

14<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

As we are now well underway with this crucial term for our Year 11 students, we wanted to get in touch with you to share some details from recent Government announcements with regards to summer examinations. As you may have read, the Department of Education made a series of press releases that focused on the topic of summer examinations and an update of their plans for them. A summary of the key points is below:

1. There is an “absolute commitment” from the Secretary of State for Education that the exams will go ahead in the summer, despite of Omicron.
2. They will put in place “mitigations” to make sure to recognise those “who have had their education disrupted”. This includes the steps that had been previously outlined such as students being given advance information on the focus of exam content to support their revision (this information is due to be released on 07/02/22) and the implementation of grade boundaries for examinations that sit between Teacher Assessed Grades and the external examinations pre-Covid.

This change of language means that for our Year 11 students it is imperative that they ensure they have good attendance (obviously allowing for Covid) and are working hard in lessons to complete their courses (including any centre assessed coursework) and make excellent progress towards the summer examinations and are as prepared as they can be to achieve their potential.

We understand that some students will be absent due to a positive Covid result, and for these students, should they feel well enough, they will receive invites to login to lessons remotely via Microsoft TEAMS.

It is still important that the students are preparing themselves as much as possible for the second mock examination session that will be taking place in March. As they work towards this next checkpoint, to support students, we are continuing with our Period 6 programme. We shared with students in an assembly this week that some recently published research showed that students that fully engage in bespoke, targeted initiatives like our Period 6 can make as much as 15-20% improvement in attainment from the mock examination to the summer external examination. In light of this, we would very much appreciate your support in encouraging your son/daughter to attend Period 6.





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Richard Brand: Headteacher

If you have any questions regarding the provision for your son or daughter in Year 11, please contact Hannah Rowlands, Assistant Headteacher ([hannah.rowlands@thedeanacademy.org](mailto:hannah.rowlands@thedeanacademy.org)) or if you have any pastoral questions please contact Kelly Jones, Head of Year 11 ([kellya.jones@thedeanacademy.org](mailto:kellya.jones@thedeanacademy.org)).

Many thanks for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely

**Hannah Rowlands**  
Assistant Headteacher

HR/TW - Year 11-exams-140122



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