

Year 9 Exams
(Monday 13th June to Monday 27th June 2022)

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Year 9 students will be sitting internal exams between Monday 13th June and Monday 27th June. These will be taking place in all core subjects (English, Mathematics, RS and Science) as well as in the subjects which students have opted for at GCSE (where they have been studying these subjects in Year 9).

These option subjects include: Art & Design, Design Technology, Drama, Food, French, Geography, German, History, Music and Spanish. They will not have exams in Dance or PE (where no theory has yet been taught) or in new subjects such as Business or Sociology.

As they will only have exams in their chosen option subjects we will provide individual exam timetables in the next few weeks. We have attached a link to the overall [exams timetable](#) (which is also on our website under exam information).

The intention of this set of exams is to support the students with their preparation for their final GCSEs. This includes:

- giving them an earlier experience of sitting formal exams in the School Hall (or other more formal venues)
- getting the students to develop and practise revision skills
- helping the students develop their exam skills

The Year 9 Exams booklet is currently being updated to include details of which topics will be examined in each subject along with some 'top tips' on revision. This will be available for download by the end of next week and it will be accessed by clicking on this [link](#) or by visiting our website: <http://gillotts.oxon.sch.uk/teaching-and-learning/exam-information>.

We will also e-mail a copy of this booklet to each student. Your child's teachers will also go through what they need to revise and help them develop revision skills. They will also post this material on Google Classroom.

There will not be any 'study leave' during the exam period and students should attend their lessons as normal unless they are in an exam. If students are taking their exams in venues other than their normal classrooms or the School Hall we will make sure that they are clear about where these will be.

It should be noted that the timing of these exams has been made more complicated by the extension of the GCSE period for Year 11 this year. The final GCSE exams have been spread out over a longer time period in order to reduce the impact of Covid. This has meant that the Year 11 exam period has run over into the week we had planned to run the Year 9 exams. This has also meant that some students will be participating in a D of E event during the weekend before the exams start. We have, unfortunately, not been able to delay the start of the exams because we need to have sufficient time to mark them and record the results before the publication of the Year 9 reports at the end of the school year.

As a result of the changes to the timing of the Year 11 GCSE exams, some of the Year 9 exams in the first week of the exam period will take place in classrooms rather than the School Hall. This has also affected the length of some of these exams as classroom-based ones need to follow the one hour length of a teaching period (and some students have additional time for their exams). We will ensure that students are clear about the venue for each of their exams.

If an exam is scheduled to take place in the School Hall they should arrive at least 10 minutes before the start of the exam (8.35am for an 8.45am start, 1.20pm for a 1.30pm start).

In terms of equipment, students should ensure that they bring the following equipment to every exam:

Two black biros or pens

Two pencils

A ruler (preferably 30 cm), rubber, pencil sharpener, protractor & compass

A calculator

A set of colouring pencils

All equipment must be kept in a clear pencil case or plastic bag. Any drinks bottles should be completely clear.

All mobile devices and watches will need to be handed in at the start of the exam when it is taken in the School Hall. In exams taken in classrooms, these devices need to be kept in the students' bags.

We are aware that it can be a stressful period for some students and I would like to encourage you to contact your child's tutor or subject teachers if you have any concerns. It is also important that students build relaxation time into their revision programme and get plenty of sleep.

We wish your sons and daughters every success in these exams.

Yours faithfully,



Dr E J Newbold

Deputy Head