



ST PATRICK'S
— Roman Catholic High School —



THE ST PATRICK'S CENTRE
— of Educational Excellence —

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Dear Parents, Carers and Pupils in Year 11,

Year 11 have had a fantastic two weeks completing their second round of Pre -Public Examinations and we have been so proud of their mature attitude and hard work. These examinations enable them to feel as prepared as they possibly can ahead of the external examinations, which begin in May. We will be holding a Mock Results Day on Tuesday 29th March so that pupils can get a sense of what that day might feel like too.

As you are probably aware, this is the first year of public examinations since 2019. The Joint Council for Qualifications has made some changes to take account of the last two years:

- All subjects have had amendments made to what will be examined to reduce the content pupils need to revise. I have attached a summary of this for every subject below. Teachers will use this to support all pupils in their final preparations. There is more information available here: https://www.jcq.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/Students_FAQs_Summer_2022.pdf
- In the event of examinations being cancelled, internal assessments will be used to determine a Centre-Assessed Grade. If this is the case, there will be an additional round of internal examinations in the summer term.
- In the event of a candidate missing an examination due to COVID, it is important that you share your positive test with us so that we can submit special consideration and ensure that you get the grade you deserve.

Please be aware that some subjects will have final examinations, or coursework deadlines set, before the main examination series begins on Monday 16th May. These are outlined below:

- **French / Spanish Speaking Examination (25% of the final grade)**

Pupils will sit this examination between **02.05.22 and 09.05.22**. Their teacher will give them advanced notice of the exact day and time. Examinations will take place during the school day and will last for approximately 20 minutes in total. Pupils will have some pre -prepared model answers to be learning over the Easter period to help them be successful.

- **Health and Social Care coursework (60% of the final grade) and written examination (40% of the final grade)**

All coursework to be completed in full by Friday 6th May 2022 with the written examination taking place on Wednesday 11th May 2022.

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Advanced notice that we will be hosting an invite only parents' evening on **Thursday 7th April 2022**. If we feel that we need to speak to you about your child's progress, you will be invited to attend to meet with a member of the senior leadership team in school, so we can discuss what steps your child needs to take in order to be successful in the final run in to examinations. This will take place from 3:15pm onwards.

If you have any further questions or queries, please don't hesitate to contact your child's form tutor who will be able to support you.

Yours sincerely,
Ms G. O'Hagan
Deputy Headteacher

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Advanced information 2022

| Qualification and subject | Exam board | Advanced Information/Optionality |
|------------------------------------|------------|--|
| GCSE Religious Studies | Edexcel | The exam board has reduced the content that will be examined on two sections of each paper by 50% - these are 1.1 Catholic Beliefs, 1.3 Living the Catholic Life, 2.1 Muslim Beliefs and 2.3 Living the Muslim Life. The specific topics will be shared with pupils in class. |
| GCSE Mathematics | Edexcel | The exam board has produced a guide to focus pupils' revision time, suggesting topics to address for the three separate papers – please be aware that skills from other topic areas could also be tested within these. All pupils will be issued with a copy of this guide in class. There will also be an exam aid to use in the exams, which contains a very limited number of formulae. |
| GCSE English Language | AQA | The exam board have released advance information on which genres the pupils have to read on Paper 2 and the genre of writing that will be required on section B. In section A, Source A will be a 21 st century Autobiographical writing and Source B will be a 19 th century essay. In the writing section, pupils will be asked to write an article. |
| GCSE English Literature | AQA | The anthology poetry has been removed from the examination for Summer 2022 only. |
| GCSE Science (Triple and Combined) | OCR | A specific list for each Science exam paper has been published which identifies what is definitely going to be examined and what is definitely not going to be examined. There are some topics which do not appear on either list which may still be examined in lower mark questions. These lists will be shared with pupils in class. |
| GCSE Geography | AQA | There are no changes to Paper 1: Living with the physical environment. There is optionality on Paper 2: Challenges in the human environment. Students must answer all questions in Section A: Urban issues and then choose to answer either Section B: The changing economic world or Section C: The challenge of resource management. There are no questions on fieldwork for Paper 3. |
| GCSE History | AQA | Removal of the British Depth Study topic (Elizabethan era at St Pats), there are also no SPaG marks on the Britain: Health and the People paper. This means the total exam marks are being reduced from 168 to 124 and instead of having two 2 hour papers it will now be three 1 hour papers. |
| GCSE Art and Design | AQA | The exam board has reduced the course requirements. For GCSE Art and Design: Art, Craft and Design, Fine Art, Graphic Communication, Textile Design, 3D Design and Photography, students will complete Component 1 (Portfolio) only. This means that students will not need to start or complete Component 2 (controlled element/exam). |
| GCSE Photography | AQA | |

