



Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year! I hope you had an enjoyable festive season.

Ahead of Year 11 mocks, and with only 17 weeks until the first GCSE examination, I wanted to write and share a number of updates about support that is being put in place to guide students through the coming months.

### **Mock Exams**

Before Christmas, students received a copy of their exam timetable for the mock exam season, and this week, they have received an assembly from Dr Simpson about all of the logistics surrounding the mocks so that they know what to expect. I have also attached a key slide from the assembly, which outlines equipment that students will need for their exams. We would hugely appreciate your time and assistance with supporting your child to ensure that they have all of the required items ahead of Monday so that the mock exam process can run smoothly. For reference, the mock exam timetable is attached to this email.

### **Interventions**

Over the next few weeks, students will learn about an increasing number of new interventions that are being put in place to support their learning and outcomes in the lead up to the summer exams, a number of which are outlined below.

- **Champions Hour** – From Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January, Year 11 students are invited to use C3 and C4 after-school, from 15:15 until 16:15, on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. This is to enable them to complete revision activities within school. These rooms will be staffed by Year 11 tutors.
- **Working Lunch** – From Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January, students will have access to VI4 from 12:30 until 13:00 on Mondays and Fridays so that they have a space to use if they wish to complete revision during lunchtime.
- **Literacy and Numeracy Tutor Work** – In term 2, we introduced literacy and numeracy work within tutor time to build skills that will benefit students in English and Maths. The frequency of this will increase after mocks so that literacy and numeracy tasks have a dedicated day each week.
- **Mock Results Day** – Students will receive their mock exam results at a mock results day, which is provisionally scheduled to take place during the afternoon of **Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February, 2024**. This is so that students can experience what it is like to receive their results in a similar way to the results day in August (Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> August, 2024). On this day, support will be available for students who have not done as well as they would have hoped.
- **Mentoring** – Using data available, along with outcomes from the mock exams, a number of students will be allocated a mentor to help them work towards reaching their potential. You will be notified if your child is allocated a mentor.

Further information will follow in due course about additional interventions that will be introduced, including a structured after-school revision timetable for Term 4. You will also receive information about our plans for the summer exam period.

### **Revision Resources**

As previously shared, there is a wealth of information about exams and revision available on the school website, which was originally shared at the Year 11 Revision Evening in November. You can access the resources by clicking [here](#).

We would be grateful to receive feedback about the evening and the resources that have been made available. Feedback can be provided by clicking [here](#).

### **Attendance**

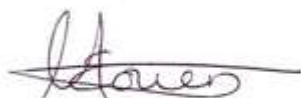
Given the context of this letter, I feel it is important to touch on attendance. The school's expectation for attendance is at least 96%, and this is based on the strong correlation between attendance and outcomes. Research shows that students who have higher attendance achieve more GCSEs and at higher grades, and now more than ever, every day counts. Positively, the number of Year 11 students achieving 100% attendance doubled in Term 2 compared to Term 1, and we hope to see this trend continuing throughout Terms 3 and 4. Over the coming weeks, we will be increasing contact with families to discuss attendance to ensure that students are optimising learning opportunities and the support that is on offer within school. Your support with encouraging high attendance is hugely appreciated. For reference, attendance data can be found on the interim report received in November. It will also be displayed on the next interim report in Term 4.

### **Leavers' Celebrations**

A lot of time is being dedicated to preparing students for their GCSEs; however, we are also mindful that this is the year group's final year of secondary school and a huge milestone! Arrangements are already underway for prom, year books, hoodies and other events, and further details will be shared about these as soon as we are able to. The PR & Marketing Prefect Committee will be playing a key role in arrangements to help ensure student voice is listened to.

Now it's 2024, it is time for the Class of 2024 to shine, and I look forward to continuing to work with the year group as they embark on the final leg of their Sheldon journey. If you have any questions about the upcoming mock or summer exams, or any other Year 11 queries, please do not hesitate to contact me – [mowen@sheldonschool.co.uk](mailto:mowen@sheldonschool.co.uk).

Yours faithfully,



Miss M Owen  
Head of Year 11

# Exam Pencil Case/Equipment



Organise a pencil case with everything you need and keep it just for your exams.

- 3 x Black Biros (**not** gel pens)
- 2 x HB pencils
- Various coloured pencils
- Protractor
- Compass
- Ruler
- Rubber
- Pencil Sharpener
- **Calculator – without the lid for every exam**

Everything should be **unmarked** and put into a **CLEAR PLASTIC PENCIL CASE** or even a clear sandwich bag.

- **No correction fluid or tape – Tippex is not allowed in exams.**
- **Highlighters can only be used on separate question papers or inserts, NOT in answer booklets where you write your answers.**

# Year 11 - January 2024 Internal Assessments

<b>Additional papers during lesson time</b>	1h 30m	Maths Calculator Paper 3
	1h / 1h 15m	French, German and Spanish Writing
	2h	Computer Science (onscreen)

Date	Time	Duration	Paper
Mon 15 Jan	08:40	1h 45m	English Language - Writers' Viewpoints
Mon 15 Jan	13:00	1h 30m	PE (GCSE)
Mon 15 Jan	13:00	1h 20m / 1h 45m	Spanish - Listening then Reading (tiered)
Tue 16 Jan	08:40	1h 45m	Biology (Separate Science)
Tue 16 Jan	08:40	1h 15m	Science (Double Award) Biology (tiered)
Tue 16 Jan	13:00	1h 30m	Geography
Wed 17 Jan	08:40	1h 45m	History
Wed 17 Jan	13:00	1h 30m	Mathematics Non-Calculator (tiered)
Thu 18 Jan	08:40	1h 45m	Business Studies
Thu 18 Jan	13:00	1h 45m	Food Preparation and Nutrition
Fri 19 Jan	08:40	5h practical	Art (Craft Design/Fine/Textiles)
Mon 22 Jan	08:40	1h 20m / 1h 45m	French - Listening then Reading (tiered)
Mon 22 Jan	13:00	1h 30m	Computer Science
Mon 22 Jan	13:00	1h 15m	Child Development
Mon 22 Jan	13:00	1h 15m	Creative iMedia [ICT]
Tue 23 Jan	08:40	1h 45m	Chemistry (Separate Science)
Tue 23 Jan	08:40	1h 15m	Science (Double Award) Chemistry (tiered)
Tue 23 Jan	13:00	1h 30m	English Literature
Wed 24 Jan	08:40	2h	DT GCSE [Graphics Res Mat Textiles]
Wed 24 Jan	08:40	1h 30m	Drama
Wed 24 Jan	13:00	1h 30m	Mathematics Calculator (tiered)
Thu 25 Jan	08:40	1h 20m / 1h 45m	German - Listening then Reading (tiered)
Thu 25 Jan	13:00	1h 30m	Dance
Fri 26 Jan	08:40	1h 45m	Physics (Separate Science)
Fri 26 Jan	08:40	1h 15m	Science (Double Award) Physics (tiered)
Fri 26 Jan	13:00	1h 30m	Music - Listening and Appraising
Fri 26 Jan	13:00	1h 15m	Religious Studies