



# Beths Grammar School

an 11 – 18 selective school with academy status

Headteacher: Mr R J Blyghton

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

Dear Parents and Carers of students in year 11,

## YEAR 11 TRIAL EXAMINATIONS

The first set of trial exams will start on **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December** and operate over a two-week window. A copy of the timetable is included on the second page of this letter. Revision should begin in earnest. Please can I ask that you avoid making any medical appointments for your child during this timeframe. This is very disruptive to the exam process.

The attached timetable also provides information on arrangements for study leave. Please read this carefully so that you are aware of the days your child will have an exam and when they will be studying from home. They must bring their lanyard to school every day and use this to sign in and out when they enter and leave site to complete exams.

For children who have access arrangements for exams, they will receive separate instructions from Ms Butt in due course. This will be emailed to their school email address.

We have given the students a printed hard copy of the timetable for their own ease of reference. Individual timetables with seat numbers will be issued on the week before exams start. I ask for your support in ensuring that your child does use this opportunity wisely. We believe that the students are mature enough to manage their own revision and study and are able to complete this at home. Please also reiterate to them the importance of following **JCQ regulations** and conduct during trial and public exams. This includes **not taking a mobile phone and watch into the exam hall** and not talking at all when entering/leaving the hall or during the exam. We also ask that every student has a clear plastic pencil case to include all of their equipment. The exam equipment checklist is on page 3 of this letter.

We expect all students to take these exams seriously and use this as an opportunity to continue to develop and fine-tune their exam technique in each subject area. Every subject is important and every grade matters. Please also be aware that these trial exams will influence the next set of predictions. **Formal offers to join the sixth form here at Beths will be made following the outcome of these exams.** If the predicted grade is not the same as the entry requirement for the chosen A-Level, unfortunately your child will not be able to select this subject.

## What can you do to help?

- Please ensure that your child is using their time wisely to prepare for their exams.
- Help them to set aside time for revision as well as find some time to relax and recharge. Getting the balance right is key.
- All exams will be completed under strict exam conditions and will take place in the school Sports Hall. Students must ensure that they arrive to school every day on time for exams.
- Please ensure they have an adequate breakfast and are prepared to face the day ahead.
- Read though the exam procedure with your child to ensure they are well prepared with the right equipment.

Reports will be issued to all parents on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2024. This will include a new set of predictions and the outcome of the recent trial exams (percentage and grade).

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## YEAR 11 TRIAL EXAMINATIONS TIMETABLE DECEMBER 2023

All trial exams will be held in the Millennium Sports Hall under strict exam procedures. All students must be in full school uniform.

**Session 1 Exams** will begin promptly at **9am**. Students will start walking into the hall at 8.45am

**Session 2 Exams** will begin promptly at **11.15am**. Students will start walking into the hall at 11.05am

**Session 3 Exams** will begin promptly at **1.30pm**. Students will start walking into the hall at 1.15pm

**Doors will close 5 minutes before the official start of the exam.**

DATE	SESSION 1 STARTING AT 9AM	SESSION 2 STARTING AT 11.15AM	SESSION 3 STARTING AT 1.30PM
MONDAY 4 DEC	BIOLOGY (1HR 30)		BUSINESS (1HR 45)
TUESDAY 5 DEC	ENGLISH LANGUAGE (1HR 45)		ITALIAN* FRENCH* MANDARIN READING 1HR WRITING 1HR 20
WEDNESDAY 6 DEC	MATHEMATICS PAPER 1 (NON-CALCULATOR) (1HR 30)	GEOGRAPHY PAPER 1 (1HR)	ELECTRONICS (1HR 45)
THURSDAY 8 DEC	CHEMISTRY (1HR 30)		COMPUTER SCIENCE (1Hr 30)
FRIDAY 9 DEC	PE (1HR 30) STATISTICS (1HR 30)		RELIGIOUS STUDIES (2HR)

