



ST. MARY MAGDALENE

C OF E SCHOOL

SECONDARY PHASE

*Excellence through innovation,
founded in faith since 1840.*

FEDERATION EXECUTIVE CO-HEADTEACHERS

Mrs Claire Harrison and Mrs Victoria Wainwright

PRINCIPAL

Mr Razwan Hussain

Dear parents/carers of Year 11 and 13 students,

Your son/daughter will be sitting mock GCSE, A-Level or BTEC examinations from Monday 26 February to Wednesday 6 March 2024. On page 2 of this letter, you will find a timetable of the exams and, on pages 3 & 4, a table showing what each exam will assess.

As with all assessments at St Mary Magdalene, the mock exams will be used to give teachers vital information on your child's strengths, weakness and misconceptions and enable your child's teachers to support them with their learning over the remaining months of Year 11 or 13.

We expect all students to be revising at home daily in addition to completing homework and attending additional revision classes or tutoring in school. We recommend that students revise by creating notes to summarise their learning; use flashcards to test themselves; and answer past paper questions to implement their knowledge. By revising all their subjects and regularly returning to the same topics, students can make themselves well-prepared for exams. We ask that you help ensure your child follows a revision timetable, that you ask them questions about their work, support them in being organised, and make sure they are eating and sleeping well.

During the period of mock exams, students should continue to arrive at school at the usual time of 8.30am and when they do not have exams, students will attend their regular lessons. In the afternoons, students will be dismissed from school as soon as their exams end; this might be slightly earlier or later than the usual time of 3.20.

Just as will be the case when students sit their exams this summer, all Year 11s and 13s will be required to bring their own equipment, including a black biro pen. Any other equipment required (e.g. pencils, sharpener, calculator, etc) must be stored in a transparent pencil case. Following guidance from the Joint Council for Qualifications, electronic devices such as phones and wristwatches may not be kept in the exam hall and must be handed in prior to the exam. Along with any other valuables, these will be kept in secure storage during the exam. If students are late to an exam, they may be allowed to enter at our discretion. I must make it clear that any student not following the examination regulations will be dealt with accordingly and may result in students being given a 'U' grade for the examination.

Those students who have been assessed for special provision in the exams will receive more information and support from Ms Graham and our inclusion team. Any students with an examination clash will also be spoken to individually. Revision resources will be shared with all students via Family Group Tutors, Satchel and Padlet.

Thank you for your support; please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any queries.

Yours sincerely,

Ross O'Brien
Assistant Principal

Mock examination timetable: February/March 2024

Spring Mock Timetable 2024

Week 1

| | 26/02/24 | 27/02/24 | 28/02/24 | 29/02/24 | 01/03/24 |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|---|--|---|
| | Sports Hall | Sports Hall | Sports Hall | Sports Hall | Sports Hall |
| FG Time/Line up 8.45 | All students | All students | All students | All students | All students |
| P1 9.10 - 10.10 | GCSE Biology (1hr 45 mins) | GCSE English Literature (1hr 45mins) | GCSE Maths (Non-Calculator) (1hr 30 mins) | GCSE Chemistry (1hr 45 mins) | GCSE English Language (1hr 45mins) |
| P2a Break (10.10 - 10.30) | GCSE Combined Science (1hr 15 mins) BTEC Applied Science (1 hr 30 mins) A Level Biology (2 hrs) | A Level English - Prose (1 hr 15 mins) | A Level Maths (Pure) (2 hrs) | GCSE Combined Science (1hr 15 mins) A Level Chemistry (2 hrs) Applied Science (1 hr 30 mins) | A Level Psychology (2hrs) |
| P2b 11.10 - 11.30 | Break | Break | Break | Break | Break |
| P3 11.30 12.30 | Attend P3 lesson | Attend P3 lesson | Attend P3 lesson | Attend P3 lesson | Attend P3 lesson |
| 12.30 | Early Lunch | Early Lunch (if you have a PM exam) | Early Lunch (if you have a PM exam) | Early Lunch (if you have a PM exam) | Early Lunch (if you have a PM exam) |
| Line up 1.15 | All students | Subject students only | Subject students only | Subject students only | Subject students only |
| P4b 1.15 - 2.15 | GCSE RS (1hr 45mins) A Level PRE (2 hrs) | GCSE History (1hr 15 mins) A Level History (2 hrs 30 mins) | GCSE Geography (1 hr 30 mins) Creative iMedia (1hr 30 mins) A Level Geography (2 hrs 30 mins) BTEC Sport - Yr 13 (1hr 30 mins) | GCSE MFL (Reading) (H 1 hr - F 45 mins) A Level French (2 hrs 30 mins) A Level Spanish (2hrs 30 mins) A Level Politics (2hrs) | GCSE Sociology (1hr 45mins) A Level Sociology (2hrs) |
| P5 2.15 - 3.15 | | | | | |

