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Dear Parents/Carers

## RE: Year 11 Mock Examinations - January/ February 2024

I am writing to inform you about the upcoming Year 11 Mock Examination Series scheduled to commence on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2024. This examination period will extend over a total of three weeks, concluding on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2024.

These mock examinations play a pivotal role in preparing our students for their GCSE examinations and provide them with a valuable opportunity to gauge their progress. It allows them to experience the examination environment first hand, aiding in their preparation for the actual GCSEs later in the year.

It's crucial to emphasise that these exams will strictly adhere to the regulations set forth by the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ). These regulations are designed to ensure a fair and standardised examination environment for all students. As such, I kindly urge you to discuss the following important points with your child:

**Arrival Time:** Students should arrive promptly at the designated examination venues. Late arrivals may not be permitted to enter once the examination has commenced.

**Exam Materials:** Students will be provided with a stationery pack for each exam they are taking. There is no expectation for students to attend with their own stationery unless stated prior to the examination commencing. Any unauthorised materials will not be allowed into the examination room – This includes but is not limited to notes, rough paper or non-transparent pencil cases.

**Regulations:** Students must adhere strictly to JCQ regulations during the examinations. This includes maintaining absolute silence, following instructions from invigilators, and refraining from any form of communication or misconduct that could compromise the integrity of the exams.

**Attendance:** Full attendance for all scheduled exams is compulsory unless there are mitigating circumstances that have been communicated and approved beforehand.

We encourage a supportive environment at home during this time to help students manage their revision and exam stress effectively. Ensuring they get adequate rest, maintain a balanced diet, and have a conducive study environment can significantly contribute to their performance.

Additionally, if your child requires any specific accommodations or has extenuating circumstances that might affect their performance during this examination period, please do not hesitate to contact us using the details at the bottom of this letter.

















Students who have specific access arrangements will take their examinations in separate rooms as necessary. Students who are eligible for any form of access arrangement will be aware of this prior to the examination season commencing.

As part of the latest 2023/2024 regulations, the following equipment **MUST NOT** be brought into the examination room:

- Mobile phones or any device capable of receiving and /or storing data
- Watches This applies to all watches, not just smart watches
- No potential technological/web enabled sources of information
- Food of any kind (unless for a diagnosed medical need)
- Any drink other than water or squash. All drinks must be in a transparent bottle with no labels.

If a student arrives with any of the items listed above, they must hand them over to an invigilator or a member of the examinations team. Failure to do so will result in them being removed from the examination room.

Please find attached the JCQ – Information for Candidates documentation. This will provide you and your child with useful information regarding the examination season.

We recognise how stressful an examination series can be for our students, and offer an extensive range of support measures before, during and after the exam series. If you have any queries or concerns about the arrangements for the examinations or would like further details, please contact Mr Osmond via email: <a href="mailto:jake.osmond@themallingschool.kent.sch.uk">jake.osmond@themallingschool.kent.sch.uk</a>.

Thank you for your continued support in your child's academic journey. We are committed to providing the best possible guidance and support to ensure their success.

Yours sincerely

Mr J Osmond

Deputy MIS Manager