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7th March 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians of Year 10 Students

Year 10 Mock Examinations Important Information

The Year 10 examinations will take place over 7 days, commencing on Thursday 20th April 2023.

You are aware our current Year 10 students will sit all final examinations at the end of the two-year GCSE and vocational courses. It is, therefore, essential that we continually provide students with opportunities to practice working in examination conditions and it is vital that we have an accurate reflection of student performance. Our mock examinations form a crucial part of this process and also enable us to plan and manage future intervention and guidance.

Your child has been issued with a mock examination timetable, via Edulink, which outlines all the examinations during this period (a copy is also attached).

All students need to attend their exams with all the equipment they need for the exam in question. Not having the correct equipment can delay the start of an exam for all students and can cause needless anxiety due to the feeling of unpreparedness.

Students should bring with them:

- Contained in a clear see-through pencil case
 - Black biro pen (not an erasable pen as the ink in these fades over time)
 - Spare pen
 - Pencil
 - Spare pencil
 - Ruler
- When required for subjects with a mathematical element
 - Calculator
 - Protractor
 - Compass

Once students have entered the examination hall, the invigilators cannot routinely lend equipment to students who forget to bring their pens; calculator or maths equipment with them.

We would also like to draw your attention to our policy regarding mobile phones and watches. Students must not bring mobile phones / watches / fitbits or any technological devices into the exam room. We will collect all mobile phones, watches or similar before the students enter the exam hall. Returning these is a lengthy process so we strongly advise that students leave such items at home. Please also note that we are unable to accept liability for any items that we are required to collect in and hold for the students.



Last summer there was a significant increase, nationally, in the number of instances of malpractice in the external examinations. Malpractice includes bringing mobile phones into examinations, it also includes any form of written notes, writing on hands, arms etc. Each year we conduct assemblies with Year 10 and 11 to describe what constitutes malpractice and the consequences, which includes loss of marks and entire examination grades. The first of these assemblies will take place later this half term. We will also send all parents / guardians a copy of the booklet we produce for students that contains more information about malpractice and examination logistics.

Please may I also remind you of our revision websites and resources available on Google Classrooms and platforms such as Seneca, Educake, Sparx, Heggerty and Quizlet (your child will be aware of these).

This website also lists all the exam boards, links to specifications and contains both subject specific and general revision advice:

<https://sites.google.com/arden.solihull.sch.uk/year-11-revision-resources/home>

Revision lists for each subject will also be published on Edulink.

We would value your support in helping your child in their preparations to ensure that their achievements in these examinations are a true reflection of their ability and potential. We cannot stress enough the significance of mock examinations; this is our most accurate indicator to date of your child's progress and will determine teaching interventions and support for your child as we move forward towards the final exams next year.

Yours sincerely



Miss L Page
Deputy Headteacher