St Dunstan's School
GLASTONBURY

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Dear Parents and Carers,

End of Year 10 Exams 2026

At St Dunstan's we pride ourselves on the excellent GCSE results our Year 11 students achieve. These strong results are due in part to the attitude of our students, as well as the rigorous preparation we put in place for our students.

Part of this preparation involves exams at the end of Year 10. Please find attached a timetable for 2026. This will be shared with Year 10 students shortly.

There are several reasons we run practice exams:

(1) It allows us to measure the progress our students have made over the course of the year. The assessments enable our teachers to identify areas for improvement and plan activities which help to address these weaknesses.
(2) Our students get practice working in exam conditions and are more confident when they come to sit their actual GCSE examinations.
(3) Where subjects have a Higher & Foundation tier (Maths, Science and French), it informs us which tier is likely to be more appropriate for your child.

It is essential that children attend all of their timetabled Year 10 examinations, in Year 11 we expect parents to provide us with a doctor's note for any missed examinations and we request that our Year 10 parents do the same.

FAQ

1) **What should my child be doing to prepare for their assessments?**

   Students should be undertaking revision on top of the homework teachers are setting in class. There are revision lists for each subject available on google classroom.

2) Does this count towards their GCSE grade?

Not directly, however - for core subjects - it may have an impact on their Year 11 sets. As stated above, it will also inform teachers as to which tier is the most appropriate for students.

3) How much time should my child spend revising?

We expect Year 11 students to be revising for 2 hours a day on top of the normal school day. Year 10 should be aiming to build towards that number to establish good routines ready for Year 11.

4) Is there anything else I can do to help my child?

Yes! In addition to ensuring your child is revising, please ensure that your child has the correct equipment.

They should have:

- Two black biro pens
- A pencil
- A ruler
- An eraser
- A scientific calculator
- A protractor
- A compass

For Year 11 exams, a clear pencil case is also required, so I would be grateful if you could purchase one of these for your child.

5) How will I know my child's exam results?

We will write home and tell you the grade they achieved in their end of year exams. In addition to this we will also give you a predicted grade for the end of Year 11. We call this a 'Working Towards Grade'. You will receive this letter shortly before the summer holidays.

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If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

Mr T Armstrong

Assistant Headteacher

Miss A Kench

Head of Key Stage 4