DATE	SESSION 1 STARTING AT 9AM	SESSION 2 STARTING AT 11.15AM	SESSION 3 STARTING AT 1.30PM
MONDAY 11 DEC	ENGLISH LITERATURE (1HR 45)		ECONOMICS (1HR 45)
TUESDAY 12 DEC	PHYSICS (1HR 30)		SPANISH & GERMAN- READING (1HR) WRITING (1HR 20)
WEDNESDAY 13 DEC	MATHEMATICS PAPER 2 (CALCULATOR) (1HR 30)	GEOGRAPHY PAPER 2 (1HR)	DRAMA (1HR 30) SOCIOLOGY (1HR 45) ELECTRONICS(1HR 45)
THURSDAY 14 DEC	HISTORY (2HRS)		DESIGN TECH (1HR 45)
FRIDAY 15 DEC	FURTHER MATHS (1HR 30)	MUSIC (1HR 45) P2	

Students are expected to attend school to complete their exams on the dates stated above.

**To support students with their revision we will be dismissing students to go home for study leave after their session 1 (am) exam if they do not have an exam in either session 2 or 3.** If on a day students do have an exam for both the morning and afternoon session then they must remain on school site, register with their session 2 teacher, but this will be used as a silent directed study. Food can be purchased from the Dining Room and these students must remain on school site.

All students will return to normal lessons on **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December** (except those students completing the Further Maths and Music trial exam). A reminder that the LRC opens from 8am every morning and is available during lunch and after school for year 11 students for silent study and revision up to 4.30pm.

## EXAM PROTOCOL AND ADVICE

Please be advised of the following exam procedures which all students must follow:

- Arrive on time and fully prepared with the correct equipment – pens, pencils, ruler, eraser, and calculator (where required).
- Ensure all equipment is stored in a **clear pencil case or plastic bag**.
- students **must not** take into the examination room any unauthorised materials or equipment which might give them an unfair advantage such as notes, calculator cases/instruction leaflets, bags, mobile phones/tablets/ MP3 players/watches.
- Students may have a clear water bottle with a 'sports top', to prevent any spillages (labels must be removed from the bottle).
- All students must be punctual for exams.
- On entering the exam hall there must be complete **silence at all times**. Student caught talking will be disqualified from the exam under new JCQ regulations.
- All exams must be written in **black ink**.
- No correction fluid or pen erasers should be used; if you make a mistake, cross it out with a single line and start again.

To help you support your son with revision for his exams, I would encourage him to spend time over the next few weeks completing the following *proactive* revision and study tasks for each of his subjects;

- ✓ Reading through class notes
- ✓ Creating mind maps and extra revision notes on each chapter of the specification (all exam specifications can be accessed online)
- ✓ Self-assessing confidence against the specification
- ✓ Highlighting notes
- ✓ Writing exam answers under timed conditions
- ✓ Reading model answers
- ✓ Rewriting model answers or rewriting marked work to make improvements
- ✓ Using past paper questions and planning answers
- ✓ Marking your own work to a mark scheme
- ✓ Studying mark schemes or examiners reports (these can be accessed by the exam board website)

I wish all students every success with their upcoming trial examinations.

Yours sincerely,



**Mr R McBeth**  
**Senior Teacher**  
**Head of Key Stage 4 and Head of Year 11**  
[mrmcbeth@beths.bexley.sch.uk](mailto:mrmcbeth@beths.bexley.sch.uk)

### EXAM EQUIPMENT CHECKLIST

Ensure your child arrives fully equipped for their exams. Equipment needs to be in a see-through plastic transparent pencil case.

#### ESSENTIAL ITEMS

- 2X Black ink or ball point pens (no gel pens or blue ink are permitted)
- 2X HB pencils
- Pencil sharpener
- Rubber
- 30CM Clear plastic ruler
- Scientific calculator
- Compass
- Protractor
- Set square
- Highlighter pen