



THE JOHN FISHER SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mr P E McCullagh BSc (Hons), PGCE, MA, NPQH

Peaks Hill
Purley
Surrey
CR8 3YP

16th December 2020

Dear Student, Parents/Carers

RE: Year 11 Pre-Public Exams (PPEs) starting 4th January 2020

I am writing to give you an update on the Year 11 PPEs taking place from the week beginning Monday 4th January for two weeks. These PPEs are designed to provide an opportunity for your son to sit exams, which will help him practice performing under exam conditions, to identify his current progress levels and areas for future development.

Attached to this letter is an overview of the schedule for the two weeks. This is subject to change should the need arise based on the situation with COVID-19. All exam information and a complete Year 11 PPE timetable can be found on the school website, under the heading 'Curriculum' from the homepage and then 'Examinations'.

Exams are usually held in the old gym and we expect students to congregate in their designated area (the Main playground) 15 minutes before the published start time of their exam, bringing with them all the correct equipment needed for that exam. A member of staff will then escort students to the exam hall.

Students with exams in the morning are not required to bring any bags to school. Students with exams in both the morning and afternoon can bring a bag to carry their revision materials (for use during Period 3), although these will be left in the marquee during the afternoon exam. Students should wear full school uniform when on school site

Students are reminded not to bring any unauthorised items with them into the exam hall; this includes smartwatches and mobile phones. These items must be handed to the Invigilators when students enter the exam hall. We would advise students not to bring any valuables to school during this period, any brought in and lost are at the student's own risk. All water bottles should be clear, with no writing on them and with the labels removed. Coats are permitted to be taken into exam halls and worn if conditions require.

If a student has a clash, where two of his exams are scheduled to take place at the same time, he is asked to speak to Mr Tomlinson or Mr Dean to arrange a suitable time to reschedule them.

Morning exams commence at **8:45am** and afternoon exams at **1:00pm**, unless otherwise stated.

Whilst students will be spaced out in accordance with JCQ guidance in the exam hall, all students are asked to wear a facemask during all of their exams.

If a student is ill on the day of their timetabled exam, he should still make every effort to attend; however, **if a student has symptoms of coronavirus, as defined by the government, they should stay at home** and follow the guidelines at <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>. If a student is unable to attend an exam, they must contact Mrs Cody, the Key Stage 4 Administrator, by emailing m.cody@johnfisherschool.org as soon as possible. Depending on the number of absentees, some subject exams may be moved to a future date to allow for fairer access.

The PPEs will give your son experience of sitting a large number of exams in a relatively short space of time, comparable to the experience of sitting GCSE's at the end of the year. Additionally, your son's PPE results may have even greater significance this year. Furthermore, whilst the current guidance from the government states that students in England will sit a full set of exams in the summer, should the school be required to submit Centre Assessed Grades (CAGs) again, PPEs give a good indication of likely performance, so it is likely that these would be used, alongside other data, to inform predictions.

During the two week PPE period, there will be no timetabled Year 11 lessons. Students who have an afternoon exam will be supervised by their period 3 teacher and expected to use this time to revise quietly for the next exam.

The results of the PPE's will be shared with parents/carers at the virtual Year 11 Parents Evening on Thursday 4th February 2021.

If you have any questions or queries, please email Mrs Cody, at m.cody@johnfisherschool.org

Yours sincerely,

K. Tomlinson

Mr K Tomlinson
Director of Learning Year 11

Encl: