

Educational excellence for our City

King Edward VI Northfield School for Girls, Turves Green, Birmingham, B31 4BP

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Friday 3rd May 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

To help prepare Year 10 for their GCSE examinations, they will be sitting a set of mock examinations, which will start on Monday 10th June. They will have a second opportunity to sit a set of mocks in November in Year 11. To help pupils prepare for these mocks, please see the school website for a:

Mock timetable

Topic list – to help guide students on which topics they should be revising.

Further support and resources can be obtained from their class teachers. I would also like to use this opportunity to update you on the exam rules and regulations that we will be putting into place for these mock exams and to offer final advice and guidance on how to best prepare for the weeks ahead.

We know the pupils are working hard to ensure that they succeed and want to stress that support with their health and wellbeing is important. Rest breaks during revision are key to maintain a healthy balance and to ensure pupils do not overload their memory. The importance of a healthy breakfast and lunch cannot be understated, and studies have shown that those who eat well do perform at a higher level. Please remember that the school offers free bagels ever morning to all students. Sleep is also vital to allow pupils to rest and recharge and it is strongly recommended that technology is not used late into the evening.

We recommend visiting <u>Home - Kooth</u> if you require any support or advice regarding your child's mental health or wellbeing during this time. Please also inform the school if you require any further support.

Mobile Phones and Watches

The exam regulator states that pupils cannot be in possession of a mobile phone or watch during examinations. Our policy will be as follows:

Pupils can put their phone away in their locker if they have one, or phones can be placed into the pupil's bag which will then be locked in one of the changing rooms. Pupils who are found to have a phone on them during a mock examination will have that paper cancelled, even if the phone has been turned off.

Equipment

To help the exams run smoothly, pupils should have all of their own equipment for all exams. Having their own equipment will ensure that pupils are able to concentrate fully on the exam and maximise their time. Pupils with missing equipment cause a disruption to the start of the exams, which is unfair on the remaining students.

- black pens
- pencils
- eraser
- 30cm clear ruler
- scientific calculator
- protractor
- highlighter (optional)
- Pencil cases must be clear plastic





Drinks

Drinks must be in clear plastic bottles that do not have a label.

Punctuality

It is vital that pupils arrive on time for their exams. Year 10 pupils will be registered at 8:45 in their form rooms every day, where they will be given key messages and information for the day ahead. Arrival after the start of an exam can put participation in jeopardy and causes disturbances to those pupils who have already started.

Exams finishing after 15:00

We aim to start all afternoon exams as close to 13:20 as possible. Some exams though will potentially run past 15:15, especially if a pupil has extra time. Pupils should check their exam timetable carefully to see if they will need to stay past 15:15 on any days. Some dates to be mindful of are:

- Wednesday 12th June Biology Separate Science students with extra time
- Thursday 13th June Chemistry Separate Science students with extra time
- Wednesday 19th June Physics Separate Science students with extra time

Illness

As per the GCSEs in the summer, pupils should attempt to sit all mock examinations at the scheduled time, even if they aren't feeling their best. If your child isn't well enough to attend school, please inform the office as soon as possible.

We look forward to seeing the pupils perform to a high level in their mock exams and thank you for your continued support.

If you have any queries, please contact me on d.chesterman@nsg.kevibham.org or 0121 464 8346

Yours faithfully

David Chesterman

Deputy Head Attainment and Standards