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Executive Headteacher: Mr A Hall BA (Hons) MA NPQH NPQE
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6th October 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

Year 11 - Grade Indicator Exams from Monday 2nd to Friday 6th November 2026

The first Grade Indicator (GI) examinations of this academic year will take place from **Monday 2nd to Friday 6th November 2026**.

This year, we have made the decision to run this round of Grade Indicator examinations over one week. This is to minimise disruption to learning, while still providing students with a focused period in which to complete their assessments under formal examination conditions.

The purpose of these examinations is to measure the progress your child has made in their GCSE courses and provide the school with important information about how we can best support them. The GIs also provide an important opportunity for students to experience formal examination conditions and continue developing the routines and habits they will need for their public examinations.

To enable the examinations to take place within one week, all examination papers will be 1 hour 30 minutes in duration.

During Grade Indicator week, students will sit three Science papers, three Mathematics papers, two English papers, one Religious Education paper and one paper for each of their option subjects, where applicable. Students should refer to their individual examination timetable for the examinations they are required to sit.

Please note that examination times and subjects will vary by student. Your child will be given an individual examination timetable and should follow this carefully.

All students should be on site from 8:25 must be in their tutor room by 8:30am, as dismissal to the examination hall will begin from this time. Students should therefore arrive at school promptly and fully prepared for the day.

Timings of the Day

The examination timings are as follows:

Session	Start Time	Finish Time
Exam Session 1	8:50am	10:20am
Break	10:20am	10:50am
Line Up	10:50am	11:00am
Exam Session 2	11:00am	12:30pm
Lunch	12:30pm	1:10pm
Line Up	1:10pm	1:20pm
Session 3	1:20pm	2:50pm

The school day will begin at 8:30am as normal. All students must be in their tutor room by 8:30am, as dismissal to the examination hall will begin from this time. Students should therefore arrive at school promptly and fully prepared for the day.

Students will be expected to attend school as normal throughout the examination week. Where students do not have an examination, they will continue with their normal lessons and use this time to continue their learning and prepare for upcoming examinations.

Why are these examinations important?

These examinations are an important opportunity for students to demonstrate what they have achieved and the progress they have made. Students should take them seriously and give their very best effort, as the outcomes may be used to support applications to sixth forms and colleges. Students should therefore ensure that they are well prepared, attend all examinations, arrive on time and make full use of the time available to them in each paper. The results will also help us identify areas where further support, intervention and revision may be needed as students work towards their GCSE examinations.

Do the students have study leave?

No. Students will attend school as normal throughout the Grade Indicator week. When students are not sitting an examination, they will attend their lessons as directed.

Will PM intervention take place?

No. PM intervention will not take place during Grade Indicator week. This is to allow students to use this time to conduct their own independent revision and prepare for their upcoming examinations. Normal PM intervention arrangements will resume after Grade Indicator week.

What equipment does my child need?

All students must bring a black pen, pencil and ruler. These may only be brought into the examination hall in **a clear plastic pencil case**. Please ensure your child has a scientific calculator, protractor and compass, as these are also required for some examinations such as Mathematics and Science.

Students are not allowed electronic devices such as mobile phones, earphones or digital watches in the examination hall. If a student is found in possession of these items, they risk disqualification and confiscation.

If your child wishes to bring water, it must be in a clear plastic bottle with the label removed. Students who fail to bring the correct equipment may be disadvantaged, as we will not be providing spare equipment. This is to ensure students develop the routines of being organised and fully prepared for their public examinations.

What if my child is ill?

If your child is ill, please follow the usual school absence procedures and contact the school.

Please see your child's individual examination timetable for details of the examinations they will be sitting during the week.

In addition to the information in the letter, please find a QR code which links to all revision materials from the school. The link can be accessed via your child's school account.

We wish your child every success in their Grade Indicator examinations and thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,

Mr A Fernando
Deputy Headteacher – Curriculum & Assessment

Mr S Campbell
Head of Year 11