Week 2

| | 04/03/24 | 05/03/23 | 06/03/24 |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|---|
| | Sports Hall | Sports Hall | Sports Hall |
| FG Time/Line up 8.45 | All students | All students | All students |
| P1 9.10 - 10.10 | GCSE Maths (Calculator) (1hr 30 mins) | GCSE Physics (1hr 45 mins) | GCSE RS (1hr 45mins) |
| P2a Break (10.10 - 10.30) | A Level Maths (Applied) (1 hr 15 mins) A Level Media (2 hrs) | Combined Science (1hr 15 mins) A Level Physics (2 hrs) | A Level PRE (2 hrs) |
| P2b 11.10 - 11.30 | Break | Break | Break |
| P3 11.30 12.30 | Attend P3 lesson | Attend P3 lesson | Attend P3 lesson GCSE Art (CH5 & CH7) |
| 12.30 | Early Lunch (if you have a PM exam) | Early Lunch (if you have a PM exam) | Early Lunch (if you have a PM exam) |
| Line up 1.15 | Subject students only | Subject students only | Subject students only |
| P4b 1.15 - 2.15 | GCSE DT (2 hrs) Graphic Design (2 hrs) FPN (1 hr 30 mins) A Level DT (2 hrs 30 mins) A Level English - Poetry (2 hrs 15 mins) | GCSE Drama (1 hr 35 mins) MFL - Writing (H - 1 hr 20mins F - 1 hr 5 mins) A Level Economics (2 hrs) | GCSE Computer Science (1hr 30 mins) Music (1hr 15 Mins) BTEC Computing (1 hr 45 mins) GCSE Art (CH5 & CH7) |
| P5 2.15 - 3.15 | | | |

GCSE, A Level and BTEC Exam content

| GCSE/BTEC Subject | Content |
|--------------------------|---|
| Art | Work completed in this session will form part of students' final Art portfolio and contribute to their overall GCSE grade. This is not a mock exam but rather NEA (non-examination assessment) as part of Component 1. |
| Biology | Paper 2: Homeostasis & Response, Inheritance, Variation and Evolution (Ecology not included) |
| Chemistry | Paper 1 + Paper 2 (The rate and extent of chemical change; Organic chemistry; Chemical analysis) |
| Combined Science | Biology: Paper 1 & Paper 2 Physics: Paper 1 & Paper 2 Chemistry: Paper 1, Paper 2 (6: The rate and extent of chemical change, C7: Organic chemistry, C8: Chemical analysis). Same content for Higher and foundation |
| Computer Science | Component 1: Systems architecture, memory and storage, computer networks, network security, systems software, ethical, legal, cultural and environmental impacts of digital technology. Component 2: Algorithms, programming fundamentals, producing robust programs, Boolean logic, programming languages and IDEs. |
| Design Technology | Full GCSE paper on all theory content: 1. Core technical principles 2. Specialist technical principles 3. Designing and making principles |
| DIT | Component 3: Modern technologies and impact; threats to data and how to stay safe; responsible use of IT; legal and ethical issues; flowcharts. |
| Drama | Component 1: Understanding Drama; Component 1: Understanding Drama - analysis and evaluation of the work of live theatre makers |
| English Language | Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing |
| English Literature | Literature Paper 2: Modern Texts and Poetry (Section A and B only) |
| Food Prep and Nutrition | Full GCSE paper on all theory content: 1. Food commodities 2. Principles of nutrition 3. Diet and good health 4. The science of food 5. Where food comes from 6. Cooking and food preparation |
| Geography | Paper 1: Section A: Natural Hazards (tectonic, weather and climate change); Section B: Ecosystems (hot deserts and tropical rainforests); Section C: Rivers and Coasts. Paper 2: Section C: Challenges of resource management |
| History | Paper 2: The Making of America + Early Elizabethans Paper 3: Weimar and Nazi Germany |
| Mathematics | Students sitting the Higher paper will be assessed on all units (1-19). Students sitting the Foundation paper will be assessed on all units (1-20) <i>In both cases this will be pupils being tested on all content studied since the start of Year 10</i> |
| Modern Foreign Languages | Paper 3 (Reading): 1. Identity and Culture. 2. Local, national, international and global areas of interest. 3. Current and future study and employment. |

