

Dear parent / carer,

We are fast approaching the Year 10 Summer mock exam season, which begins from Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2025. The Year 10 Summer mock exams are an incredibly important time for students, where they are assessed in the vast majority of subjects in an exam setting, often for the first time. These will take place in the Sports Hall, in exam conditions, in order to emulate official exams that they will sit in Year 11. These mock exams are important for the following reasons:

- They are an opportunity for students to experience what it is like to sit an exam – there aren't many opportunities to do this, and it is different to completing assessments in classrooms.
- They give students the opportunity to see what they are capable of within an exam setting – something they need to be secure with by the end of Yr 11.
- They give teachers the opportunity to identify any gaps or areas for development.
- They include exams which they won't do again until the end of Yr 11 for their actual GCSEs.
- They inform the intervention programme for Yr 11 for all subjects.
- They allow students to refine and practise their revision techniques.

I have attached the Summer exam timetable that students will be following during this period. This is interspersed between the Yr 11 GCSE exams, with the majority of the Year 10 mock exams either before or after these (**Yr 10 mock exams are BLUE, GCSE exams eg. English Literature and home languages are in ORANGE**). Morning exams begin at 9am and afternoon exams begin at 1pm, where students will have an early lunch during Period 4. This can also be found on the website here: [STGCC - Exams](#)

It is incredibly important that they are in school to complete these mock exams, and I'd appreciate your support in ensuring students are in school and are arriving by 8.30am. It is also important that they are revising effectively and putting into practice the revision techniques that they have been given by their teachers in different subjects.

Those students who have specific access arrangements will be informed of what these are and where they do their exams, as these may slightly differ and not be in the Sports Hall, depending on what the arrangement is.

Some students in Year 10 will also be sitting GCSE exams in a 'home' language, including a significant number doing GCSE Polish, and GCSE English Literature. I will write to you separately if your child has been entered for these exams, but they also appear on the attached timetable in the orange boxes.

Should they need any support or guidance during this period, please get in touch with their class teacher, tutor, Mrs Bradley or me. I've also included a link about how students can cope effectively with exam stress, should you want to look: <https://www.youngminds.org.uk/young-person/coping-with-life/exam-stress/>

If you have any questions, queries or concerns about the Year 10 Summer mock exam period, please don't hesitate to get in touch with me ([jpreston@stgcc.co.uk](mailto:jpreston@stgcc.co.uk)) Marjorie Aldworth – Exams Officer ([maldworth@stgcc.co.uk](mailto:maldworth@stgcc.co.uk)) or Mrs Bradley ([bbradley@stgcc.co.uk](mailto:bbradley@stgcc.co.uk)).

Thanks in advance for your support during this period.

Yours faithfully,

James Preston  
Assistant Headteacher

Marjorie Aldworth  
Exams Officer