

Dear parent / carer,

There are now a mere 7 weeks until the your child's GCSE exams begin. Now that students have successfully finished their final mock exam season, the countdown is on until their final GCSE written exams start, as well as coursework deadlines and practical exams.

This week students have been given their individual exam timetables based on the entries we have done for them, and a copy of the final GCSE exam calendar. Hopefully this will be useful in terms of long-term planning for them, and identifying where their revision needs to be focused over the coming weeks.

They have been asked to check their exam timetables and entries for any issues or concerns, but please could you support us in doing this with them. In the coming weeks, we will also be publishing a masterclass schedule, which students must attend. Here are some highlights in terms of important information:

- Students need to check their exam timetable entries and tiers – discuss this with me or with class teachers if there are any issues or discrepancies.
- Written exams in the Sports Hall begin on **Monday 15th March**. Other examined elements – eg. coursework, NEAs, practicals and MFL Speaking exams will be taking place in the weeks leading up to this.
- All morning exams start at 9am and all afternoon exams start at 1pm. It is imperative that they arrive to school in time for these in the morning. For afternoon exams, some exams are up to 2 hours long, and some students have 25% extra time. Therefore, if they get a school bus, they may not have finished their exam in time to get this, and will need to arrange transport home. Please check the exam timetable to see if this is applicable to your child.
- Students need to attend school as normal, attending all lessons and masterclasses throughout the exam period, up to and including Monday 12th June. From Tuesday 13th June, they only need to come into school to attend masterclasses and exams, and may need transport to and from school, if they are not using a school bus, or go home before the end of the school day.
- There will be Half Term revision sessions running in May / June, and students will be invited in for these where applicable.
- Please do not book any holidays or excursions until students' exams are completely finished – check the attached timetable to be sure of this.

I have attached a copy of the exam timetable for you, and will also send you a complete timetable with the masterclass schedule when this is completed. This can also be found on our website, with other information regarding exams here: <https://www.stgcc.co.uk/page/?title=Examination+Information&pid=60>

I would also like to draw your attention to information for candidates sitting exams from JCQ, which informs them of what the expectations are, and their responsibilities:

https://www.jcq.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/IFC-Written_Examinations_2023_FINAL.pdf

If you have any questions, queries or concerns about your child in Yr 11 in terms of their exams timetable, or anything related to the Summer exam season, please don't hesitate to get in contact with me (jpreston@stgcc.co.uk) and/or Miss Foord (afoord@stgcc.co.uk).

Thanks in advance for your support,

James Preston
Assistant Headteacher and Exams Officer



