

14th December 2020

Dear Parents/Carers and Students,

Re: Year 11 Pre Public Examinations January 2021

As with everything this year we have had to look carefully at our procedures and systems, particularly those related to communication. You will know that our first ever attempt at a virtual Parent's Evening is being held on Wednesday 16th December with appointments starting at 4pm. I am fairly confident that all will go well but if for whatever reason technology fails us please forgive us and we will do all we can to make things better within the time available to us. If you have not yet booked your online appointments it is not too late, please see the attached letter that was previously sent home for more details.

Year 11 have been working hard towards their Pre Public Examinations (PPE). You will find the timetable for these attached, they run from Monday 11th to Friday 22nd January. Subject staff will be happy to go through any questions you may have with regards to this on Wednesday. They have also been working with the students and explaining what they need to revise for the examinations in their lessons. We have been delighted too that the Year 11's have really appreciated us reviewing the calendar and giving them more time to work in the classroom.

You will receive the results from the PPEs in your lessons as soon as they are available, as well as any advice, support and guidance that we feel may help.

Examination Protocol

All of the PPEs will take place in the Sports hall. Students will need to arrive 10 minutes before the start of the PPEs.

Students, please make sure that you have checked the seating plan outside the hall as you will be in the same seat for all of your PPEs. Line up quietly outside the Sports hall and wait until a member of staff lets you into the hall. You will need to come into the hall in silence, place your belongings where indicated and take your seat.

Please ensure you have all the equipment you will need for the examinations. This will need to be stored in a clear pencil case or see through plastic bag (with no writing on it):

- Two black pens (black biro, not gel pens)
- Two HB pencils
- Eraser
- 30 cm ruler
- Pencil sharpener

- Scientific calculator (please check the batteries are working and remove any stored data and ensure that you are allowed to use a calculator in the examination you are taking)
- Pair of compasses
- Angle measure or protractor
- Coloured crayons

Please also remember any specialised equipment for particular examinations.

If there are any concerns over any items of equipment we will help so do not worry about any elements of this.

You are allowed to bring in a bottle of drinking water with a sports cap; please be aware that only water is allowed in the examinations and the bottle needs to be clear with the label removed.

Once in the Sports hall all students will be provided with a clear zip up wallet into which you must put any electronic devices you have including mobile phones, iPods, MP3 players etc. You must ensure that these are turned off and then place the wallet on the floor under your desk.

Revision

If for any reason students have not yet purchased the revision guides for the courses they are studying these are available via the School Gateway website. It is important to choose the ones that are relevant to your son/daughter's subjects.

How to pay online:

- Log onto www.schoolgateway.com
- Select: Make a Payment
- Select: Year 11 Revision Guides (and the name of the subject i.e. Year 11 Revision Guides Science)

Follow the on screen instructions to complete the payment. Some subjects have more than one revision guide, please confirm which revision guide you require in the comment box e.g. foundation or higher tier. Once purchased please print off the receipt and present this to your subject teacher in your next lesson in order to receive the books. You should not approach staff either at lunch or break to collect the books. If you would like further information on how to access the School Gateway system please contact the School Office on 01727 856874.

There is funding available for those students who are registered, or have previously been registered for free school meals, please contact Mr Stanton, A.Stanton@marlborough.herts.sch.uk for further information.

We have also received some information from Herts for Learning of some revision materials that they are selling which would complement the revision guides, please see the attached flyer for more details.

Students also have access to the VidLearn online revision website. There are resources available for a range of GCSE subjects including videos of taught content which you can pause to allow you time to completed tasks in a workbook that you are provided with. To access the website, please click the following link: <https://marlboroughscienceacademy.vidlearn.ac.uk/login>

Your unique username and password are detailed in the letter that was sent out to you. A copy of this letter can be found on your Edulink account, click on the Documents and Grade Card Tab to download the letter entitled VidLearn Login Letter. Teachers also have access to these materials. Please read the user guide before you enter the site and then bookmark the website and add it to your favourites for easy access.

We will be providing a full Easter Revision programme including English, Mathematics and Science sessions alongside other subjects but I also wanted to pass on some information with regards to some revision workshops that Herts for Learning are providing, please see the attached flyer. If you are interested in these please book them directly through the Herts for Learning CPD Hub at <https://cpd.hertsforlearning.co.uk/cpd/portal.asp>.

We know Year 11 have had a pretty tough year, we will do all we can to assist them through the future myriad of exam protocols with clarity (as far as we can), kindness and fabulous teaching!

Yours sincerely,



Miss D Crook
Deputy Headteacher