

15th December 2022

Dear Year 11 Student (and Parents for information),

January Mocks and GCSE Exams 2023

I hope you found this morning's exam assembly useful. Many of the key points regarding the procedures for the January mocks are detailed in the Exam Booklet, which you can find [here](#) or by clicking on "Parents" in the blue bar at the top of the RGS homepage and then selecting "2022-23 Public Examinations" from the menu on the right of the screen. The mocks are useful not only as a chance for you to measure your academic progress, but also as a dry-run at the routines and processes you'll be going through in the summer. From that perspective, it's important that you know where you need to be and when, what equipment to bring and what to leave at home, so please read through the Exam Booklet carefully over the Christmas holiday.

In our meeting I also told you that the government's exam regulator Ofqual has asked all schools in England to retain mock scripts as evidence to help teachers generate grades if GCSE exams are cancelled next summer. I would like to emphasise that this is extremely unlikely to happen – but, as I said, we live in a post-pandemic world in which there is always a Plan B.

Finally, I would like to draw your attention to the timetable for GCSE exams next summer. This has already been published in the 2022-23 Public Examinations section of the School's website [here](#). Please note that the exam boards have built in contingency exam sessions on the afternoons of Thursday 8th and 15th June, and also all day on Wednesday 28th June. These extra sessions are designed to be used in the event of national or significant local disruption to examinations. We would strongly advise, therefore, that you keep these dates clear in your diaries. In particular, you should not plan to go away on holiday until Thursday 29th June at the earliest.

Good luck with your revision over the holidays and make sure you build in some quiet time too. I wish you a restful Christmas holiday with your family and friends.

Kind regards,

James Eve
Director of Studies