

April 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to inform you of the arrangements for GCSE Exams this summer.

Firstly, the majority of the exams will be held in the Spirit of Sport sports hall. This location provides a quieter environment for all candidates and both the Year 10 and Year 11 mock exams were held in here, so the surroundings are already familiar to your child.

For those pupils who have individual arrangements for exams, separate rooms will be set aside in the Spirit of Sport building.

All morning exams will begin at 9.00am and afternoon exams at 1.30pm. The only exceptions to the afternoon will be History (Wednesday 14 June), Resistant Materials (Friday 16 June) and Graphics (Tuesday 20 June). These exams will start at 1pm. It is vital that pupils are punctual for all exams. Latecomers disrupt the exam conditions for those who have already started, and they also run the risk of not being allowed access to the exam hall, and so failing the exam.

Pupils already know that mobile phones and other electronic equipment, such as iPods, MP3 players and Smart watches, are not allowed into the exam hall. Again, pupils can be disqualified from their exam if this rule is broken. Ideally, pupils will not have these items on them before the exam, however if they do, they must hand them in to the invigilators. I must warn you that as a national exam centre, we take these expectations very seriously and, sadly, a small number of pupils were disqualified from their GCSE's last year for bringing a phone into the exam hall.

Blessed Trinity expects the highest standards from its pupils during the exam season, and this applies to uniform as well. Normal full school uniform, including ties and black shoes must be worn. In addition, the school's standards regarding jewellery and make-up still apply. Senior

staff will be present at the start of every exam and will be on hand to ensure uniform rules are applied.


Can I ask also that your child is fully aware of what equipment is required for each exam and arrives with the correct stationery, especially for more specialist exams such as Maths, Science and Technology.

In addition, the school library has recently been open from 4.30pm till 6.30pm every Monday to Thursday evening. This is a dedicated quiet working space just for Year 11 pupils. It is fully staffed and all pupils are invited to use the facility. This facility will continue throughout the exam period.

May I take this opportunity to thank you in advance for your co-operation with these arrangements. I share with you the understanding that this is a stressful time for the pupils, but hope that clear knowledge of our expectations beforehand can help alleviate issues before they arise.

This booklet contains the school's exam timetable as well as information all candidates should make themselves aware of before the exams start. I hope the information proves useful in the coming weeks. Should you have any further questions, feel free to contact either myself or Mrs Sarah Williams our Exams Officer.

Kind regards, and wishing your child every success for their exams,



Mr P Thompson
Deputy Headteacher