



Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to you with an update on the upcoming WAVE2 exams that every student in year 11 will be taking in the week following the half term break (week beginning 28th February)

The focus for all year 11 students will now be the WAVE2 exams. From today, I have temporarily suspended all other homework tasks and asked the core departments to intensify their preparation. Once again, tutor time has been focusing on the importance of exams, preparation and coping strategies for our students. As we approach the final few days, I thought I would write home to just remind you about the way the exams operate.

This year group are now very experienced in the process of sitting formal exams in the sports hall. Their immaculate conduct during the last WAVE1 and PPE exams demonstrated that as a cohort, they certainly are close to being exam ready. In order to further prepare them, all exams taken this term will be run following the JCQ rules and regulations. These are the same rules that they sat their WAVE1 and PPE1 exams under in term 1. All the exams will take place in the sports hall to allow for maximum space and ventilation.

Students must be responsible for their exam equipment and so I would ask that you double check they have a transparent pencil case with many black ink pens/biros, pencils, rulers, rubbers and a calculator. The only drinks allowed in the exam hall are see through water bottles, without labels. The only drink allowed is water. Mobile phones will need to be switched off and placed in their school bag. These are kept in a secure area. New JCQ guidelines have also forbidden watches to be worn. These must be in school bags too. There are plenty of digital clocks in the exam hall.

Advance Information – 7th February 2022:

The 7th February (today!) saw the publication of 'advance information' from the exam boards. This information is a key adaptation to examinations, aiming to support students and teachers in focusing revision for exams. It is intended to make sure that JCQ are being as fair as possible to students given the disruption they have experienced, and many continue to face, due to the coronavirus pandemic.

The advance information spans over all our exam courses and in each case it has been carefully designed to support the same purpose: to provide appropriate guidance to teachers and students to focus revision. In some cases, for example, the information will provide a list of topics that will be the focus of the exam, or parts of it. In other cases, the information will identify a section of a set work (such as a text), and the extract used in the exam will be taken from this smaller section.

Our Curriculum leaders and teaching staff are currently reading and discussing this advance information and will then adapt the teaching plans for the final few weeks. The WAVE2 and PPE2 exams will be modified to reflect the Advance Information to try and ensure the final practice exams replicate what students will experience in the summer I will write to you again over the next two weeks with a summary of the key points from the Advance Information.

WAVE2 exams:

For exam 1, students will attend form time as per usual and then line up in the tennis court area. At the end of each exam, students must return to their timetabled lesson.

For exam 2, students will have their break as normal. At 11.20 they should then line up in the tennis court area. At the end of each exam, students must return to their timetabled lesson.

Period 5 runs as a normal lesson as per the timetable.



	8:45am – Exam 1	Duration	11:30am – Exam 2	Duration
Monday 28th Feb	Maths F Paper 1 (non calc)	1hr 30	Biology	1hr 45
	Maths H Paper 1 (non calc)	1hr 30	Combined Science (F)	1hr 15
			Combined Science (H)	1hr 15
Tuesday 1st March	Maths F Paper 2 (calc)	1hr 30	English Language	1hr 45
	Maths H Paper 2 (calc)	1hr 30		
Wednesday 2nd March	Maths F Paper 3 (calc)	1hr 30	Chemistry	1hr 45
	Maths H Paper 3 (calc)	1hr 30	Combined Science (F)	1hr 15
			Combined Science (H)	1hr 15
Thursday 3rd March	Physics	1hr 45		
	Combined Science (F)	1hr 15		
	Combined Science (H)	1hr 15		
Friday 4th March	Catch up - All students who have missed an exam during the week must report to the Exams Office after morning registration			

The WAVE2 exams will be followed (three weeks later) by the PPE2 exams. These are the practice exams for all non-core (option subjects). These PPE2 exams will be the final opportunity (promise!) for the students to practice exams before the 'real thing' in May and June.

As always, we care greatly about the well-being of our students. I understand that the next few weeks could provide pressure points where students feel worry or anxiety. The work being carried out by tutors, Mr Tichband and Mrs Fyfe has been designed to increase resilience and equip students with the necessary skills and tools to cope with the stresses and strains of the next 4 months. We feel almost all of our students are 'exam ready'. However, if you do have concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your child's tutor or Mr Tichband.

I wish your child good luck during the WAVE2 exams

Pete Whitehouse (Assistant Headteacher – Outcomes)