



School Mock Examinations

Reasons for Mock Examinations

The School places high importance on providing students with the opportunity to sit formal Mock Exams during their GCSE/GCE courses for the following reasons:

1. They give all students the opportunity to develop their confidence in sitting exams in all of their subjects under formal arrangements.
2. They help inform the School where access arrangements may be needed to support students in future exams and assessments.
3. They help inform teaching staff about student progress so intervention and support can be built into the provision for some students.
4. Recent national arrangements for assessing students for their GCSE and A Level qualifications have placed high importance on the School collating evidence of each student's performance and for it to have been demonstrated under formal exam conditions. This is to ensure that the School can be confident that it retains reliable evidence of each student's performance to support any possible future grade decisions.

For all of these reasons, the School makes every effort to ensure that School Mock Exams are administrated and undertaken in a way that closely reflects the Public Exams.

Arrangements if students are unwell

The School approaches this in a similar way to If students are unwell at the time of their Public Exams, when there is a limited range of options available:

- If they are unable to sit an exam paper, the School **can** make an application to the exam boards who may be able to award a grade, but only if sufficient other exam papers have been sat for that subject. In some cases, students will receive no grade for that qualification.

If the absence is due to health-related reasons, candidates must provide the school with appropriate written evidence from a medical professional.

- If a student sits an exam but their circumstances may have affected their performance in that exam, the School **may** apply for Special Considerations and the exam board **may** make a post-exam adjustment to a candidate's mark for that exam; however, this does not always result in any change to the student's grade and the maximum that is ever awarded is 5%.

Circumstances that affect your performance in examinations must be evidenced fully in writing, to the Examinations Officer, as statement by the candidate, parent or carer.

This statement be completed and submitted by no later than 48 hours after the date and time of the missed examination.

If a student is well enough, they should aim to sit all of their School Mock Examinations at the same time as all other students. If their health may have compromised their ability to perform at their best in that exam, and parents

would like Special Consideration to be applied, they should provide the Examinations Officer with written evidence from a medical professional that outlines their health issues and likely impact on performance.

A student should only **not** sit a School Mock Examination if their health is such that it would also have prevented them sitting a Public Examination. In that case, because the School places high priority on retaining formal assessment evidence for each student, the student will be given an opportunity to sit the exam at the next available opportunity.

All students will be expected to sit all of their exams, in one of these two opportunities, unless there have highly challenging medical issues. In these circumstances, adjustments can only be made in consultation with a member of the Senior Leadership Team and the School must receive written evidence from an appropriate medical professional (such as a consultant) that outlines their health issues and reason for not being able to sit the exam.