

Prioritise subjects in chronological order.

Do not revise exam to exam.

Topic areas

Covering every base for each exam is not possible.

Prioritise what areas to revise based on previous feedback.

Categorise topic areas into different levels.

Prioritise amber topic areas first – this is where you can make the biggest difference.

Limited focus on green and red topic areas.



Examination Preparation

During Study Leave

Overview

Use revision time effectively.

Do not leave revision until study leave starts.

Show the self-discipline to prepare independently.

Routine

Treat every day as a working day.

Try to work the same hours as you would during the school day.

Plan each day with revision activities each with goals and aims.

How much time?

2-3 hours in the morning

2-3 hours in the afternoon

1-2 hours in the evening

Ensure you have downtime before going to sleep.

Working late is counterproductive.

Finish no later than 9:30 pm

Try to maintain a work-life balance.



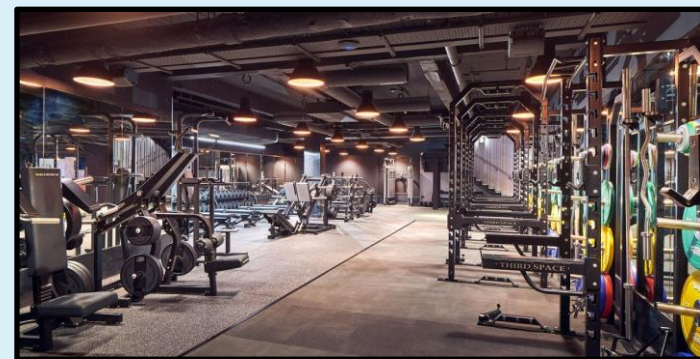


Examination – Preparation

Work-Life Balance

It's important to maintain a good work-life balance to avoid burn out. This may include putting aside one night a week for something other than work – such as a Friday.

Of course, sacrifices during revision will need to be made but students should still prioritise what helps them relax.





Examination – Preparation

'I don't have any motivation'

Motivation is not required to revise.
Revision needs to become part of the daily routine.
However, it is important to build breaks into revision.
Pomodoro method is a common tool to do this.

THE **POMODORO** TECHNIQUE



1
Decide on the
Task That
You Need to
Do



2
Set the
Timer to 25
Minutes



3
Work on the
Task Until the
Timer Rings



4
Take a Short
5 Minute
Break



5
After 4
Cycles Take a
15-30 Minute
Break



Examination – Preparation

'I end up just going on my phone'

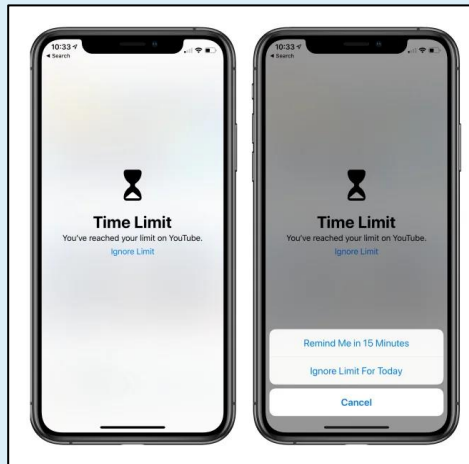
Forest app



Remove the phone from study area



Screen time limits



Turn the phone off





Examination – Preparation

'I find it difficult to work at home'

Our Sixth Form Area is open 8.00am - 5.45pm throughout Study Leave.

Newcastle City Library is open 10am to 4pm on a Saturday and 10am to 5/7pm Monday-Friday.





Follow-Up

After Examinations

Have a break after you have completed examinations in school.

Try not to speak to other students and compare answers.

Move on from the examinations –students cannot affect the results of this exam after it has taken place.

Focus on upcoming examinations.

After the Mock Examinations reflect on your preparation for each subject.
How could this be improved in the future?





