



9<sup>th</sup> June 2026

Dear Parents or Carers,

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

Having shared some of this with you in our May Information Evening, we are writing to clarify 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 (June)**
- **Year 11 Benchmark 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 Exams in June 2026

All Year 10 students will sit a set of summative benchmark examinations in June, covering all curriculum content taught up to that point. Please note that students **will not be able to borrow a calculator**, so please ensure your child has one as part of their school equipment. If you need to purchase one, they are available on Bromcom, or if there is an issue with purchasing one, please contact your child's house office.

We will:

- Go through exam papers in lessons and highlight key areas for improvement with students before the summer break
- Report **percentage scores** home at the end of the summer term.
- 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.

These predicted grades will be used for **post-16 applications**.

## Exam Schedule

Year 10 End of Year Assessments		
Date	9.00am	1.30pm
15th June	Photography Y block	
16th June	Art W & Z block Photography X block	
17th June	English Language ( 1 hr 45)	Maths ( 1 hr 30)
18th June	Physics ( 1 hr 45/ 1 hr 15)	Geography (1 hr 30)
19th June	English Literature ( 1 hrs 45)	History ( 1 hr 20)
22nd June	Chemistry (1 hr 45/ 1 hr 15)	Product Design ( 2 hrs) Dance ( 1 hr 30)
23rd June	Biology ( 1 hr 45/ 1 hr 15)	PE ( 1 hr 30)
24th June	Business	Maths ( 1 hr 30)
25th June	Food ( 1 hr 45)	Languages Writing (1 hr 15)
26th June	Languages Listening/Reading (1 hr 45)	History (55mins)

### 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) issued in September will combine exam scores with broader teacher assessment, providing a more accurate picture of students' likely outcomes.

### Benefits from our Trust Wide capacity

As the Trust has grown, our subject leaders and Curriculum Directors now work together more closely. This enables us to:

- Use aligned assessment information across schools.
- Strengthen trust-wide accuracy of predictions.
- Target intervention more effectively in core subjects.
- Provide students and staff with high quality revision materials to support the closing of any gaps in understanding.

### Rationales for Change

#### Improving Teaching and Learning Time

By removing an additional mock exam window:

- Students spend **more time in lessons**, resulting in deeper learning.
- Teachers gain **more capacity** to focus on high-quality planning, feedback, and intervention rather than exam administration and marking.
- Schools retain calendar flexibility for drop-down days, enrichment, and targeted intervention.



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## Reducing Workload for Students and staff

Large mock exam series require significant time for:

- Preparing exam papers
- Organising exam spaces and staffing
- Marking multiple full sets of papers

Reducing one exam window is a meaningful step towards **positively impacting workload** and prioritising what matters most: learning.

Below 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
22nd June 2026	Year 10 Exams Start
w/c 13 <sup>th</sup> July 2026	Year 10 students will see exam papers, raw marks and key areas for improvement in lessons
13th July 2026	Y10 Reports home with Percentage scores from Exams
14th September 2026	Y11 Reports home with Predicted Grades (ECPs)
21st September 2026	Y11 Tutor Interviews to discuss predictions and next steps
7th December 2026	Y11 Tutor Interviews discussing progress and Exam preparation
11th January 2027	Y11 Exams Start
1st March 2027	Y11 Reports home with Predicted Grades
8th March 2027	Y11 Tutor Interviews to discuss predictions and next steps
10th May 2027	Y11 Exams Start
17th August 2027	Y11 Exam Results Released on <b>Thursday 19th August 2027</b>

Please don't hesitate to contact us if there are any questions you'd like to discuss.

Yours sincerely



Mrs M Garrod  
Assistant Principal, Attainment and Progress

