

31 January 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

Year 11 Assessment Information

I am writing ahead of the Year 11 mock exams, which will take place in the weeks before and after February half term beginning Monday 10 February 2025 and ending Friday 28 February 2025. These assessments will take place in exam venues for the core subjects and in classrooms for options subjects. Your child will receive an exam timetable via their student portal on Bromcom for the core exams only.

Core Mock Exams - dates and timetables

All of Year 11 have a timetable that has been shared with them through their student portal. This is also available for you to see on the My Child At School 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 and please be aware that the venues and seat numbers may differ from one exam to the next. If students think there is an error with their timetable or the exams that they are entered for, please contact their form tutor in the first instance.

Please ensure that they are checking the most recent version of their timetable for accurate information regarding the exams. When students are not in exams, they should be in their usual timetabled lessons as normal.

These mock exams will assess learning from across Key Stage 4 and will allow your child to demonstrate the progress they are making in the curriculum and the level they are currently working at in their GCSE subjects. Their results will be shared with you in their third round of tracking.

Mock preparation

Students will have been provided with resources and information to help them prepare for these mock exams and they will have been informed by the teachers of their options subjects as to when their exams for these will take place. RED Review homework has been set in the weeks leading up to this set of mocks and you can find information regarding specific papers and topics in the [Year 11 Information Booklet](#) which is available on our school website.

Equipment

The Joint Council of Qualifications (JCQ) clearly states that equipment should not be provided by the school. This means that if a student does not bring the correct equipment to their exams, they may find themselves at a disadvantage and unable to complete some of the questions on their GCSE papers. Please ensure that your child has the following equipment in a clear pencil case:

- **A minimum of 2 black ballpoint pens**
- **2 pencils**
- **1 rubber**
- **1 pencil sharpener**
- **1 30 cm ruler**
- **1 protractor**
- **1 pair of compasses**
- **1 working scientific calculator**

We also recommend that students have 2-3 highlighters to use in exams which require analysis of text, such as English, History, and Geography.

Missed exams

If a student has missed an exam for any reason, they will be requested to attend a catch up session afterschool. Their subject teacher will arrange a time and venue for this to be completed. Absences should be kept to an absolute minimum, as in the summer exams, non-attendance can lead to marks being lost for that exam.

When letting us know of any absence that affects the mock exams, please could you include an expected return date if you are able to. Please report these absences in the usual manner, via absence@theweald.org.uk

Late arrivals

If a student arrives for an exam late as a result of unavoidable reasons (e.g. transport) they are to go straight to their venue upon arrival at school and enter the venue silently, making themselves known to the invigilating team.

Exams ending during break

If a student sits an exam that ends during or after break time and they miss their usual break, they will be given a break before returning to their lessons. This is to be taken in the E block canteen only (not across the school site). Toilet facilities are available here.

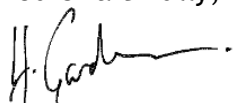
Afternoon exams

Please note that if an exam finishes later than 3.05pm, students may get the late bus home at 4.20pm on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday. If any exams finish later than 3.05pm on a Monday or Friday, please note that there are no late buses provided on these days. Please check your child's exam timetable with them and make your own arrangements for transport home on these days, if needed. If there are any issues with this, please contact me by email.

Exam's pressure

We understand that the mock exams can be very daunting and difficult for many students. Prior planning and preparation, organisation and openness to support are three 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.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H. Gardner', followed by a horizontal line.

Mrs H Gardner
Head of Year 11