



Information for parents & carers about the Year 10 Mock Examinations

Dear parent/carer,

We are pleased to report that our Year 10 students have made a strong start to their studies this year overall. Soon, our Year 10s will be assessed in a round of formal mock GCSE examinations. The mock examinations are an extremely important part of the long-term preparation for our students, ensuring that they are equipped to succeed in their formal examinations in Summer 2026.

The mock examination window will run from **Monday 27 January 2025 to Friday 31st January 2025**. It is important that students are **in school every day** during this period. The full timetable is attached to this letter so that you and your child can see when their exams take place. We have also included the full rules and regulations from the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) on our school website [here](#). This is the independent body that ensures all examinations, conduct and procedures are fair.

We will be conducting these examinations under full examination conditions and guidelines. Most examinations will take place in the exam hall. We do this for several reasons, all of which are in support of your child:

- Mock examinations give students the opportunity to become comfortable with the examination conditions. They will experience what a 'real' examination will look and feel like, but in a lower-stakes environment. This will, in the long term, help to keep students calm and reduce anxieties.
- The outcomes of the mock examinations will also allow students and their teachers to identify any gaps in knowledge and understanding. This is vital information, as we still have time to repair these gaps in advance of the full formal examinations in Year 10. In short, the mocks help us to make more progress.
- Students will have the opportunity to rehearse the time management skills, both in preparation for and in sitting the mock examinations.

During lessons in school, and through homework and independent learning tasks, teachers have been supporting students with revision for the mock examinations. Some additional top tips for how you, as a parent or carer can support your child with revision are posted on our school website and on the reverse of this letter.

We thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours faithfully

Mr L Clark
Senior Deputy Headteacher

Mrs E Telford
Data and Exams Officer

How can I support my child with their revision as a parent or carer?



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Golden Rules for revision

1. Copying notes won't cut it.

The information needs to be converted in some way. E.g., summarised, changed from text into a flowchart, built into a flash card, or applied to an exam-style question.

2. Revision needs to be spaced out over time, not crammed in at the last minute.

A revision planner can be used to help with this (we are providing these for students). There are some top tips for revision planning on the website.

3. Revise without distractions.

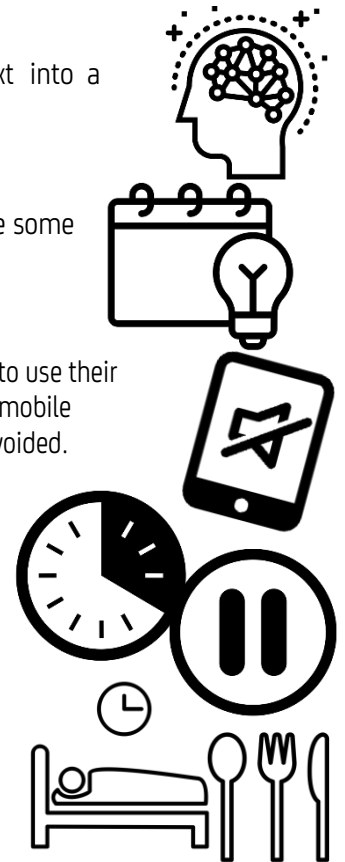
Technology can be a useful tool when used appropriately. There are times your child may wish to use their phone, please check they are accessing revision. There are also times when there should be no mobile phones in the same room. Revising with the TV, Xbox etc. on is not productive and should be avoided.

4. Take breaks.

There should be regular breaks scheduled in revision. 20 minutes is a good length of time for a focused revision session, with short breaks in between each one. The ideal time to check phone messages or make a cup of tea.

5. Eat and sleep well.

Sleeping, eating and drinking as well as possible is important for keeping the energy levels needed to be able to remain focused during revision sessions.



Subject-specific support for revision

Our school website holds a lot of useful information for subject-specific support for students. Scan the QR code and this will take you to a page where you can click through to the individual subjects and the subject-specific revision support.

Follow [this link](#) for this subject-specific support.

Overarching advice for revision

1. Keep communicating. Talk to your child about their learning. Ask them about the revision and independent learning that they are doing each day.

2. Help your child with their retrieval activities.

3. Reassure your child.

4. Don't let your child worry too much about mistakes.

5. Provide a good environment to revise.

