St Augustine's Catholic College

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Our ref: AFD/CRW/SC
19 October 2026

Dear Parents/Guardians and Year 11 Students,

**YEAR 11 MOCK EXAMINATIONS: MONDAY 9 TO THURSDAY 19 NOVEMBER 2026**

I am writing to let you know that the Year 11 mock examinations will take place from **Monday 9 November to Thursday 19 November 2026** inclusive. Throughout the mock window, students will be in their normal timetabled lessons whenever they are not sitting an exam. There will be no new teaching during this period. Teachers will supervise their rooms, and students are expected to bring their own independent study and revision to work on.

The mocks are an important milestone in Year 11. They give students a realistic experience of GCSE exam conditions and show them, and us, where they are confident and where they need to focus before the summer. They will also give teachers vital information about strengths, gaps and misconceptions for each student, which will shape our teaching and the support we put in place from now until the summer exams. We ask that students prepare for them with the same commitment they will bring to the real thing.

The full mock timetable is printed on the final page of this letter, and each student will be emailed a link to their own individual timetable. Please make sure your child knows the date, start time and room for every exam they are sitting, and that they arrive promptly. Most morning exams start at 9:00am and most afternoon exams at 1:00pm, but some start at other times, so please check carefully. Students should be outside the exam room at least ten minutes beforehand. Arriving late adds stress and may reduce the time available to complete the paper.

Students who are entitled to exam access arrangements will receive these in their mocks, just as they will in the summer. Please help your child plan what they will revise in each lesson, so that time between exams is used well.

**Revision support**

To help with revision, we have created a new Curriculum area on the school website, which you can reach from the Curriculum menu. For each subject, it sets out what students need to know through knowledge organisers, gives practical guidance on how to revise, and explains each exam paper and how marks are gained. Students can use it to plan their independent study in lessons during the mock window and their revision at home.

**Equipment for every exam**

Students must bring their own equipment, in line with JCQ (Joint Council for Qualifications) requirements. Please check that everything is packed the night before.

- At least two **black ink pens**. Answers must be written in black ink; pencil is for diagrams and graphs only.
- A pencil, ruler, eraser and sharpener, plus a protractor and compasses for Maths.
- A **calculator** for any exam where one is permitted. Its lid or cover must be removed, along with any instruction leaflet. Calculators that can store text, connect to other devices or access the internet are not allowed.
- A **clear, see-through pencil case**. Opaque pencil cases are not allowed in the exam room.

**Drinks**

Students may bring water only, in a **clear, see-through plastic bottle with all labels removed**. No other drinks or food may be taken into the exam room unless agreed in advance for medical reasons.

**Phones, watches and other devices**

**No mobile phones, watches of any kind or other electronic devices are allowed in the exam room.** This includes smartwatches, ordinary analogue and digital watches, fitness trackers, earbuds and headphones. There is a clock in every exam room. These items must be switched off and left where staff direct before students enter. Under JCQ rules, simply having one of these items on you during an exam counts as misconduct, even if it is switched off and not used. Notes, revision cards and any other paper must also be left outside.

**Exam conditions**

The mocks will be run under the same JCQ conditions that students will meet in the summer. Please read the JCQ information for candidates with your child, which sets out the rules for written exams: https://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/information-for-candidates-documents/. Our Exams Policies are also available on the school website: https://www.st-augustines.wilts.sch.uk/Documents-and-Policies/.

We are required to report misconduct in public examinations to the exam boards, and in the summer this can lead to a student being disqualified. Experiencing these expectations now means students will know exactly what to expect and can sit their GCSEs with confidence.

**Support and results**

We know this can be an anxious time. Teachers will continue to guide students in lessons and are always happy to help, so please encourage your child to ask if they are unsure about anything. Revising steadily matters, and so does taking proper breaks to avoid revision fatigue. Students will receive their results in lessons, and outcomes will also be shared in their Progress Report.

We have every confidence in our Year 11 students and thank you for your support in encouraging them to take these exams seriously. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions.

Yours sincerely



**Aidan Dowle**
Headteacher

# Year 11 GCSE

Mock Examination Timetable

| Date | Session | Start | Subject | Duration |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Monday 9 November | AM | 09:00 | History | 2h 0m |
| Monday 9 November | PM | 13:00 | Business | 1h 30m |
| Tuesday 10 November | AM | 09:00 | English Literature | 1h 45m |
| Tuesday 10 November | PM | 13:00 | Geography | 1h 30m |
| Wednesday 11 November | AM | 09:00 | Combined Science – Biology | 1h 15m |
| Wednesday 11 November | AM | 09:00 | Triple Science – Biology | 2h 0m |
| Wednesday 11 November | PM | 13:00 | English Language | 1h 0m |
| Thursday 12 November | AM | 09:00 | Combined Science – Chemistry | 1h 15m |
| Thursday 12 November | AM | 09:00 | Triple Science – Chemistry | 1h 45m |
| Thursday 12 November | PM | 13:00 | Religious Studies | 1h 0m |
| Friday 13 November | AM | 09:00 | Combined Science – Physics | 1h 45m |
| Friday 13 November | AM | 09:00 | Triple Science – Physics | 1h 45m |
| Monday 16 November | AM | 09:00 | French | 1h 45m |
| Monday 16 November | PM | 13:00 | Sport Studies | 1h 15m |
| Tuesday 17 November | AM | 09:00 | Maths | 1h 30m |
| Wednesday 18 November | AM | 09:00 | Computer Science | 1h 30m |
| Wednesday 18 November | PM | 11:35 | Music | 2h 0m |
| Thursday 19 November | AM | 09:00 | Food Preparation | 1h 45m |
| Thursday 19 November | AM | 09:00 | Product Design | 2h 0m |

Durations shown are the standard exam durations.