

Dear [STUDENTNAME],

GCSE Pre Public Examinations: Monday 17th June – Tuesday 25th June

I am writing to give you information about the arrangements for the exams, advice on how you should prepare for the exams and the support available to you.

Why do the Pre Public Exams matter?

1. In just over 10 months you will be taking your GCSE exams. The outcome of these exams will determine what you are able to do in the next stage of your education, training or employment.
2. The new GCSE courses are demanding qualifications. With the removal of coursework, in most of the qualifications, all of the marks that contribute to your final grade are a result of your performance in the final exams.
3. As a number of the GCSE qualifications rely solely on exams you need to prepare for the Pre Public exams as if they were the real thing so that you can get an accurate picture of how you are performing.
4. They are also very important for your teachers to get an accurate indication of your exam performance so that they can support you effectively in the preparation for the final examinations.

What are the arrangements for the Pre Public Exams?

For the reasons outlined above your Pre Public Exams are a crucial step in the preparations for your GCSEs. We have therefore organised them to ensure that the exams are as close to the real experience as possible.

- The Pre Public Exams run from **Monday 17th – Tuesday 25th June**.
- You need to arrive in school in time for your morning exam. You will return to your normal timetabled lesson after the exam has finished.
- Exams will take place in the sports hall unless you are entitled to a reader, scribe or extra time.
- You will be issued with a personalised exam timetable that will tell you when and where your exams are taking place as well as your seat number.
- All of the subjects listed below are holding Pre Public Examinations.

Combined Science	Geography	Art
French	History	Design Technology – Textiles
English	French	PE
Maths	Drama	Food

How should you prepare for the Pre Public Exams?

1. If you have not done so already you should start revising immediately.
2. Prepare a revision timetable.
3. Ensure that you are clear what content will be covered in the exam.
4. Ask your teacher to identify the areas that you are weakest in. They are the experts!
5. Build your confidence in these areas using notes, revision guides or by speaking to your teachers.
6. Learn all of the subject content for the exam.
7. Get friends and family to test you. You need to know it all off by heart!
8. Practise past exam questions in timed conditions.

How will the school/teachers support you?

- You have been provided with revision guides to support with your revision. Ask your subject teacher for advice on how best you utilise these.
- Form tutors / subject teachers will provide advice on how to revise and how to write a revision timetable.
- If you are struggling, ask for help. We are here to help you.

Results and Pre Public exam resits.

- Results will not be given to you in lessons by subject teachers, instead they will be posted home to you and your parents.
- If you significantly under perform in any of your Pre Public Exams (a grade or more below target), your subject teacher will arrange for you to resit a Pre Public Exam in that subject before the end of the year.
- Please refer to the Summer 1 newsletter being sent home tomorrow for some additional guidance on how to approach exams and how your parents can support you.

Finally, remember how important these exams are. If you choose to work hard, you will reap the rewards, we are here to support you. If you need any further advice or support regarding your Pre Public Exams please do not hesitate to speak to your teachers, your form tutors or members of SLT.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs S Jones