

Parents/Carers Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) Examinations Summer 2022



Are exams going ahead as normal?

Yes - GCSE exams are planned to take place in the summer of 2022, but they will be a little different from usual. Among the planned changes will be the release of advance information on the topics covered within exams, and the option to take supporting materials into the exam hall for certain subjects.

When do exams start?

Please see the timetable of exams that is on the school website in the exams area. This has also been shared with your child. The exam window runs from 16th May - 28th June 2022. Your child needs to be available for all examinations within this window.

What have the Government done to support my child doing exams this year?

There are a number of changes to each qualification which can be found on the summary of changes document on our school website. These changes vary from (i) advance information (ii) optionality (iii) supporting materials.

What is advance information?

Students will be supported in their preparations for the summer 2022 exams through providing Advance Information on the focus of the content of exams. This will look different for different subjects. The advance information will be published on our school website for students to access to support revision after the release date of 7th February 2022. Further information can be found about advance information on our school website.

What is optionality?

Optionality provides a choice of topics in GCSE English Literature and GCSE History and choice of content in GCSE Geography. Further information can be found on our summary of changes sheet on the school website. There will be no Advance Information for the subjects which are having optionality in 2022.

What are supporting materials?

For GCSE Physics and GCSE Combined Science, the exam support will be a separate equation sheet which gives students all the equations they will have covered in the GCSE course.
For GCSE Maths, the exam support will be a separate formula sheet which gives students the formulas which they may need to refer to in their assessment, appropriate to their tier of entry.
The equation sheets will be provided during the exams but are also available to students on the school website. They have also been provided with a paper copy to support their preparation.

What will happen if exams are cancelled?

If exams have to be cancelled in summer 2022, students' grades would instead be determined by their teachers, using a Teacher Assessed Grades (TAGs) approach similar to that used in summer 2021. TAGs are based on teachers' assessment of their students' work. More information to follow if and when this is required.

Will my child be doing any other assessments during Year 11?

In order to support student's preparation we will be doing another set of formal assessments in February 2022 but details to be confirmed nearer the time. We will await the advanced information which will be released on the 7th February

What grades will be shared with my child?

We will not be sharing predicted grades with students or with parents /carers throughout this year but instead you will get a working at grade. Predicted grades are inputted at the start of Year 11 to support your child in applying for college.

What if my child is ill with COVID during exams?

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