



THE COOPERS' COMPANY AND COBORN SCHOOL

Love as Brethren

Headteacher: Ms Sue Hay, BA (Hons), PGDip, NPQH, NPQEL

St Mary's Lane, Upminster, Essex RM14 3HS

| Tel: 01708 250500 | Email: info@cooperscoborn.org.uk | Website: www.cooperscoborn.org.uk |

Wednesday 15th November 2023

Re: Mock Examinations: 15th- 31st January 2024

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s)

As we approach the upcoming mock examinations for Year 13, we would like to take a moment to share some important information to support you in the coming weeks. Year 13 have returned to school this half term with real motivation, and we look forward to seeing them excel in their mocks which take place after the Christmas holiday.

The mock exams are a crucial milestone in your son/daughter's academic journey, providing them with a valuable opportunity to gauge their progress and identify areas for improvement leading towards the final A level examinations. They provide students with an opportunity to work under exam-like conditions and test how well their revision strategies are working. For the school, it is a useful indication of how likely a student is to achieve a certain grade in the "real" exams and therefore a benchmark on whether to review a set of results in the summer.

To ensure success, it is vital that your son/daughter engages in focused revision over the coming weeks. In order to further support students, we have invested in a greater frequency and structuring of supervised study periods in the build up to mocks as this is such a crucial time; students have received a detailed assembly on the rationale for this.

In each A Level subject, students will receive clear guidance on what content will be assessed in each examination and what content is excluded. Whilst these exams aim to cover as much of the A Level specifications as possible, further additional informal assessment will take place in departments between February and May once formal teaching of the entire specification has been completed. In some subjects, this will be particularly important due to the nature of synoptic assessment. Certain papers, in some A Level subjects assess student learning in a more holistic way, requiring the entire A Level course to have been taught.

Students will be receiving their individual timetable this week and Mrs Titley, our Examinations and Data Manager will be leading an assembly later this month, where she talks through the processes involved in the mock examinations. It is obviously a difficult balancing act for us explaining the importance of these examinations, whilst not creating undue stress and anxiety for your son/daughter. We wanted to reiterate some key points:

- During this period, all Year 13 students will follow the mock examination timetable, which can be found on the school website.
- Attendance to school is compulsory and all students will be expected in school at the start of the school day. No study leave will be given during this time, as it is critical that students attend all lessons when they do not have mock examinations.
- Those students, who are timetabled to undertake the Art practical exam, please discuss arrangements directly with Mr. Withyman.
- It is important that your son/daughter reads, fully understands and strictly adheres to all exam protocol as set by JCQ (Joint Council for Qualifications) as failure to do so could lead to disqualification. This information can be found on the exams link located on the school's website.



THE COOPERS' COMPANY AND COBORN SCHOOL

Love as Brethren

Headteacher: Ms Sue Hay, BA (Hons), PGDip, NPQH, NPQEL

St Mary's Lane, Upminster, Essex RM14 3HS

| Tel: 01708 250500 | Email: info@cooperscoborn.org.uk | Website: www.cooperscoborn.org.uk |

- If your son/daughter is unable to attend any examination (for example, illness), then it is critical that you contact the school and inform the Exams Office, prior to the examination taking place
- During these times, it is essential that all students come to school fully equipped for sitting these exams since we are unable to lend essential equipment. Students are expected to arrive at least 20 minutes before the stated start time for each of their exams. Students will not be allowed to leave the exam until the full-time duration has lapsed.
- The examinations run in a very strict manner and your son/daughter is expected to adhere to all the regulations (for example, no mobile phones/electronic devices).

Your son/daughter will be provided with feedback on their performance by their subject teachers as soon as possible in lessons - they will also find out an 'overall grade' for each mock examination sat.

Please note that these grades will be communicated to you formally via Go4Schools, prior to the Year 13 Consultation Evening **which takes place on Thursday 29th February (not Thursday 15th February as previously communicated)**. Please do not wait until this formal communication; have a conversation with your son/daughter before the Consultation Evening.

If you have any questions about the upcoming mock examinations, please do not hesitate to contact one of us at the school.

Thank you for all your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely

Mr R Bell
Deputy Head

Mr Teece
Head of Year 13

Mrs Titley
Examinations and Data Manager