

December 2021

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

On Wednesday 5th January, our Year 13 students will begin their mock examinations. The examination period will last until Friday 14th January and students will only be required to attend school when they have an exam. We have delayed the start to the examinations by one day in anticipation of rolling out the Government's post-Christmas Covid testing programme. The plan is for Year 13 students to take their test on Tuesday 4th January and further details will be sent out regarding this in due course. Normal lessons for Year 13 will resume on Monday 17th January.

The main focus of the mock examinations is to provide both students and staff with an indication of where good progress is being made and where further work is needed. Considering the disruption to our Year 13 students' education over the last 18 months, these examinations present an excellent opportunity for everyone to review what needs to be done during the final few months of Year 13.

Students have had an assembly to provide further details on the examinations as well as some guidance on revision strategies. More information regarding the revision process can be found on the school website at <https://chaseterraceacademy.co.uk/school-life/revision/>. Mock examination timetables will be given directly to the students once they are finalised.

We will continue to apply safety measures to prevent the spread of Covid-19 during this period. Sanitiser will be used before and after examinations and only Year 13 students will be in the examination hall. Invigilators will be wearing PPE and students will collect their own paper on entry to the hall and deposit it in a box on the way out.

Students will of course be supported in individual subject areas with specific revision activities and this work will be set through show my homework. Planning revision is key and there is a document on the website to support this along with a range of other guidance.

As it stands at the moment, examinations are due to proceed as planned in the summer term of 2022, however, we have been given guidance from the Government regarding contingency arrangements should they not go ahead. Further information on this can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/open-letters-arrangements-for-gcses-as-and-a-levels-in-2022/letter-to-students>

In the event that summer examinations do not go ahead (we have no reason currently to suspect that this might be the case), the mock examinations will form part of the evidence base for any teacher assessed grades. For students who are isolating, but well enough to complete their exams, arrangements will be outlined in a separate communication as needed to enable these to take place. In line with Ofqual's guidance, there will also be two further rounds of assessment planned: one class-based assessment period in mid-March and a round of formal assessments in the examination hall after the Easter break. The post-Easter exams will only go ahead if the summer examinations are cancelled. More specific dates and details will be sent out in due course.

Yours faithfully



Mr J Cain
Deputy Headteacher