

Dear Parents and Carers,

November 2020

RE: GCSE Mock Exams

We have been very pleased to welcome year 11 students back to school this week and I hope that they all had a restful half-term holiday. I am writing to share some information with you about the mock exams, which this year take place between Wednesday 25 November 2020 and Friday 11 December 2020.

Mock Exam Timetable

A copy of the mock exam timetable is included with this correspondence. We have also posted a copy of this timetable in the year 11 section of the school website (<https://weyvalley-academy.co.uk/pupils/year11information/>). Students will receive their mock exam room arrangements when they are given their personal timetables. These will be distributed as soon as possible.

Mock Exam Topics

The topic lists for the mock exams have been posted on the school website (<https://weyvalley-academy.co.uk/pupils/year11information/>). Students should use these to direct their revision activities.

Revision Strategies and Homework

Year 11 tutors are spending time each week trying new revision strategies with students. It is important that students use a range of different strategies so that they know which ones work for them. Between Friday 13 November 2020 and Friday 11 December all homework will be set as revision for mock exams where applicable. Students should spend at least 1-2 hours per weekday revising, and 4-5 hours across a weekend, to give them a sense of what it is like to prepare for the actual GCSE exams. Tutors are creating revision timetables with the students to help them organise their time.

Online Learning

We have invested money this year in two software programmes which are highly effective in improving students' results. These programmes are Hegarty Maths and Tassomai. Students are being shown how to log into both of these pieces of software during the week beginning Monday

Wey Valley Academy

Sian Thomas, BEd (Hons), CEO - AAT

Jon Webb, BA (Hons), Director of Secondary Education

Rob Russell, BEd (Hons), Principal

www.weyvalley-academy.co.uk

E office@weyvalley-academy.co.uk

T 01305 817000

Dorchester Road, Weymouth, Dorset. DT3 5AN

9 November 2020. We would strongly encourage students to use these programmes regularly as they are proven to have a significant positive impact on grades if regularly used over a period of time.

Exam Equipment

Students should have the following equipment for the mock exams:

- Two black pens (one spare)
- Pencil
- Rubber
- Ruler
- Protractor
- Compass
- Scientific calculator

Some students may wish to wear a watch during the exam to help with timings. Watches must be analogue; students are not allowed to wear digital watches or smart watches. Usage of a phone is grounds for disqualification in the GCSE exams so I need to make you aware that we also disqualify students from mock exams if they are found in possession of a mobile phone in the exam room.

Looking ahead to the summer of 2021, it is impossible to predict whether or not the exams will go ahead. Much will depend on how effective the new 'lockdown' measures are in restricting the spread of Covid-19 this winter. Our message to students and parents this year will be consistent: **treat the mock exams in November 2020 and February 2021 as if they are a real set of GCSE exams.** It may well be the case that evidence of students' performance in these exam series is used next summer as evidence for a 'Centre Assessment Grade' just as it was in the summer of 2020. Even if it is not, students who prepare thoroughly for these exams will gain valuable experience of revision and exam preparation.

Please do not hesitate to contact the school if your child needs support with preparing for the November mock exams.

Yours faithfully,



Thomas Neill, Vice Principal

Wey Valley Academy

Sian Thomas, BEd (Hons), CEO - AAT

Jon Webb, BA (Hons), Director of Secondary Education

Rob Russell, BEd (Hons), Principal

www.veyvalley-academy.co.uk

E office@veyvalley-academy.co.uk

T 01305 817000

Dorchester Road, Weymouth, Dorset. DT3 5AN

Mock Exam Timetable November 2020

| Exams Timetable – November 2020 | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------|--------|
| W/C 23rd November 2020 | | | | | |
| DAY | EXAM | BOARD | Duration of Exam | START | FINISH |
| Monday 23rd November | BTEC Hospitality & Catering | WJEC | Practical 3 hours | 08:45 | 11:45 |
| | BTEC Hospitality & Catering | WJEC | Practical 3 hours | 12:10 | 15:10 |
| Tuesday 24th November | BTEC Hospitality & Catering | WJEC | Practical 3 hours | 08:45 | 11:45 |
| | BTEC Hospitality & Catering | WJEC | Practical 3 hours | 12:10 | 15:10 |
| Wednesday 25th November | BTEC Hospitality & Catering | WJEC | Practical 3 hours | 08:45 | 11:45 |
| | Art 1 | AQA | 5 hours in 1 day | 08:45 | 13:45 |
| | Photography | AQA | 5 hours in 1 day | 08:45 | 13:45 |
| | Graphic Design | AQA | 5 hours in 1 day | 08:45 | 13:45 |
| Thursday 26th November | BTEC Hospitality & Catering | WJEC | Practical 3 hours | 12:10 | 15:10 |
| | | | | | |
| | Photography | AQA | 5 hours in 1 day | 08:45 | 13:45 |
| | Art 2 | AQA | 5 hours in 1 day | 08:45 | 11:45 |
| W/C 30th November 2020 | | | | | |
| DAY | EXAM | BOARD | Duration of Exam | START | FINISH |
| Monday 30th November | English Language | AQA | 1 hour 45 | 08:45 | 10:30 |
| | CNAT iMedia | OCR | 1hr15mins | 13:00 | 14:15 |
| Tuesday 1st December | English Literature | AQA | 50 minutes | 08:45 | 09:35 |
| | CNAT Sports Studies | OCR | 1 hour | 13:00 | 14:00 |
| | Dance | AQA | 1 Hour 30 mins | 13:00 | 14:30 |
| Wednesday 2nd December | Maths Paper 1 Non-calc | Edexcel Pearson | 1 hour 30 mins | 08:45 | 10:15 |
| | <i>Higher</i> | | | | |
| | <i>Foundation</i> | | | | |
| | CNAT Sports Science | OCR | 1 hour | 13:00 | 14:00 |
| Thursday 3rd December | Science (Biology Trilogy) | AQA | 1 Hour 15 mins | 08:45 | 10:00 |
| | <i>Higher</i> | | | | |
| | <i>Foundation</i> | | | | |
| | Biology | AQA | 1 Hour 45 mins | 08:45 | 10:30 |
| | <i>Higher</i> | | | | |
| | <i>Foundation</i> | | | | |
| | BTEC Animal Care | Edexcel - Pearson | 1 hour | 13:00 | 14:00 |
| W/C 7th December 2020 | | | | | |
| DAY | EXAM | BOARD | Duration of Exam | START | FINISH |

