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Hannah Rowlands, Headteacher

10<sup>th</sup> February 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

**Re: Spring term mock examinations 2025: Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March**

As you are aware, Year 11 students will be sitting their second round of mock examinations in the fortnight commencing Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February. A link to the full timetable on our website has been sent out via text message and students will be given their personalised mock examination timetable (which details the dates, times and seats for the upcoming examinations) ready for the start of the mock examinations.

I have been incredibly impressed so far with the efforts that nearly every one of our students are already putting into their revision and I look forward to seeing this develop further as we approach the assessment period.

As has been previously discussed, there are many reasons why it is important that all students prepare themselves fully for these mock examinations:

1. The GCSE examinations start 6 school weeks after the second round of mock-examinations end. Students should be revising **now** to be fully prepared for these.
2. They provide staff with key information about students' progress and enable them to provide targeted support where needed.
3. These mock examinations will enable teachers to make projected grades which will form the basis of the students' reports in March, which will then be used by students to inform their post 16 establishments (6<sup>th</sup> form, college, apprenticeships etc).
4. They encourage the students to get into the habit of keeping on top of their revision and take ownership over their learning, which is key to ensure that they don't become overwhelmed as they enter the final stage of Year 11.

Students have been provided with revision for the topics being covered in these mocks in each of their subjects via the Online Revision Hub. Also, on this platform they are exemplar revision timetables and techniques, along with exam anxiety support strategies. The Revision Hub can be found as a hyperlink at the top of the school's home page on the website. The lunch time and after school booster sessions will still run as normal. We strongly encourage attendance to these sessions as we know they provide valuable revision time for the exams with a specialist teacher.

Also, I am inviting parents and carers to attend the mock results assembly at The Dean Academy on **Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March, 2:15pm - 3:15pm**. Here, students open their exam certificates and find out what grades they achieved. We run this event, because we want to



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replicate the real experience, so students understand and become familiar with the process. If you would like to attend, please complete this quick Microsoft Form and meet in Reception for 2:15pm. If you need to leave earlier than 3:15pm then please still come along, we would love to see as many of you as possible.

The Microsoft Form link: <https://forms.office.com/e/NA40iSHvGE>

Below are the expectations of all students for the examinations, which are in line with the externally set JCQ guidelines that all schools must follow in the formal, external examinations:

- Students **MUST** bring their own equipment – black pen, pencil, calculator, compass, ruler, eraser and these must be in a clear pencil case or bag. Calculator cases must be placed under student seats or left in their bags.
- Mobile phones must be on silent and placed in bags or coats at the side of the examination hall.
- Students are not permitted to wear wrist watches during the examination – these should be removed and left in bags or coats at the side of the examination hall.

We would be very grateful if you could please take time to read through the examination timetable and ensure that your child is clear about where and when he/she has assessments. If you have any questions about these assessments, please don't hesitate to contact Mr Fessey, Raising Standards Leader ([tfessey@thedeacademy.org](mailto:tfessey@thedeacademy.org)).

Many thanks in supporting us to support your child.

Yours sincerely

**Tom Fessey**  
Associate Assistant Headteacher and Raising Standards Leader

TF/TW – Y11 spring mock-100225



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