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3<sup>rd</sup> November 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian,

**Year 11 Mock Exam series 1 – Tuesday 24th November to Friday 4th December 2020**

I hope my letter finds you well.

As you will all be aware, England faces a new lockdown which takes effect from Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November. Education settings will continue to operate as normal.

You may well be reading different and speculative information in the press in relation to GCSE examinations. While currently there are no plans for the GCSE examinations 2021 to be replaced with centre assessed grades, as we know the situation with COVID-19 remains changeable and we must ensure our students are fully prepared for every eventuality.

As such, it is essential that students focus on their studies and prepare fully for their forthcoming mock examinations. Information from mock examinations would form part of an evidence base for a centre assessed grade. OFQUAL have asked exam boards to draw up single 90-minute papers which would take place early in Spring 2021 and would act as national mock examinations; should exams not go ahead in the summer these papers would form the basis for the final GCSE grade. It is therefore critical that students focus fully on their studies and ask for further support if they need additional help. There must be a strong emphasis on preparations for mock examinations and students should be carefully planning their time outside of school to study.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me. We are here to support all of our students and families.

Yours sincerely

Dr J Bartlett  
Headteacher

