



ST GEORGE'S ACADEMY

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Limited by guarantee

25 March 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 11 GCSE Examinations Final Arrangements – Ruskington Campus

As I am sure you are aware the main season of GCSE examinations is only a few weeks away so I thought I should write to you to clarify the Academy policy during this time. Here at the Academy we believe that students benefit greatly from attending lessons throughout the examination period; that they have staff input leading up to their examinations to ensure they fulfil their potential. However, we are also aware of the benefits of being able to study quietly at home in preparation for examinations. There is no 'one size fits all' solution, so we have aimed to provide an approach that is beneficial to all of our students.

Study Leave

This year we have decided to replicate the Sixth Form approach with Year 11 students as well. Therefore, students are expected to attend all lessons up to and including **Friday 24 May 2024**, unless they are in an examination. After this date, teachers will still be available in their classrooms up until the date of the final exam in that subject. After May half term students no longer need to register with their form tutor, but will be required to sign in and out at the KS4 student support office.

Revision Sessions Term 6

We will also be arranging a number of special revision events prior to the core subject exams in Term 6. Below is a brief summary of some of the events that will take place just prior to some of the exams in Term 6. More details regarding dates and times of the sessions will be communicated next term.

Maths

For GCSE Mathematics the topics assessed are not allocated to particular papers, topics can appear in any of the three papers they sit. Once students have sat their first paper, we can narrow down what topics students are likely to be assessed on in the following papers. Our revision sessions prior to paper 2 and paper 3 will provide students a vital opportunity to revise the content they are likely to meet in the exams they sit in the following day. This targeted revision will be extremely beneficial in boosting their grades.

English

English revision will focus on the key examination techniques required to maximise success on each paper. There will be a particular focus on different styles of question and what is required to achieve the highest marks on each of them, across English Language and Literature.

Science

Science revision will include aspects from the Biology, Chemistry and Physics courses, using past papers and demonstrations to ensure keywords are being used in answers, as well as an understanding of how to approach exam questions and what the examiner is looking for in answers.



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History

These sessions will take students through essential core knowledge and how to apply it to the exam questions. There will be a particular focus on how to meet the requirements for a grade 5 and how to upscale answers if students are aiming for a grade 6-9.

Geography

These sessions will ensure all students are aware of the key knowledge and skills required to achieve their very best. There will be a particular focus on different styles of question and what is required to achieve the highest marks on each of them. Exam technique at this stage is crucial to minimise mistakes and maximise the final grade. The sessions will be useful to students of all abilities.

French and Spanish

There will also be sessions prior to language exams in Term 6. These will focus on the structure of the exam papers, different question types and what students need to do to maximise their potential.

Electronics

Within GCSE DT we have a vast amount of topic areas to cover. Our examination is split into two areas; core and specialism. The core units look at a range of different topics, from renewable energy to critical evaluation, and from timbers to smart materials. During our final revision sessions, we will focus on these key areas, as well as how to tackle the key design questions that are throughout the exam paper. While completing these design questions we will also cover all of the key areas of electronics, including components and calculations. The 2 hour session, and pre-exam session will be vital in terms of preparation for the examination.

Sports Science

Sports Science revision will involve elements of all five learning outcomes to be assessed. Teachers will go through common misconceptions, generic exam based advice and then more specific content that the students have historically struggled with. There will be a particular focus on strategies students should employ to answer the varying styles of questions within the exam paper. This will be a vital opportunity for the students to not only boost their exam grade, but to enhance their overall GCSE grade comprising of the other two units.

Revision – Supporting Success

We would expect that by now all students will be revising regularly at home. With three years of work to learn it is vital that students do not leave this to the last minute. It is not surprising that there is a clear link between the amount of independent learning (revision) a child completes and the final outcomes in examinations. To support this process the Academy has provided revision guides for all core subjects and there are a large range of revisions sessions being made available both at lunch and after school. Students will shortly be receiving an updated copy of the revision sessions staff are offering, and I would ask that you discuss these with your child and identify which ones would be most beneficial. A copy of the Sleaford Campus timetable can be found [here](#) on the school website. The Ruskington Campus revision timetable is available [here](#).

As mentioned above, we will also be offering a wide range of special 'pre-exam' revision sessions in Term 6 to help students boost their final grades. We are very aware how important it is that students plan their revision time. Therefore, in their exam booklet (linked in the section below) there are pages where students can plan what subjects and topics they intend to revise each day. We highly recommend making use of these for both planning revision time but also opportunities for relaxation.

Important Information

On **Friday 14 June 2024**, students will be released from school after the final core examination that afternoon at around **2.30pm**. Unless they still have examinations the following week, all students will be expected to leave site after they have done this. Please make necessary arrangements for them to get home if needed.

Students must remain available up to and including Wednesday 26 June 2024 as this is the exam contingency day that will only be used if for some unforeseeable reason there is a need to nationally postpone exams on any given day.

All of the **examination dates and times** can be found on the **Academy website**: [Exams | St George's Academy \(st-georges-academy.org\)](https://st-georges-academy.org)

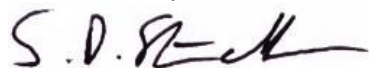
We have also added to the website the [exams booklet](#) that students received in exam assemblies last week. All other relevant exam information and regulations is available under the Student Information section found in the exams area of the website.

Morning examinations start at **9.00am** and afternoon examinations at **1.15pm**. Students are expected to line up 15 minutes before each examination with their full equipment. Equipment will not be available from the Academy so please make sure your child has everything that they need. **Results day is Thursday 22 August at 9.00am**. If you have any questions about the examinations, please contact either your child's Student Progress Manager or the Exams Co-ordinator, Mrs Hartill, at the Academy.

Students will also be given the opportunity to sign shirts. The date for this has not yet been confirmed. On this date, students will need to bring a spare shirt with them that they can have signed. They will not be allowed to sign the shirt they are wearing.

If you have any further questions, please contact your child's SPM in the first instance.

Yours sincerely



Mr S Stinchcombe
Senior Vice Principal