

Be Your Best Self



17th December 2020

Dear Parents,

Year 11 Mock Exam and Results

We are immensely proud of the way our year 11 students approached the mocks during this half term; doubly impressive given the delayed start date. In a normal year students would have had the opportunity to receive all their results on a "mock results day". This is anything but a normal year. We are aware of the anxieties surrounding mock exams this year, and as such decided it was preferable for students to receive their result in lessons where teachers could explain exactly how the papers had been marked and graded.

To lessen the anxieties even further, the following information may be useful:

- We fully expect the exam series in Summer 2021 to go ahead. As such, each subject area set mock papers with the intention of having the biggest impact on preparing students for this scenario.
- Some subjects set full papers with the intention of giving students a full experience of what the final paper will look like. Other subjects set partial papers, to test the students on the knowledge base they have already covered. This is no different to any other year, both approaches have their merits.
- Mock grades will vary from subject to subject. This is inevitable given that some subject papers covered the whole content of the course, where other subjects only covered a subset of the content.
- Students are reminded that these are only mocks, a staging post for making improvements. They need to listen to feedback carefully and act upon it. Students are keen to know their "grades", but they also need to listen and understand what the grade is based upon.
- We are aware of the added anxieties following the way students were awarded grades last year. Please note that mock grades were not used directly as the final grades last year, and they won't be this year.
- Further subject assessments will take place during the course of the next 6 months. In some subjects there will be a second mock, for other subjects, internal assessments will provide opportunity to assess learning of the content not covered in the mocks.

Parents Evening, taking place on Wednesday 13th and Thursday 14th January, will provide you with an opportunity to ask any subject specific questions (details of the booking system will follow in the New Year). In advance of this, shortly after the Christmas break, each student will receive a full report detailing the mock grades and, more importantly, a forecast grade and information about attitude and approach to learning in each subject.

I hope that you and your families are able to have a restful Christmas break, and that students are able to recharge their batteries ready for the new year.

Yours faithfully,



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