1st February 2019

Dear Parent / Carer

The Year 11 mock exam period draws ever closer. This series of mock exams are tremendously important as they give students and staff the first true reflection of how students may perform in the summer exam series and the knock on effects of this performance in terms of post 16 destinations.

The mock exam period is officially the week commencing the 4th March and the week commencing 11th March. However, we want to give students as real experience as possible which means fitting all examinations in this 2-week period will be incredibly tight. As a result, we have moved to put a small number of examinations on in the weeks either side of the half term break (the week commencing 11th February and the week commencing the 25th February).

These examinations will be:

Monday 11th February (AM): Biology paper 1 (separate and combined sciences)

Wednesday 13th February (AM): Maths Non-calculator paper

Wednesday 13th February (PM): Chemistry paper 1 (separate and combined sciences)

Friday 15th February (AM): English Literature Paper 1

Monday 25th February (AM): English Literature Paper 2

Monday 25th February (PM): Physics paper 1 (separate and combined sciences)

This in some way mirrors the summer series, where exams do sit either side of the Spring Bank half term break, as well as offering the scenario where students may have 2 longer examinations in the same day. We feel that this will provide a true reflection of the summer experience and allow them to develop their “exam stamina”.

Further information regarding the mock examinations in March will be provided in due course, as well as a number of sessions aimed at parents and carers looking at how students can be supported during this demanding time period and how the results will be fed back to students and their parents/carers.

The easiest way to ensure that you receive any of these communications is to download the school gateway and show my homework apps, as all school communications are regularly posted via these media. They are available to download for free via the Google Play store or the app store for iOS. Providing we have an up to date email and contact number on the school system, you are certain to receive key information as soon as it is released. Please contact me on rtopley@bolsover.derbyshire.sch.uk should you have any questions regarding these apps.

If you have any further questions regarding the mock examinations, please do not hesitate to get in touch with myself at the school. We do appreciate that this can be quite an emotionally demanding time for everyone and as a school, we do endeavour to offer the necessary support and guidance for students and their parents/carers to ensure that all pupils get through it and emerge with some excellent grades that will equip them for the next stage of their lives.

Yours faithfully

R Topley (Associate Assistant Headteacher – Science)