

23 April 2025



Dear Parents and Carers of Year 11 Students,

We are fast approaching the start of GCSE exams for 2025 and in a short time your child will be leaving Crestwood Community School and taking their next steps into further education, training or employment. I would like to take this opportunity to provide an important update on the upcoming GCSE Examinations.

Exam Timetable

You and your child will shortly receive a copy of their personal exam timetable. It is important that you check this with them and if there are any errors you inform the Exam Officer immediately via email - Zoe.Smart@crestwood.hants.sch.uk

Exams will commence on Wednesday 7th May 2025 and will finish on Wednesday 18th June 2025. The exam boards have set a contingency date of Wednesday 25th June, in the event of national or significant local disruption to the exams. It is vital that your child is available to attend all their exams during this period.

Exam Rules

This year, Ofqual the exams regulator have made a number of changes to the rules surrounding exams. This [link](#) takes you to a website which sets out guidance for parents and students. Students should also read the relevant JCQ guidance relating to Coursework, NEA, On Screen Tests, Written Examinations and Social Media found [here](#).

Of particular note, students must;

- Not take any mobile device or other internet capable device into the exam hall
- Not take any watch into the exam hall
- Ensure water bottles are clear with no markings or labels
- Ensure pencil cases are clear
- Ensure their calculator meets the requirements of the Joint Council for Qualifications. These requirements can be viewed [here](#).
- Ensure their pockets are empty and do not contain written material of any description.
- Arrive at the examination room at the allocated start time for the exam.
- Not leave the examination room before the scheduled finish time of the exam.

The invigilators are duty bound to report any instances of suspected malpractice to the exam board. It is the exam boards who investigate suspected malpractice and sanctions can include disqualification from all examinations.

Crestwood Community School

Shakespeare Campus, Shakespeare Road, Eastleigh, Hampshire, SO50 4FZ | Cherbourg Campus, Cherbourg Road, Eastleigh, Hampshire, SO50 5EL

Email: adminoffice@crestwood.hants.sch.uk Tel: 023 8064 1232 Web: www.crestwood.hants.sch.uk



CRESTWOOD
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Lessons during the exam period

From **Wednesday 7th May** we will be making changes to the Year 11 timetable in order that students have access to last minute revision sessions and enter the exam hall feeling as calm and prepared as possible.

7th May - 23rd May

Students expected to be in school by 8.30 at the latest and attend normal lessons.

- If a student has a morning exam, a revision session will be run by their normal class teacher between 8.15am and 9am. The teacher will then take the students to their exam which will start at 9.15am.
- If a student has an afternoon exam, a revision session will be run by their normal class teacher between 12.20pm and 12.50pm. The teacher will then take the students to their exam which will start at 1pm.
- After School revision will take place with individual subjects advertising this to their students.

2nd June - 18th June

- All lessons including tutor time will continue to run, however attendance is only compulsory for subjects where your child still has exams to be completed.
- If a student does not have a lesson for a subject (e.g. if all the exams have been completed for that subject) they may sign out through reception and study at home if we have your consent. If you wish for your child to be allowed to sign out please complete the Consent Form on Arbor before **Friday 23rd May**.
- If a student has a morning exam, a revision session will be run by their normal class teacher between 8.15am and 9am. The teacher will then take the students to their exam which will start at 9.15am.
- If a student has an afternoon exam, a revision session will be run by their normal class teacher between 12.20pm and 12.50pm. The teacher will then take the students to their exam which will start at 1pm.
- After School revision will take place with individual subjects advertising this to their students.

Absence for exams

If your child is unable to attend one of their scheduled exams you must telephone the school before start time of the exam. You must provide a valid reason for your child's absence and we may require evidence of this to provide to the exam boards. If your child is absent without a valid reason for an exam the school reserves the right to recover the cost of the entry for the missed exam. The average cost of each exam is £50 per subject.

If you have any exam specific questions please contact

Zoe.Smart@Crestwood.hants.sch.uk.

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Support

This time of year is a stressful time for students and they are likely to be feeling under pressure. You can really support your child by ensuring that they are revising and preparing for their exams. Revision materials are available through the Google Classroom and we will be running a final Year 11 Information Evening on **Thursday 24th May 2025**.

Yours sincerely

Mr S Topazio
Deputy Headteacher

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