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January 2025

Dear Parents, Carers and Students

Year 11 Trial Exam Week and Contingency Measures 2025

In order to fully prepare our students for the challenges of final examinations, Year 11 students will have a trial examination series week beginning Monday 24th February, ending on Friday 7th March. Please find attached the subject specific guidance for the Year 11 trial examinations; the final timetable will be shared in due course. Year 11 students will have a combination of examinations and lessons during this period. Students will need to bring revision materials to lessons so that, where possible, they can revise when they are not in an examination. Whilst there is no exam leave for the trial phase, where students have an examination in the afternoon, they will be dismissed for home directly from the exam venue.

The trial examinations will take place in the Hall and New Hall under examination conditions. Students will be expected to hand in mobile phones and all watches to invigilators prior to entry into the exam room as per the updated regulations from JCQ which can be found here https://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/information-for-candidates-documents/. There are always sufficient clocks in examination rooms for students to monitor the time. Students must also ensure they have the relevant equipment, including a calculator, black pens, pencils, an eraser, a protractor, a pair of compasses, and a ruler. Updated guidance from JCQ now insists that students can only take transparent water bottles into exam venues so the trial phase would be a good time to get into this routine.

Please note that in line with the Ofqual guidance, in the extremely unlikely event that examinations are cancelled the outcomes of these trial examinations will be used as evidence to calculate Teacher Assessed Grades and therefore, all completed exam papers must remain in school and cannot be released to students and families.

To support families with the trial exam process and the final examinations in May, I would like to invite you to a short **Examination Information Evening on Wednesday 29**th **January at 6pm** in the school hall. The meeting will last approximately 30-45 minutes with an opportunity for questions at the end. This is the final formal information evening of the year for Year II and therefore we absolutely appreciate your attendance and support. Year II students will receive this information in assembly and form time and therefore due to capacity in the hall your child does not need to attend. If you have a specific question or concern you would like us to highlight on the evening, please can you provide details via email to hgrewal@taptonschool.co.uk and we will endeavour to address it on the evening.

We fully appreciate your support in ensuring your child reaches their full potential. I look forward to seeing you on Wednesday 29th January at 6pm.

Yours sincerely

Ms Harkiran Grewal Deputy Headteacher









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