Wey Valley Academy

Sian Thomas, BEd (Hons), CEO - AAT

Jon Webb, BA (Hons), Director of Secondary Education

Rob Russell, BEd (Hons), Principal

www.veyvalley-academy.co.uk

E office@weyvalley-academy.co.uk

T 01305 817000

Dorchester Road, Weymouth, Dorset. DT3 5AN

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|-------|-------|
| Monday 7th December | Science (Chemistry Trilogy) | AQA | 1 Hour 15 mins | 08:45 | 10:00 |
| | <i>Higher</i> | | | | |
| | <i>Foundation</i> | | | | |
| | Chemistry | AQA | 1 Hour 45 mins | 08:45 | 10:30 |
| | <i>Higher</i> | | | | |
| | <i>Foundation</i> | | | | |
| | DT - Resistant Materials | Edexcel - Pearson | 1hour 45 minutes | 13:00 | 14:45 |
| DT - Textiles | Edexcel - Pearson | 1hour 45 minutes | 13:00 | 14:45 | |
| DT - Electronic Products | Edexcel - Pearson | 1hour 45 minutes | 13:00 | 14:45 | |
| Tuesday 8th December | Science (Physics Trilogy) | AQA | 1 Hour 15 mins | 08:45 | 10:00 |
| | <i>Higher</i> | | | | |
| | <i>Foundation</i> | | | | |
| | Physics | AQA | 1 Hour 45 mins | 08:45 | 10:15 |
| | <i>Higher</i> | | | | |
| <i>Foundation</i> | | | | | |
| Geography | Edexcel Pearson B | 1 hour 30 mins | 13:00 | 14:30 | |
| Wednesday 9th December | Maths Paper 2 (Calc) | Edexcel Pearson | 1 hour 30 mins | 08:45 | 10:15 |
| | <i>Higher</i> | | | | |
| | <i>Foundation</i> | | | | |
| History | Edexcel Pearson | 1 hour | 13:00 | 14:00 | |
| Thursday 10th December | BTEC PA - Dance | Edexcel - Pearson | Practical Mock N/A | 08:45 | 14:00 |
| | Computer Science | OCR | 1h30mins | 08:45 | 10:15 |
| Friday 11th December | French | AQA | Reading | | |
| | <i>Higher</i> | | 45 Mins | 08:45 | 09:30 |
| | <i>Foundation</i> | | 1 Hour | 08:45 | 09:45 |
| | French | AQA | Writing | | |
| | <i>Higher</i> | | 1 Hour | 09:50 | 10:50 |
| | <i>Foundation</i> | | 1Hour 15 mins | 09:50 | 11:05 |
| | German | AQA | Reading | | |
| | <i>Higher</i> | | 45 Mins | 08:45 | 09:30 |
| | <i>Foundation</i> | | 1 Hour | 08:45 | 09:45 |
| | German | AQA | Writing | | |
| | | | 1 Hour | 09:50 | 10:50 |
| | | | 1Hour 15 mins | 09:50 | 11:05 |
| | Spanish | AQA | Reading | | |
| | <i>Higher</i> | | 45 Mins | 08:45 | 09:30 |
| | <i>Foundation</i> | | 1 Hour | 08:45 | 09:45 |
| | Spanish | AQA | Writing | | |
| | | | 1 Hour | 09:50 | 10:50 |
| | | 1Hour 15 mins | 09:50 | 11:05 | |
| Music | WJEC | 1 Hour 15 mins | 13:00 | 14:15 | |
| BTEC Hospitality & Catering | WJEC | On-line 1 hour 30 mins | 13:00 | 14:30 | |

Wey Valley Academy

Sian Thomas, BEd (Hons), CEO - AAT

Jon Webb, BA (Hons), Director of Secondary Education

Rob Russell, BEd (Hons), Principal

www.veyvalley-academy.co.uk

E office@weyvalley-academy.co.uk

T 01305 817000

Dorchester Road. Weymouth. Dorset. DT3 5AN