



BOD/GWR

2<sup>nd</sup> May 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

### Year 11 GCSE Examinations

We are nearing the start of the summer GCSE Examination season! The first written paper is on the 15<sup>th</sup> May and the final one is on 20<sup>th</sup> June, so a busy period lies ahead. I will write to you weekly with a summary of what is coming up.

Lessons will continue as normal up to the 26<sup>th</sup> May but throughout the examination period students should register at 8.45am and 1.00pm **outside the Sports Hall**, not in their usual tutor rooms. Morning exams generally begin at 9am, afternoon ones at 1.20pm.

It is possible that afternoon exams will finish after the buses have left, especially for students eligible for extra time. Please make sure that arrangements are in place for students to get home if this is likely.

Breakfast will be provided (free to examination students) in the canteen from 8.00am on the morning of exams with staff working with students to prepare for the morning's papers from 8.15am.

Mrs Milliner has given students an individual examination timetable and another copy is enclosed with this letter. This shows what exams each student is sitting, when and where, down to the specific seat. These timetables are personalised and vary from student to student and they **must be brought to each exam** so that students know exactly where to go.

Exams will take place in the Sports Hall, Main Hall, the Lower Sixth Form Study Room or in small rooms around the school. Consult individual timetables to check the venues for each paper.

During the week beginning Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May, the key examinations are:

#### **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May**

**GCSE Edexcel Religious Studies (1.5 hrs)**  
**(Compulsory Paper for Full & Short Course)**

**9.00am start: Sports Hall/  
Study Room**

**BTEC Music: The Music Industry (1 hr)**

**11.30am start: Sports Hall/  
Study Room**

*There is no afternoon GCSE exam today.*

A breakfast club for those students sitting the RE exam will be held in the canteen from 8.00am (breakfast provided), with revision at 8.15am with Mr Phillips, Mr Wardale and Miss Mather.



For students not sitting exams, or for those who have completed exams, the normal timetable will operate.

The regular after-school Maths revision will be running as normal.

### **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> May**

**GCSE Edexcel French Listening and Reading Papers  
(25, 35 or 50 minutes, depending on tier)**

**9.00am start: Reading in Sports Hall,  
Listening in Main Hall  
(Students only take one tier)**

*There is no afternoon GCSE exam today.*

A breakfast club for those students sitting the French exams will be held in the canteen from 8.00am (croissants provided), with revision at 8.15am with French staff.

For students not sitting exams, or for those who have completed exams, the normal timetable will operate.

### **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May**

**GCSE Edexcel ICT: Living in a Digital World (1.5hrs)**

**9.00am start: Sports Hall/  
Study Room**

**BTEC Construction Technology (1 hr)**

**9.00am start: Sports Hall/  
Study Room**

**\* 11.30am start for students with  
a clash with ICT**

**GCSE Edexcel Religious Studies (1.5hrs)  
Religion & Society (Full course only)**

**1.20pm start: Sports Hall/  
Study Room**

A breakfast club for those students sitting ICT & BTEC Construction will be held in the canteen from 8.00am (breakfast provided) with revision at 8.15am with ICT & Construction staff.

For students not sitting exams, or for those who have completed exams, the normal timetable will operate. However, due to fixtures, there will be **no practical PE** lessons this afternoon. Students timetabled for PE will be redirected to revision rooms.

### **Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May**

*There is no morning GCSE exam today*

**GCSE AQA Drama: Unit 1 (1.5 hours)**

**1.20pm start: Sports Hall/  
Study Room**

For students not sitting exams, or for those who have completed exams, the normal timetable will operate.

## Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May

**GCSE Edexcel Spanish Listening and Reading Papers**  
(25, 35 or 50 minutes, depending on tier)

**9.00am start: Reading in Sports Hall**  
**Listening in Main Hall.**  
(Students only take one tier)

**GCSE AQA Physical Education (1.5 hrs)**

**1.20pm start: Sports Hall/  
Study Room**

A breakfast club for those students sitting Spanish exams will be held from 8.00am (breakfast provided) with staff.

For students not sitting exams, or for those who have completed exams, the normal timetable will operate.

At the end of exams, students must move away from the exam venues – there may be AS and A2 exams that continue beyond times set for GCSEs.

Let's get the first week of written exams off to a flying start. We had over 99% attendance for Year 11 GCSE exams last year – we expect the same or better in 2017.

### **Don't forget to organise:**

- A reliable alarm clock – don't sleep in!
- Water for exams (brain juice), remember to remove the labels
- Tissues if you are a hay fever sufferer
- A calculator that works
- A watch is useful for timekeeping – every exam venue has a clock but your own (non-smart) watch is recommended
- Spare pens and pencils (bring **black** pens – **all** exams specify this colour)
- Pencil cases must be *see-through*
- An extra layer of clothing (May exams in the Sports Hall can be cool although we will use the ceiling heaters to warm the room, as necessary, prior to each exam)

School uniform must be worn for all external examinations and for lessons. Don't risk missing an examination because of inappropriate clothing or footwear!! **All Internet enabled sources of information** (phones, tablets, smartwatches etc.) must be switched off and handed to invigilators before the start of each examination. Usual examination rules apply viz. no talking or communication in any way. These rules will be strictly enforced.

**Finally: Stay positive.** Contact us if there are any problems during the exam period. We are here to help you!

Best wishes,



Dave Boyd  
**Deputy Headteacher**