

MEW/jr
December 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian

Year 10 Practice GCSE Examinations 2022

Please find attached the GCSE/Non-GCSE Practice 1 Examination schedule for your son/daughter. An individual exam timetable will be issued the week before the exams begin.

These examinations are run under full GCSE conditions and are used to ensure candidates are fully aware of the conditions and regulations involved in completing public examinations. We know from experience that holding a full set of Practice examinations in Year 10 as well as towards the start of Year 11 helps students understand and prepare for what will be expected of them in the Summer of Year 11. We would welcome your support in ensuring your son/daughter approaches them with due diligence and in communicating the message that some nerves or anxiousness over exams is completely normal.

We will be holding an exams assembly on our return after Christmas to go through expectations and will be holding a 'walkthrough' to show students what it will feel like in advance of experiencing it in their first exam. We appreciate that the majority of students have not completed a formal exam out of their classrooms during their secondary school career.

It is important that students note the dates and times of their exams and ensure that they are on time for all examinations. Students should be at their examination room at least 10 minutes before the published start time of each examination and should have all the necessary equipment. **For public examinations they must use black ink.** Would you therefore please ensure that your son/daughter has a black pen.

With the majority of GCSE courses being assessed by 100% linear examinations it is also important that your son/daughter knows how to prepare for these exams, including how they best revise, practise answering questions and use their independent study time. Students have a study skills week in their lessons week beginning 10 January 2022 which will help your child understand how best to revise in each subjects and give them several strategies to try.

Year 10 students will be in school as normal during the practice exam weeks. When not sitting an examination, your son/daughter will be in either normal taught lessons or structured revision lessons ready for further exams that day. If students have an exam in a subject for which they do not have a lesson for that day, they will be expected to have their revision resources with them.

We would also like to make Art and Food Technology students aware that they have practical practice exams coming up as well. Art will be at some point during Thursday 3 and Friday 4 February. Food Technology will be at some point during Monday 14 and Tuesday 15 February. More details to follow about these shortly.

Year 10 Parents evening is on Wednesday 12 January 2022 which will be a chance to discuss your child's progress and any last minute revision they are required to do for these practice examinations.

Whilst we fully recognise it is vital for everyone to have some downtime and to enjoy their Christmas holiday we would recommend students make a start on their revision for these exams.

If you have any questions regarding this examination session, please direct them to Mrs Clilverd, Exams Officer email exams@wildern.org in the first instance.

Yours faithfully

Mrs M Wade
Assistant Headteacher