

# HOLBROOK ACADEMY



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19<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Dear Parent/Carer of Year 11 student,

On the 11<sup>th</sup> November the Academy received guidance from Ofqual on contingency arrangements for Summer 2022 in the unlikely event that examinations be cancelled. The full document can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-contingency-arrangements-for-gcses-as-and-a-levels-in-summer-2022/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-other-exam-centres-on-contingency-arrangements-for-students-entering-gcses-as-and-a-levels-the-advanced-extension>

We would like at this time to draw your kind attention to key points ahead of the mock assessments which begin on 29<sup>th</sup> November:-

- Students taking GCSEs in English Literature, History and Geography will not need to cover the usual range of content in the exams – the exam boards have published information on their websites on how this will work for each of their specifications in these subjects.
- Assessments should be as useful as possible to students preparing for Summer 2022 examinations (eg past papers or exam style questions to be used).
- Students preparing for Summer 2022 examinations should be given assessment opportunities to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding in ways that cover the assessment objectives for the qualification. The results and evidence of these assessments may be used to inform Teacher Assessed Grades (TAGs) if necessary.
- Students must be made aware that the results of mock assessments may be used to determine TAGs.
- Students should be informed of the content/topics to be assessed but should not be given the questions.
- Assessments should cover what has been taught.
- Students with approved access arrangements should be supported to use these arrangements.
- Exam board issued formula sheets for maths and equations sheets for combined science and physics should be used.
- Mock assessments can take place in classrooms and must be under exam like conditions.
- Exam like conditions mean: supervised under timed conditions; no mobile phones/watches/electronic devices are allowed; students should not have access to books or revision notes. The work produced must be the students' own unaided work.
- Students are subject to potential malpractice in accordance with the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) regulations (issued to parents/cares and students at the back of the [Year 11 Revision Skills booklet](#)).



- Malpractice includes, but is not restricted to, possession of a mobile phone (whether there has been an attempt to use it or not), collusion with other students, causing a disturbance when under exam like conditions.
- Teachers are also subject to malpractice and must not give improper assistance, provide too much information about an assessment or knowingly give higher marks than is warranted.
- The marking of mock assessments will not be quality assured.
- Results of assessments will indicate the level at which the student has performed, they should not be regarded as TAGs
- Students' original work will be retained in school.
- Students should notify their teacher before or immediately after an assessment of any events outside of their control that might have affected their performance (eg illness or bereavement at the time of the assessment).

I have already visited every Year 11 form group to explain a number of these points with the students but please share this information with your child. If you have any additional questions or concerns about any of the above please do not hesitate to contact the school.

On 7<sup>th</sup> February 2022, exam boards will provide advance information for all GCSE subjects (except for English Literature, History and Geography where reduction in content has already been agreed). Once this advance information has been received it will be taken into account when setting future assessments and we will continue to update you.

Yours sincerely,



Tom Maltby