

23 September 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

Y11 2025-2026 Mocks 1 Pre-assessment letter

Year 11 is a short year with several key milestones that will support your children in achieving the best GCSE results, planning for their future and making lasting memories. The following dates are key and will form the rhythm of the year for your children:

Week commencing - Monday 3 November - First mock exams - in exam venues

Week commencing - Monday 15 December - mocks for practical exams

Week commencing Monday 9 and Monday 23 February 2026 - Second mock exams - core subjects in exam venues

Week commencing - Monday 9 March - Food Tech GCSE practical exam

Week commencing - Monday 16 March - GCSE Drama performances

Week commencing Monday 23 March - Art, Textiles and Ceramics GCSE exams

Week commencing Monday 11 May - Start of written GCSE exams

19 June - End of GCSE exams

26 June - Prom

The better you can support them with planning for, working towards and during all of the above the happier, healthier and more successful your child will be. The below details the support and guidance in place for the first mock exams.

First Mock Exams - dates and timetables

For the first your child will receive an exam timetable via their student portal on Bromcom for these mock exams; a provisional timetable is already available to view in the [Year 11 Information Booklet](#) pages 4 and 5.

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 second round of tracking.

All of Y11 will have an exam timetable that will be shared with them through their student portal on Bromcom. 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. This should be done as soon as possible so any necessary changes can be made in good time.

Please ensure that your child is 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. Where there are extended break times they will be directed to these by staff in exams venues and on duty staff thereafter.

Equipment

Year 11 students are required to bring all of the necessary equipment to their mock exam as the Joint Council of Qualifications (JCQ) clearly states that equipment should not be provided by the school. Therefore, before the exams begin, 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 scientific calculator** (This can be used in Maths calculator papers, Science, Business, Geography, and PE exams - please note that the front cover must be removed).

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

If your child 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. Mobile phones and watches (of any kind) are prohibited in exams and must remain in student bags which will be kept securely in our bag stores whilst exams are taking place. **They cannot be in students' pockets.**

If you have any further questions regarding this equipment list, then please contact me.

Missed exams

If a student has missed an exam for any reason, they will be requested to attend a catch-up session, either at the end of the assessment period or after school. 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

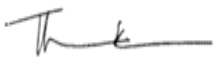
Please note that some exams finish later than 3.05pm. On Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, if your child's exam finishes after the school buses depart, they may get the late bus home at 4.20pm. For a small number of students, they will have exams that finish later than 3.05pm on a Monday or Friday and there are no late buses provided. 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.

Exams pressure

We understand that the mock exams can be daunting and a challenge for many students. Prior planning and preparation, organisation and openness to support are the best 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. Heads of house also continue to offer invaluable pastoral care throughout your child's time at The Weald. Year 11 students will also be attending workshops with Action Your Potential (AYP) throughout this academic year. AYP will be supporting students to build better study habits in preparation for their exams, together with ways to support their wellbeing. AYP will be hosting parent and carer webinars to provide you with information and practical ways to support your child through Year 11 as part of this programme; if you would like further information about this then please contact Mr Mowforth on amowforth@theweald.org.uk.

A summary of the topics your child will be assessed on for each subject, including suggested revision timings, revision resources and tasks, are available in the [Year 11 Information Booklet](#) on pages 11 - 45. A guide to how to revise effectively is also available in our '[How to RED Review](#)' booklet. I hope you find these helpful in supporting your child's preparation. Please do not hesitate to email me if you have any further questions.

Yours faithfully,



Mr T Brixey
Head of Year 11