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| Music | Component 3: Appraising. This component is assessed via a listening examination across the four areas of study (1: Musical Forms and Devices; 2: Music for Ensemble; 3: Film Music; 4: Popular Music) |
| Physics | Paper 2: Forces, Waves, Magnetism & Electromagnetism and Space |
| Religious Studies | Two papers, four units EACH: Paper 1 – WORLD RELIGIONS: (1) Christian beliefs, (2) Christian practices, (3) Jewish beliefs, (4) Jewish practices Paper 2 – THEMATIC STUDIES (1) Relationships and families, (2) Religion and life, (3) Religion, peace and conflict, (4) Human rights and social justice |
| Sociology | Hybrid Paper – 100 Marks including 4 essays (4x12 marks) featuring a range of past exam questions from families and households, education and crime and deviance topics with research methods woven in. |

| A-Level/BTEC Subject | Exam Content |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Art | Work completed in this session will form part of students' final Art portfolio and contribute to their overall A Level grade. This is not a mock exam but rather NEA (non-examination assessment) as part of Component 1. |
| Biology | Paper 1 and 2 |
| Chemistry | Paper 1 and 2 (Aromatic, carbonyl compound, amine, Rates of reaction, equilibrium) |
| Computing Level 3 | Unit 1 Fundamentals of Computer Science |
| Economics | Paper 3: Microeconomics and Macroeconomics |
| English Literature | Paper 3: Anthology / Keats Paper 2: Prose |
| French | Listening, Reading and Writing |
| Geography | Human and Physical |
| History | Civil Rights |
| Maths | Pure 1, Pure 2 and Applied |
| Media Studies | Magazines, TV Drama and Online Teen Magazines |
| PRE | Two papers: (2) H573/02 Religion and ethics: four questions on the paper, three must be answered (2hrs) (3) H573/03 Theology/DCT: four questions on the paper, three must be answered (2hrs) There will be a third assessment on the remaining component, H573/01 Philosophy or religion, during a subsequent double lesson (Thu 3&4) during SPR2: four questions on the paper, three must be answered. (2hrs) |
| Politics | Hybrid Paper: Global Politics, Core and Non-Core Political Ideas, UK Politics |
| Physics | Paper 1 and 2 |
| Product Design | Full A Level paper on all theory content: Principles of Design and Technology. |
| Psychology | Social Influence, Attachment, Psychopathology, Memory, Approaches. |

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| Sociology | Hybrid Paper: Methods in Context (Education), Demography/Couples (Family), Crime (topics covered so far) Beliefs (topics covered so far) |
| Spanish | Listening, Reading and Writing |
| BTEC Applied Science | Content unit 5 Biology, Chemistry and Physics. |
| BTEC Sport | Unit 2 |

Please note that detailed information about each subject's GCSE course content and assessments can be found on the Curriculum pages of the school's website.

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