



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 12 students,

Your son/daughter will be sitting their first A-Level mock examinations in March. These mock exams will be used to give teachers vital information on your child's strengths, weaknesses and misconceptions and will enable your child's teachers to support them with their learning. Along with the end of Year 12 examinations in June, these mock exam grades will also be used as evidence for your child's 'predicted grades' which will be submitted to universities.

On this letter, you will find a timetable of the exams and a table showing what each exam will assess. In some subjects, there are modular units or NEA taking place in the coming months; details of these are on the final page.

All students should now be revising at home daily in addition to working hard in school and completing all homework. 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 your child to follow a regular 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 and when they do not have exams, students will attend their regular lessons. Students will have a lunch break slightly earlier than usual on any days they have afternoon exams. Most mock exams will take place in the Lecture Theatre.

All students must 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. Electronic devices such as phones and wristwatches must be placed in students' bags and kept at the back of the Lecture Theatre or other secure storage. 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. Students re-sitting English or Maths GCSEs will sit GCSE mock exams during this week or the following week; more information will be provided by their teachers in due course.

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

Yours sincerely,

Tom Greenwood
Vice Principal

ST MARY MAGDALENE
C OF E SCHOOL
SECONDARY PHASE
1 Hendon Street
London
SE10 0NF
020 3873 5555



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Mock examination timetable: March 2022

<i>In Lecture Theatre</i>	AM (9.30)	PM (1.30)
Monday 14 March	Art / English Language and Literature / Physics / Economics / Spanish	French / History / Performing Arts 2
Tuesday 15 March	Maths 1 (Pure) / Sport Unit 2	Chemistry / Performing Arts 1
Wednesday 16 March	Graphic Communication / Politics / Media Studies	Maths 2 (Applied)
Thursday 17 March	DT / English Literature / Geography 1 / PRE	Psychology 1
Friday 18 March	Biology	Sociology
Monday 21 March	Psychology 2	Sport Unit 1 / Geography 2

Exam content

Subject	Content	Length
Art	Artwork Analysis	2 hours
Biology	Topics: Cell structure, biological molecules, Biological membranes, Nucleotides and nucleic acids, cell division, enzymes, communicable disease	1 hour 45 mins
BTEC National Diploma in Sport Unit 1	Unit 1 Exam – Anatomy and Physiology Learning Aims A-E – Body Systems: <i>Skeletal, Muscular, Respiratory, Cardiovascular, Energy.</i>	1 hour 15 mins
BTEC National Diploma in Sport Unit 2	Unit 2 Case Study Exam	2 hours 30 mins
Chemistry	Topics: Intro to Chem, Organic Chem, Acid and Base, Enthalpy change, Halogens and Halogenoalkanes, Rates of reactions	1 hour 45 mins
Design Technology	Component 1: The paper includes calculations, short-open and open-response questions, as well as extended-writing questions focused on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> analysis and evaluation of design decisions and outcomes, against a technical principle, for prototypes made by others; analysis and evaluation of wider issues in design technology, including social, moral, ethical and environmental impacts. 	2 hours 30 minutes
Economics	Introduction to markets and market failure	1 hour 30 mins
English Language and Literature	Paper 1 – Voices in Speech and Language (Anthology and Streetcar)	2 hours 30 minutes
English Literature	Paper 1- Drama -Othello and Streetcar	2 hours 15 minutes
French	Paper 3: Writing	1 hour 30 mins
Geography	Geography 1: Physical Geography (Water and Carbon cycles and Coastal Landscapes) Geography 2: Human Geography (Contemporary Urban Environments)	1 hour 1 hour
Graphic Communication	Graphics Analysis	2 hours
History	Paper 1: Y113/01 Britain 1930–1997	1 hour 30 minutes
Mathematics	Paper 1: Pure	1 hour 30 mins
Mathematics	Paper 2: Applied	1 hour
Media Studies	Paper 1: Mixed Paper CSPs (The Voice, Teen Vogue, Oh Comely, Men’s Health, The Daily Mail, The i newspaper, Lara Croft: Tomb Raider, Metroid: Prime 2 Echos) Media theorists	2 hours
Performing Arts	Unit 1: Investigating Practitioners’ Work	1 hr 30 mins x2
Physics	Topics: Mechanics and Materials, Particle Physics and Quantum phenomena, Waves	1 hour 45 mins

Politics	Paper 1: UK Politics	2 Hours
Psychology	Paper 1: Introductory Topics in Psychology (Social Influence & Memory)	1 Hour
Psychology	Paper 2: Psychology in Context (Approaches & Research Methods)	1 Hour
Philosophy, Religion and Ethics	Paper 1: Mixed paper Philosophy (choice of two questions) Theology (choice of two questions) Ethics (choice of two questions)	2 Hours
Sociology	Paper 1: Education with research methods	2 Hours
Spanish	Paper 2: Writing	1 hour 30 mins

NEA and modular units

Some subjects have important assessments taking place before the final A-level exams that will play an important role in deciding your child's final grade. Some of these are NEA (non-examination assessment) which is similar to coursework, whilst BTEC subjects sometimes have modular assessments throughout the year. Please see details of these below and if you have any questions about this, please contact the school to speak to your child's teacher.

Geography	Students will have to complete their own Geographical enquiry and fieldwork investigation. This process will begin in summer term and to be completed by the end of Autumn term in Year 13.
Fine Art	NEA Component 1 is ongoing all year and forms part of the A level grade. This process will be completed by the end of the Autumn term in Year 13.
Graphic Communication	NEA: Personal Investigation, 60% of qualification. This will begin in the second week after half term and continue until the end of year 12.
BTEC National Diploma in Sport	Aside from the external exams, pupils will have a number of Internal Assessments.
BTEC Computing	One of the units IT system security & Encryption will be completed in year 12 and another unit which will be internally assessed in year 13 based on programming concepts.
BTEC Performing Arts	In December /January 2022/23, students will sit an exam for Unit 1: <i>Investigating Practitioners' work</i> . For Unit 2: <i>Developing skills and Techniques for Live performance</i> , students are being assessed on a number of internal assessments that could be called for external moderation in May 2022. Students will complete unit 3: <i>Group Performance Workshop</i> and an optional unit in the academic year starting September 2022.
BTEC Business	Students will have a combination of internal and external assessments for a total of four in the year. Two have already been undertaken whilst the final two shall be completed during the summer term. Next year (Y13) will follow a similar pattern with a mixture of internal and external assessments.