

7th May 2019

GCSE Examination Arrangements

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing to you regarding the external written GCSE examinations for Year 11 students, which begin on Monday 13th May. We are now entering a busy period of assessment and your support is vital in ensuring the best possible experience and outcomes for your son/daughter.

Last week, your son/daughter was issued with a copy of their examination timetable and with an important booklet containing information about the rules and requirements of the GCSE exams. A copy of this booklet can also be found on the Academy website and I would urge you to familiarise yourself with its contents and to keep it somewhere safe until results day on Thursday 22nd August.

I would like to draw your attention to some of the key points contained in the examination guidance:

- Morning examinations will begin promptly at 9.00 and afternoon examinations at 13.00. Punctuality is vital, so please ensure that your son/daughter arrives in good time for their exam sessions. In the morning, booster sessions will begin at 8.00 and breakfast will be available for students from 7.30.
- Students will sit their examinations in full school uniform.
- Bags, mobile phones, smart watches, MP3/4 players and all revision material must be left securely in the bag store or at home. None of these items are permitted to enter the exam room. There are very serious consequences for students who breach this rule, including disqualification from all assessment.
- When not in exams, students will follow their normal Academy timetable and will finish the day at the normal time.
- The final examination is scheduled for Friday 14th June, but students **must** remain available and in the country until 27th June, in case an examination needs to be rescheduled by the government. Please bear this in mind if arranging any overseas holidays.

Ramadan and Eid al-Fitr

This year, GCSE examinations fall during the month of Ramadan. We fully respect any decision that your son/daughter makes with regards to observing Ramadan; however, we would like to point out that the grades attained at GCSE are critical to their further education and career prospects. Due to the importance of these grades, your son/daughter will need to seriously and thoughtfully take their future and their studies into account, alongside a decision about how they will observe Ramadan this year. We have placed a guidance document by the Association of School and College Leaders in the Exam Essentials section of our website.

There is a strong possibility that an exam may fall on Eid al-Fitr. As examination dates and times are set by the examination board, we cannot make any alterations to this schedule and it will be important that your son/daughter attends any examinations scheduled for this day.



St Georges Court, 1 Albion Street, Birmingham B1 3AA
t: 0121 729 7220 e: enquiry@jewelleryquarter.academy www.jewelleryquarter.academy
Headteacher: Greg Williams

Should you have any questions or require further guidance, please do not hesitate to contact the Academy. We understand that the examination period can be an anxious time for students and their parents/carers and we are available to support you to ensure that it is as smooth and successful as possible.

Yours faithfully,

E. Plumpton

Deputy Headteacher

COLLABORATION · OPPORTUNITY · RESPECT · EXCELLENCE

Sponsored by CORE Education Trust - Company Number 079491547. A Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee