

14 March 2025

Dear Parents/Carers

Y10 RS Exam

As you know, in May Year 10 will sit their RS GCSE exams. The year group have been working hard towards these and have performed well in their mocks. Thank you for the support you have given in preparing your child so far. The final weeks of revision and being prepared on the day of exams is often key to students' success. This letter contains lots of important information to help you support this. I would recommend keeping it safe and/or printing it out to refer to.

Exams - dates and timetables

All of Year 10 have an exam timetable that has been shared with them via MCAS in their student portal. 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). It is helpful for students to know this information in advance. Any errors, problems or queries please address to me as soon as possible as issues on the day of exams are very hard to fix and can be stressful for the young person.

The RS exams are the morning of Tuesday 13 May and afternoon of Wednesday 21 May.

Arrival to exams

For the exam on the 13 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 last minute tips. This will not be a revision session but will include reassurance and reminders. 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 21 May for students' second RS paper.

Afternoon exam/Late finish

Please note that the exam on the 21 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 from the exam start time, 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, as must any water bottles). **We cannot guarantee that equipment will be available to lend.** I have provided a short equipment list below.

Exam's equipment list:

- 2 black ball-point pens (students cannot write in other colours as per exam regulations)
- 2 pencils (and a sharpener)
- A pencil case might be useful but not necessary. These must be clear.

Exams pressure

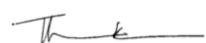
We understand that exams can be daunting and difficult for some students. Prior planning and preparation, organisation and openness to support are several ways for students to feel in control of these exams. If you find that you need help with any of these things, please get in touch with your child's form tutor (for general advice), teaching staff (for subject specific support) or me.

I would strongly recommend having a revision schedule in place for your child which plans when they will do homework, RS revision and revision for their other assessments. I would advise building in down time, hobbies and the school day. I would recommend having a separate schedule for the two week Easter break. This is excellent practice for next year and a good way to manage anxiety, wellbeing and also ensure effective revision practice.

There is a blank revision schedule and advice on how to revise [here](#). The RS department provides excellent resources which detail what students need to revise. They will provide each student with an electronic Personal Learning Checklist (topic list). This outlines which revision guides are best to use, provides past papers and lists all the topics which students need to know. Follow this [link](#) for a copy of this document.

The GCSE Results Day will be on **Thursday 21 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 the MCAS parent portal.

Yours faithfully,



Mr T Brixey
Head of Year 10