

15<sup>th</sup> June 2026

Dear Parent / Carer,

## **Year 10 and 11 Assessment Update (2026–2027 Academic Year)**

We are writing to share some important updates regarding assessment in Years 10 and 11. Following a trust-wide review, we have refined our assessment approach to ensure it supports high-quality teaching, reduces unnecessary workload and maintains flexibility for schools to sequence their curriculum effectively.

These changes are designed to maximise teaching time for students. By reducing the number of large assessment windows, we can make sure students spend more time learning and being supported in class and experience fewer disruptions caused by extended exam periods.

### **Removal of November Year 11 Mock Examination Window**

We will no longer run an additional exam window in Year 11. Students will instead sit:

- **Year 10 Summer Benchmark Exams – Mock Exams (June)**
- **Year 11 Benchmark Exams – Mock Exams (January)**
- **Year 11 Summer Final Exams (May)**

This adjustment increases available teaching time and removes the disruption of an extra mock exam series.

### **Year 10 Summative Benchmark (Mock) Exams in June**

All Year 10 students will sit a set of summative benchmark examinations in June, covering all curriculum content taught up to that point.

We will:

- Go through exam papers in lessons and highlight key areas for improvement with students.

- Use the marks from the June exams, along with ongoing classwork and assessment from Year 10 to benchmark student progress and to generate **End of Course Prediction (ECP) grades** at the start of Year 11. This will be sent home along with the % mark achieved in the mock exams for each subject.

These predicted grades will be used as part of our evidence for post-16 applications.

### No Standalone GCSE Grades from Year 10 Exams

We will not issue GCSE grades based solely on the Year 10 exam series. At this stage of the course, students have typically completed only around half of the curriculum content. This means:

- They sit only a proportion of the final examination papers.
- Converting raw marks from one or two papers to meaningful grades is unreliable.

Instead, predicted grades (ECPs) will combine exam scores with broader teacher assessment, providing a more accurate picture of students' likely outcomes.

Below (on page 3) is an overview of the key dates and deadlines for Year 10 and 11 which highlights when information will be shared with home and when summative exams will be sat.

Students will **continue to undertake ongoing assessment in lessons** which will support the teacher to understand their progress and any gaps that need to be picked up.

Week Commencing	Activity
15 <sup>th</sup> June 2026	Year 10 Exams Start
From 13 <sup>th</sup> July 2026	Year 10 students will begin to see exam papers and raw marks
14 <sup>th</sup> September 2026	Y11 Reports home with Predicted Grades (ECPs) and Year 10 Mock Exam percentages
21 <sup>st</sup> September 2026	Y11 Tutor Interviews to discuss predictions and next steps
7 <sup>th</sup> December 2026	Y11 Tutor Interviews discussing progress and Exam preparation
11 <sup>th</sup> January 2027	Y11 Mock Exams Start
1 <sup>st</sup> March 2027	Y11 Reports home with Predicted Grades
8 <sup>th</sup> March 2027	Y11 Tutor Interviews to discuss predictions and next steps
10 <sup>th</sup> May 2027	Y11 External Exams Start
17 <sup>th</sup> August 2027	Y11 Exam Results Released on <b>Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> August 2027</b>

Yours sincerely,



Simon Warburton  
Principal