



Dear Parents and Carers,

Year 11 – November Mock Examinations

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 dedicated students as well as the examination practice we give our students. Part of this preparation involves mock exams in November of year 11.

We are running mock examinations during the week beginning the **13th November**, there will also be some mock examinations during the following week. Please find the timetable for these mock assessments enclosed.

There are several reasons we run mock exams:

1. It enables both teachers and students to identify areas for improvement.
2. Our students get practice working in exam conditions and are more confident when they come to sit their final GCSE examinations.
3. Where subjects have a Higher & Foundation tier, it informs us which tier is likely to be more appropriate for your child.

FAQ

1. What should my child be doing to prepare for their mocks?

Students should be revising on top of the homework teachers are setting in class. Topic lists and useful resources are available on google classroom for all subjects.

2. My child does not seem to know how to revise. What can I do to help them?

We will be running assemblies on effective revision strategies. We will be doing this every Monday morning - the most useful thing you can do is hold your child to account. Are they doing enough at home? Have they made a revision schedule yet? Do they know key quotes and technical terms? Do they know key formulae? Ask your child to tell you the quotes; use technical terms correctly; explain how to use the formula and why; tell you the key dates in history and so on!

3. Do these mock exams count towards my child's GCSE grade?

Not directly, however for core subjects it may have an impact on their year 11 sets, or their tier of entry.

4. Is there anything else I can do to help?

Yes, please could you check 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 and a compass. They will need a clear pencil case for their year 11 exams; I would be grateful if you could purchase one of these for your child.

Please note that, if you are eligible for pupil premium, we can help with the cost of required equipment - please contact your child's tutor if you require more information about equipment

requirements.

5. How do you give results to the children?

Whilst we return the assessment scripts to students so that they can improve areas for development and redo key questions, we ask our staff not to tell the students what grade they achieved in the mock exams. This is so that we can run a **mock results day**. The purpose of this day is to simulate the feelings the students will have on results day. Some students will be able to celebrate their hard work, others may reflect on the fact they do not want this feeling again. Having this results day in December means that the students who need an attitude change towards revision, get the opportunity to make this change. The results day for our November exams is on **Monday 11th December**.

Revision Guides

Thank you to all of the parents who have ordered revision guides through the school and paid the outstanding balance on parent pay. The school has placed this order and we are expecting delivery after the half term break. We will distribute the revision guides directly to your child.

If you missed this order, you can still buy the guides, however you will need to go directly to CGP.
www.cgpbooks.co.uk

Parents' Evening

Remember to make a note in your calendar for our Year 11 Parents' Evening. This is scheduled to take place on **Thursday 25th January (16.00 - 19.00)**. We look forward to seeing you then.

Reporting Home & Further Mock Examinations

Report 1: We will write to you after mock results day with students' mock grades. Results will arrive home during the **week beginning 11th December**.

Mock Week 2: We will run another set of mock examinations during the **week beginning 26th February**.

Report 2: We will send home the grades from mock week 2 during the **Week beginning 18th March 2024**.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your child's tutor, or you can contact me directly.

Yours faithfully,



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