

YEAR 11 Mock Examinations March 11th and 12th 2024

Balcarras is responsible for implementing and facilitating a very precise set of requirements in all public Exams and are governed by JCQ (Joint Council for Qualifications) in this process. The Exams Officer, Assistant Exams Officer and a team of invigilators will enforce these rules and regulations for the Year 11 mock exams providing a realistic view of examinations in preparation for the summer.

The following should outline everything you need to know.

Study Leave

Study Leave for Year 11 students will commence on **Monday 11th March**.

Students will return to normal lessons on **Wednesday 13th March**.

Students will be permitted to go home between exams. This will be the same during the summer exams. It is important that parents are fully aware of the times when pupils are expected to be in school and when they are likely to be at home. The timings of the exams are on the students' individual timetables (further/replacement copies can be obtained for the exams office in the 6th form block)

For pupils wanting to use the canteen at school it will be open at the usual times:

11am – 11.20 (break)

1.20pm - 2.15pm (lunch)

On Tues 12th, there is an extended gap between the morning and afternoon exam, this is reflective of what will happen in the summer. Pupils should use this time sensibly, to get themselves home (where possible), relax, eat a healthy lunch, and prepare themselves for the afternoon exam.

This will serve as good practice for the forthcoming summer exams and an excellent opportunity for pupils to maintain a good routine.

Should any pupil be concerned about managing their time between exams they should speak to their Head of House before Monday 4th March.

Examination Timetables

All students will be given a copy of their individual examination timetable. The generic timetable can be found on the website www.balcarras.gloucs.sch.uk/exams Replacement copies can be obtained from The Exams office located in the sixth form block.

Punctuality is very important. The Mock Exams are scheduled to **commence at 9am, 11.30am and 2pm** students **must** arrive **20 minutes before** the scheduled start time – this is

to ensure all students can be seated, in a calm and orderly fashion, notices read, and examinations are started promptly.

Where students have extra time or in the event of examinations not starting on time, for students concerned that they will not make their next exam, please be rest assured we will not expect any student to go from one exam to the other without a sufficient break in between.

Rooming

We are unable to allocate the same room and the same seat for all examinations. The student's individual copy of the examination timetable will detail which room they will be taking their exam, no seating plans will be published on the notice board except for last minutes unavoidable room changes.

What to wear?

The uniform rules for examinations are the same as for normal school lessons. Full school uniform must be worn, smart school shoes, correct skirts and trousers, no hoodies or non-school jumpers are permissible. Makeup and jewellery are not permitted.

What to bring?

It is the student's responsibility to ensure they have the correct equipment/tools they will require during the exam.

- **Black pens** only to write with (no gel pens)
- Pencil, eraser, ruler etc
- Maths equipment
- Calculator (must be cleared of memory in advance. Calculator lids/cases are not permitted)
- Students may bring these items in a clear pencil case/bag.

Please note that hi-lighter pens maybe used on the question paper but NOT on the students answers. Correction fluid/tape are also not allowed.

Students may bring a drink, but it must be **clear** liquid in a **clear bottle** - the invigilators must be able to "see through" it. No labels or writing on the bottles.

Students must not write anything until invited to do so. Any student doing extra time will be asked to write with a different coloured pen (provided) to indicate their work done during the extra time.

Students, wherever possible must avoid bringing any personal possessions. Please bring to school only what is required to sit the exam. If this is unavoidable, items must be stored in lockers or tidily under the stairs in the foyer between Maths and Science.

NB: The school cannot be held responsible for the safety of student's possessions.

Prohibited Items

Airpods

Earphones/earbuds

Ipods

Mobile Phones or similar devices

Watches

These items are **strictly prohibited** from the examination room. If at all possible, it is advisable to **leave these items at home** – THEY WILL NOT BE PERMITTED INTO THE EXAMINATION ROOM. If bringing them in is unavoidable students will be asked to hand them into an invigilator whereupon they may be collected outside of the exam's office after the exam.

NB: The exams office cannot accept responsibility for these items.

Conduct

The high levels of conduct expected at Balcarras extends to behaviour during the examination period. Appropriate conduct during the exams is of upmost importance for the good of all students, any student found talking, napping, creating a disturbance or exhibiting unruly behaviour will be asked to leave the examination room and be reported to senior management.

Students will be under exam conditions from the moment they enter the exam room until the moment they leave. Students are asked to respect the exam barriers and to move quickly and quietly away when they leave the exam room – others may still be working!

The Exams team are here to ensure the examination experience is as true to the public Exams as is possible and we are here to assist in whatever way we can.

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