



# Holly Lodge High School

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Headteacher: Mr Paul Shone BA (Hons) MA

October 2020

Dear Parents/Carers of Year 11 Students,

## YEAR 11 MOCK EXAMINATIONS, NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2020

I am writing to you with reference to the 'Year 11 Mock Examinations' that will run from **Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November until Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2020** for all Year 11 students. We are fast approaching the final GCSE examinations and your child needs as much practice and preparation as possible to be successful. The investment of time in their preparation for the summer examinations is so important that we have developed a programme of support to help them through the mock examination timetable to experience the examination process.

As you may be aware, in the summer of 2020, Key Stage 4 grades were awarded via a process of Centre Assessed Grades (teacher predictions). Although the Department for Education expects all examinations to be completed in the summer of 2021, it is of the utmost importance that students prepare thoroughly for these assessments as Ofqual could request that the grades achieved are used in the awarding of grades in the summer should circumstances change.

During the mock examination period the school timetable will continue to run as normal for Year 11 students. We are acutely aware of the amount of learning time our students have lost following the Covid-19 pandemic, therefore we believe it is vital that students do not miss out on any further curriculum time unnecessarily in the build up to their summer examinations. **We believe that this is the most appropriate way of assessing our Year 11 students; ensuring that they receive a formal examination style experience whilst keeping the levels of student anxiety to a minimum.**

Students will be expected to attend registration every morning and attend all lessons when they do not have an exam. Students' break and lunchtime provision will remain unaffected throughout the mock examination period.

All examinations will be sat in the New Sports Hall, unless students are eligible for access arrangement provision. The exams will be sat in half year group bands to allow for suitable social distancing. Once students have completed their examination they will return to timetabled lessons. Students will be allowed to stay onsite after school to attend the Raising Achievement Programme (Intervention) as normal. Students will resume their full timetable from **Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2020**.

Please note from the examination timetable overleaf:

- Students need to be at the examination venue at the earlier time, not the examination start time.
- The venue for all examinations is the **New Sports Hall** (unless stated otherwise).
- Students are expected to come prepared for their examinations and bring the **correct equipment: pens, calculators, rulers etc.** This is especially important considering the restrictions placed on schools with regards to the sharing of equipment.
- The school expects all students to try their very best in their mock examinations as this will be extremely important in preparing them for the summer examinations and will inform predicted grades for college applications.
- Any students without a morning or afternoon examination must attend timetabled lessons as normal.
- As we approach the exams, students will receive further information regarding seat numbers, entrances/exits and general expectations within the exam room.

If you have any queries regarding Year 11 mock examinations, please contact Mr G Howes (Assistant Headteacher – Assessment, Achievement & Reporting). Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully

P Shone  
Headteacher