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| GCSE Computer Science | OCR | The exam board has reduced the content that will be examined on Paper 1 - Computer Systems. The examined topics will be: 1.1.1 Architecture of the CPU, 1.2.1 Primary Storage, 1.2.2. Secondary Storage, 1.2.3 Units, 1.2.4 Data Storage, 1.2.5 Compression, 1.3.1 Networks and topologies, 1.3.2 Wired and Wireless Networks, 1.4.2 Identifying and preventing vulnerabilities and 1.6.1 Ethical, legal, cultural and environmental impact. There is not advanced information for Paper 2. |
| GCSE Business Studies | OCR | The exam board has reduced some of the content that will be examined on both Business 1 and Business 2. The specific topics will be shared with pupils in class. |
| Cambridge Nationals in Enterprise and Marketing | OCR | Assessment will be reduced by one moderated unit. This unit will still be taught but not assessed to enable students to expand their knowledge and understanding. There will be no change to the R064 examination. |
| GCSE French | AQA | The exam board have made adjustments to the written exam in French which is worth 25% of the final grade. On the foundation paper they have cut the content that would be questioned and removed the units on Customs and Festivals in French speaking countries (Theme 1), Global Issues, Travel and Tourism (both Theme 2) and Education Post 16 (Theme 3). They have added 5 minutes to the exam time. On the Higher paper they have removed the units on Customs and Festivals in French speaking countries (Theme 1) and Travel and Tourism (Theme 3) and have also increased this paper by 5 minutes. <i>All content could still appear on the listening, reading or speaking exam.</i> |
| GCSE Spanish | AQA | The exam board have made adjustments to the written exam in Spanish which is worth 25% of the final grade. On the foundation paper they have cut the content that would be questioned and removed the unit on Education Post 16 (Theme 3). They have added 5 minutes to the exam time. On the Higher paper they have only removed the unit on Free Time Activities (Theme 1) and have also increased this paper by 5 minutes. <i>All content could still appear on the listening, reading or speaking exam.</i> |
| GCSE Drama | OCR | The exam board has made no changes to the written exam but has provided advanced information about what students should focus on for Section A: Blood Brothers. The specific topics will be shared with pupils in class. |
| BTEC Art and Design Practice | Pearson | There are no changes to the Coursework or Exam requirements. The coursework is worth 60% of the final grade and the exam 40%. The exam started at the beginning of February and will run until the end of April. Final coursework deadline is the end of May. |
| GCSE 3D Design | Eduqas | Coursework only, no exam |
| BTEC Hospitality and Catering | Eduqas | Unit 1: The Hospitality and Catering Industry Externally assessed examination 40% There are no changes to the assessment of this unit. |

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| | | Unit 2: Hospitality and Catering in Action Controlled Assessment 60% Candidates must still plan two dishes but will only be required to prepare one dish in line with the controls outlined in the brief. |
| GCSE Music | Edexcel | Performance – the exam board has reduced the number of performance pieces; students now only need to perform one solo piece lasting at least 3 minutes. Composition – the exam board has reduced the number of composition pieces; students now only need to create one piece of music (free choice) lasting at least 2 minutes. Appraising – the exam board has released exactly which set works will be on the exam. Section A: Brandenburg Concerto, Pathetique, Music for a While, Killer Queen, Star Wars Episode IV: A New Hope, Release. Section B: Music for Stage and Screen; Defying Gravity (Wicked) |
| Sports Studies | OCR | The exam board has reduced the course requirements for all students in 2021/22. Sports Studies students will now only complete the two mandatory units RO51 (1 hour written exam) & RO52 and then one optional unit. This is a reduction in 25% of the course content. |

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