



29<sup>th</sup> March 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

## **YEAR 11 EXAMINATIONS and STUDY LEAVE**

Public GCSE written examinations begin on **15<sup>th</sup> May and run until 21<sup>st</sup> June**. Please note, students need to be available daily, **up to and including 28<sup>th</sup> June**, in case of contingency plans. All students can now access their exam timetable via Edulink. Please note that this does not yet account for any exams that clash. Any clashes will be resolved before paper timetables are issued after Easter.

Please check exactly which dates your child needs to be in school to ensure they do not miss an exam. There will be no opportunities for students to catch up on any examinations missed, and they will achieve 0 marks (a U grade) for any examinations they do not sit; this will significantly affect their overall average grade and undoubtedly, their post 16-progression plans.

**Students must arrive at school in time to attend ‘Laser Sharp Tips’ before every examination, 8:35am for morning exams and 12:35pm in the afternoon.** These are vital, last minute reminders, guidance and reassurance for students, delivered by subject specialists. Students must attend examinations in their school uniform, or their school PE kit if they find this more comfortable.

### **Examinations in May**

There will be **no ‘Study Leave’ or ‘Exam Leave’ for any examinations taking place in the month of May.** This is to ensure teachers have enough time to deliver essential revision and preparation activities. Students must **therefore attend normal lessons around any examinations in May.**

### **Examinations in June**

Study Leave begins for all students after the May half term, **from Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June**. Students will then only be expected on site to sit examinations. A small number of supervised study spaces will be available should students need a space to work in school. Students may also be on site if they have arranged to complete vocational work or attend extra revision sessions with their teachers. **Students cannot be on the school site unsupervised** and must sign in and out at the Hub if they are not sitting examinations. Food will be available at lunchtime from 12:10pm if required.

### **Supporting your child through examinations**

Please visit the link below to access a range of resources to support both you and your child through preparation for and completion of examinations.

<https://www.swanshurst.org/revision-support/1800.html>

Please do not hesitate to contact the year 11 pastoral team if you or your child require any additional support, advice or guidance.

### **Post-examinations**

Once formal examinations have concluded, pupils should, as well as taking a **very well-deserved rest**, look to their next steps and Post-16 progression. Some ideas are:

- research preferred level 3 course content and start some pre-reading around topic areas (<https://www.swanshurst.org/course-information3/1221.html>);
- attend their post-16 institution induction event;
- Swanshurst Sixth Form – Monday 25<sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2023. More information to follow;
- complete virtual work experience opportunities;
- log on to SpringPod and search areas of interest (students have their logons);
- forage – virtual work experience with top employers - <https://www.theforage.com/>
- BeReady – employability skills programme: <https://bereadygroup.org/ready-schools/learning-programmes-school/>
- complete a MOOC (designed to broaden areas of knowledge) - <https://www.mooc.org/courses>
- log on to Unifrog (student have their logons) and complete Study Skills models.

Yours sincerely



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