

6<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Dear Parent / Carer

## **Year 11 GCSE Exams – Summer 2021**

Year 11 are working hard in preparation for their GCSE exams. We have been really pleased to see them making the most of the extended school sessions available to them. The school has spent a total of £15 000 on revision books for Year 11 and Year 10. Pupils have now received their English and Science revision guides and will receive these for all subjects over the coming weeks as they arrive in school. We hope that they make use of these to support their revision at home too.

This week we reduced the size of their bubbles further to try to keep any potential disruption to their learning to a minimum. We have been very impressed with the maturity that the Year 11 pupils have shown adapting to these new changes. They are demonstrating responsibility to their own learning and to protecting each other and their families. They have shown real team work in achieving this.

The government have made significant changes to the GCSE exams that the Year 11 pupils will be taking next summer, to try to give them every opportunity to achieve their potential.

**The main external GCSE exams have been moved back by three weeks and will now begin on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June until Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> July. In addition to this, there will be one English and one Maths paper which are to be sat in the week before May half term.**

English Language paper 1 is provisionally on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> May

Maths Paper 1 is provisionally on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> May

As soon as the full exam timetable has been confirmed and published, I will send a copy to all Year 11 pupils and their parents.

To support pupils to prepare for their GCSE Exams, we will be holding two mock exam weeks. The first set of mock exams will be Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November – Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December. The second set of mock exams will be at the start of February.

During the mock Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November – Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December, pupils will sit the following papers.

Subject	Number of exams	Title and length
Geography	1	Paper 1 – Global Geographical Issues – 1 hr 30 minutes
English Language	2	Paper 1 – 1 hr 45 minutes Paper 2 – 1 hr 45 minutes
History	1	Medicine in Britain 1250- present day – 1 hour 15 minutes
Maths	3	Paper 1 – 1 hr 30 minutes Paper 2 – 1 hr 30 minutes Paper 3 – 1 hr 30 minutes
PE	1	Component 1: Fitness & Body Systems – 1 hour 45 minutes
MFL	2	Paper 1 - Listening Foundation – 40mins, Higher – 50mins Paper 3 - Reading Foundation – 50mins, Higher – 1hr
Combined Science	3	Biology Paper 1 – 1hr 15 minutes Chemistry Paper 1 – 1hr 15 minutes Physics Paper 1 – 1hr 15 minutes
Biology	1	Biology paper 1 – 1 hr 45 minutes
Chemistry	1	Chemistry Paper 1 – 1hr 45 minutes
Physics	1	Physics Paper 1 – 1 hr 45 minutes
Computer Science	2	Computer Science Paper 1 – 1hr 30 minutes
RE	1	Paper 1 – Themes – 2 hours
BTEC Digital IT	1	Paper 1 - Effective Digital Working Practices – 1hr 30 minutes

Last year the lockdown resulted in us having to use the mock exams as part of the decision making in creating the Centred Assessed Grades that pupils received in the summer. Whilst there is currently no suggestion that this will be the case this year, we do not know what will happen for certain. We need to ensure that the pupils put their best efforts into revising and preparing for these mock exams incase they are needed in the future.

The Year 11 bulletin this week will contain links to the GCSE Information videos we have produced on key information for each GCSE and BTEC subject.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact [lorraine.taylor@midlandat.co.uk](mailto:lorraine.taylor@midlandat.co.uk).

Yours sincerely



Miss L Taylor  
Vice Principal