

wildernschool

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S. Mann CEO

Dear Parents/Guardians,

## Re: GCSE Examinations – Important Information for Year 11 Students

As we approach the final stages of Year 11, I am writing to update you on the upcoming GCSE examinations and to offer guidance on how we can best support students during this crucial period. The GCSE exams are a significant milestone in your child's education, and we understand the pressures that come with them. Our aim is to ensure that every student feels confident, prepared, and supported throughout this process.

### Examination Schedule

The GCSE exams will commence on **2nd May 2025** and conclude on **18th June 2025**. A full examination timetable has been provided to students and is also available on the [school website](#) for your reference. It is essential that students familiarise themselves with their exam dates and times and arrive punctually on the day of each exam.

### Preparation and Support

We recognise that effective preparation is key to success, and we have put several measures in place to support our students:

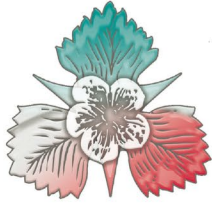
- **Revision Sessions:**
  - Additional revision sessions are being held **after school (ESPs)**, and **over the holiday periods at Easter and May Half Term** to ensure students have access to structured learning and teacher support.
  - A schedule of these sessions has been shared with students and parents via email.
- **Study Resources:**
  - Past exam papers, mark schemes, and revision guides are available on department websites to aid students in their independent study.
  - Subject teachers are available to provide additional guidance and answer any queries students may have.
- **Pastoral & Well-being Support:**
  - We understand that exams can be stressful. Our pastoral team is on hand to support students emotionally and academically.
  - If your child is feeling overwhelmed, we encourage them to speak to their tutor, a teacher, or a member of the pastoral team in the student hub for guidance and reassurance.

### Exam Day Guidelines

To ensure smooth running of the exams, students are required to follow these important guidelines:

- Arrive at least **10 minutes before** the exam is scheduled to **begin**.
- Ensure they bring all required equipment, including **black pens, pencils, rulers, erasers, and calculators** (where permitted), all contained in a **clear pencil case**.





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- **Mobile phones, watches, and any electronic devices** must be switched off and handed in before the start of the exam **Chromebooks** can be left in bags if in school.
- Water bottles must be **clear and label-free**.
- Follow the **Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) regulations**, which have been clearly explained to all students and on our website. Any breach of these rules could result in disqualification.

### Encouraging Effective Study Habits at Home

We appreciate your role in supporting your child's revision at home. Here are some ways you can help:

- Encourage a **consistent study schedule**, with regular breaks to avoid burnout.
- Provide a **quiet, distraction-free environment** for revision. If this is not available at home, there will be a space available in school for all year 11 students should they prefer to study here. Please head to the LRC to find out where the study rooms are each day.
- Ensure they get **enough sleep** and maintain a balanced diet to stay physically and mentally prepared.
- Offer positive reinforcement and emotional support to help them stay motivated.
- Keep to a routine even when there are significant gaps between exams.

### Results Day & Next Steps

GCSE results will be released on **21st August 2025**, and students can collect their results from school between **10 am and 11 am**. Further details about results day procedures and options for collection will be communicated closer to the time.

If your child has any concerns about their next steps, including sixth form college applications, apprenticeships, or career guidance, our careers team will be available to provide support and advice on the day.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support and encouragement during this critical time in your child's education. If you have any further questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact the school via the usual methods or your child's tutor.

Thank you for your cooperation and partnership in helping our Year 11 students achieve their best.

**Yours sincerely,**

Matthew Knight