Examinations - Advice

Create a study schedule

Review notes

Practice with past papers

Get organised

Use mnemonic devices

Study with a group





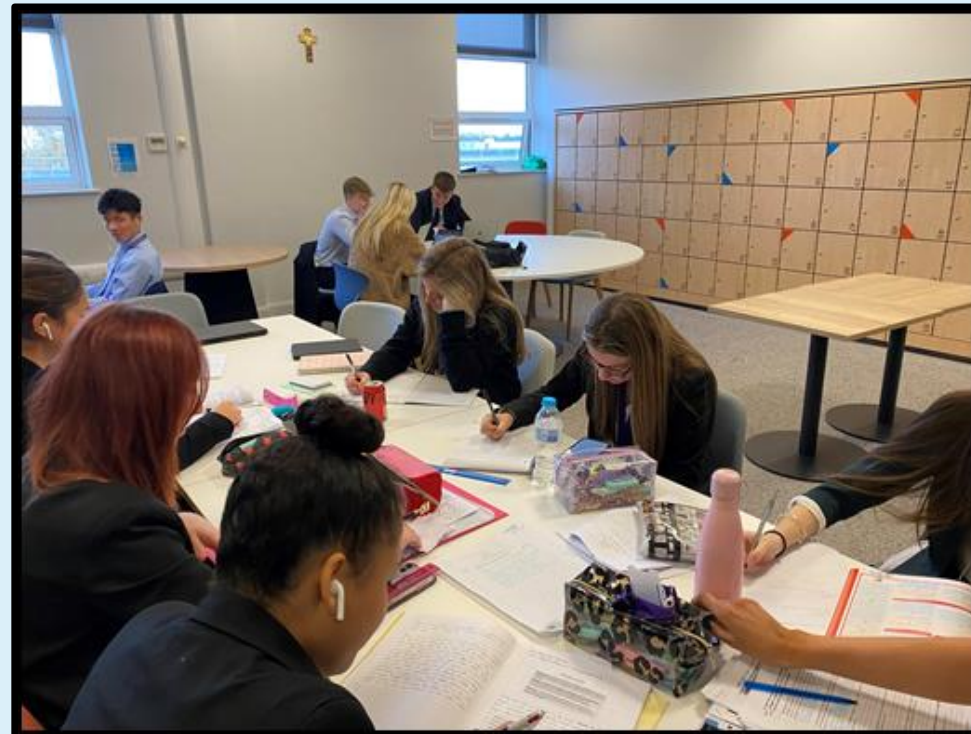
Examinations - Advice

Take breaks

Stay healthy

Identify your strengths and weaknesses

Start early





Follow-Up

The Year 13 Mock Examinations will be used as a tool for students to reflect on their performance in the assessments.

All mock examinations will be reviewed by subjects' teachers in the weeks following the mock examinations.

Students should identify areas of strength from the mock examinations.

Students should identify areas to improve upon from the mock examinations – this should include topics and examination technique.

Students should base revision and preparation for future examinations on the feedback from these examinations.

Subject teachers will use the examination performance to help inform future intervention and preparation for the summer examinations.





Support

The Year 13 Mock Examinations can be a stressful time for students.

Students can see any member of the Sixth Form Pastoral Team or their Form Tutor if they are worried or concerned.

Students can see their subject teachers if they require further help and support with work in individual subjects.

Students will have a talk on Mental Health and positive strategies from the school nurse before the mock examinations, along with a follow-up drop-in session.

Students have access to our Sixth Form Library which includes a well-being section.

Students have access to the Sixth Form Area from 8.00am until 5.45pm each school day to revise and prepare for examinations.

Whilst in school, students should be following the Sixth Form Dress Code.





Thank You

Thank you so much for attending this 'Sixth Form Parent and Carer Information Session' exploring how your child can prepare for Year 13 Mock Examinations. We really hope that the information shared has been helpful and informative.

If you do have any questions, please feel free to contact school anytime or pose a question in the chat facility. Please ensure questions do not mention any students or staff by name.

If you have a question regarding this important time for your child, please contact school. We are here to help. Thank you for your continued support.

