



St Robert of Newminster Catholic School and Sixth Form College

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Dear Parents / Carers

Year 11 & 13 Exams 2022 Update

Ofqual has recently published the outcomes of its consultation on exams 2022 and the contingency arrangements for GCSE, AS and A levels in Summer 2022.

Firstly, we outline below some modifications to the format or content of examinations, which will be in place this summer:

1. There will be optional topics and content in GCSE English literature, History and Geography from which students can choose. Students will be informed of this in their lessons.
2. Students taking GCSE and A Level Fine Art will be assessed on their portfolio only and there will be no exam.
3. Exam boards will provide advance information about the focus of the content of the exams for all GCSE subjects (except GCSE English Literature, History and Geography) for the summer 2022 exams. We are told that information will be provided on 7th February 2022 to support student revision.
4. Students will be given a formulae sheet for GCSE mathematics in summer 2022. This will be shared by Exam Boards and used by teachers to ensure that students are familiar with it prior to the exams. Clean copies of the formulae sheet will be provided in the exams.
5. Students will be given a revised equation sheet for GCSE Physics and Combined Science in summer 2022, covering all the equations required in the subject content. Similar to Maths, this will be shared by Exam Boards and used by teachers in lessons, to ensure that students are familiar with it prior to the exams. Clean copies of the equation sheet will be provided in the exams.

Secondly, we share details of any contingency arrangements, should examinations not be able to go ahead. Please note the government remains firmly committed to exams going ahead in summer 2022 and it should be considered extremely unlikely that they will not take place. All students should expect examinations to happen as scheduled. Nevertheless, arrangements have been set out, in the unlikely scenario that this is not possible, and school assessed grades have to be calculated. The plans were as expected and fall in line with the arrangements we have made for assessments this academic year.

Key points from this guidance are as follows:

- Students should be assessed in Autumn Term 2 / Spring Term / Summer Term 1.
- Students should be assessed in exam-like conditions, with no prior knowledge of the questions set and they should not have access to revision notes during the assessment.
- For GCSE Maths, Physics & Combined Science, students should have access to formulae & equation sheets, once these have been published by the examination boards.
- Students should not resit assessments to improve their grades.

- Original assessment materials / scripts should be retained by school - copies can be issued to students.
- Assessments should be set using past papers or exam style questions & marked in line with exam board guidance.
- Students should be made aware, before taking an assessment, that their performance will be used as part of the teacher assessed evidence.
- NEAs (i.e. coursework) should be completed wherever possible.

An important point for pupils and parents to be aware of is the importance of the forthcoming practice exams as these will be pupils' Autumn Term 2 assessment slots and therefore, if required, used as part of the TAG evidence. Once we have agreed dates for the Spring and Summer assessment, we will write to you again with this information.

To read the full guidance please follow this [link](#).

Yours faithfully



Mrs K Dunn
Assistant headteacher





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