

26 April 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

Year 10 RS GCSE Exam

The time is rapidly approaching for Year 10 to sit their RS GCSE exams. Thank you for the support in preparing your child for these exams and I hope that they are feeling well-prepared ahead of their first exam. This letter and the JCQ information attached, contain lots of important information and I recommend keeping it safe and/or printing it out to refer to.

Exams - Dates and timetables

All of Year 10 have a timetable that has been shared with them via Bromcom. These contain details including seat numbers, venues and the dates/times of exams (note that students should arrive at venues 10-15 minutes ahead of the published start time) and it is helpful for students to know this information in advance.

Arrival to exams

For the exam on the **9 of May**, teachers will be on hand in the E block canteen from 8.30am, to deliver key information about the papers, equipment needed, timings for questions and give other last minute tips. This will not be a revision session but will include lots of reassurance and reminders of important information. We advise students to attend this if their travel arrangements allow them to do so. Similarly teachers will be available in the E block canteen from 1.00pm on the **16 of May** for students' second RS paper.

Afternoon exam/Late finish

Please note that the exam on the **16 of May** finishes later than 3.05pm and therefore students may need to wait to get the late bus home at 4.20pm. Please check your child's exam timetable with them and make your own arrangements for transport home, if needed.

Late arrival/Missed exams

Unlike the mock exams, if a student misses an exam there will be no opportunity to sit the paper at a later time, as per exam board regulations. Missing an exam should be avoided wherever possible but if absence is unavoidable, please report this in the usual manner via absence@theweald.org.uk and copy in exams@theweald.org.uk so that our Exams Officer is also aware. When exams are missed, we will inform the exam board who will decide whether or not a grade can be awarded based on the exams already undertaken. In some cases, no allowances will be made for missing an exam.

If a student arrives late for an exam, they are advised to enter the school through front reception and tell the staff on duty which exam they are supposed to be sitting, their name and the

venue. Please note that for most exams, students can join late; however, there is no guarantee that they will be able to be allocated the full length of time that they were otherwise entitled to. In addition, those who arrive more than 60 minutes late will not be able to sit the exam.

Equipment

Please could you ensure that your child has the correct equipment for their exams and help them organise a pencil case if necessary (remember these must be clear for exams). **We cannot guarantee that equipment will be available to lend.** I have provided a short equipment list below.

Exams equipment list:

- 2 black ball-point pens
- 2 pencils (and a sharpener)
- A pencil case might be useful but not necessary. These must be clear.

Exams pressure

We understand that the final exams can be very daunting and difficult for many students. Prior planning and preparation, organisation and openness to support are several ways for students to feel in control of these exams. If you find that you need help with any of these things, please get in touch with form tutors (for general advice), teaching staff (for subject specific support) or me. Remember, the mock exams were good preparation for the real thing and you can do it!

The GCSE Results Day will be on **Thursday 22 August**. This will be in the **Sixth Form Centre at 10.00am**. Students can collect results that day or can give written permission for a nominated person to collect the results for them. If a student does not collect the results they will be posted home. Should you wish the results to go anywhere other than the address held on the school's records you should let our admin department know in writing by the end of the summer term. GCSE results will also be available on Bromcom which can be accessed through the school website's parent portal tab.

Yours faithfully,



Mr B Francis
Head of Year 10

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