



1st May, 2026

Year 11 Examinations: Information & Key Dates

Dear Families,

I hope this letter finds you well. I wanted to provide you with all the key information for our Year 11 pupils in order to ensure that the forthcoming weeks go as smoothly as possible for you and your child.

Firstly, I want to say how proud we are of Year 11 and the work they have done thus far. The next few weeks are crucially important and I am sure you will agree that having a well-structured revision programme in place is essential for success. In addition to this, please do encourage your child to take a sensible amount of time out from their studies, making sure they get plenty of rest and exercise is just as important as revising at this stage of Year 11.

We are here to support in any way we can and if you feel you need any additional information or support, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Below I have outlined key pieces of information and I encourage you to take the time to read this with your child.

Examinations

- GCSE written examinations start on **Thursday 7th May 2026**.
- Students have been provided with individual timetables. The full exam timetable is available [here](#).
- Unless otherwise stated, morning exams begin at **0900** and afternoon exams begin at **1300** (The Religious Studies exam June 1st will start at 1330).
- Students should arrive at least 15 minutes prior to the start of exams. They should make their way to their pastoral classes [which will be on the Main Corridor during the exam season] where they will be collected for their exam.
- If for any reason your child is delayed or absent, it is essential that the school is contacted immediately - please call reception on **0191 4990111**.
- Students have been briefed on the mechanics of how examinations will operate including the need to be in full school uniform, and fully equipped with pens, pencils, rulers etc.
- Students must be considerate of others and ensure they are well behaved at all times.




Examination Contingency

- Whilst the examination timetable is set, this year's contingency date has been organised in case a national event means dates / times of exams change.
- We are required to ensure that a date is kept available should there be any need for contingency arrangements. Contingency days are designed to be used in the event of national or significant local disruption to examinations, and all students taking exams during the summer season must be available on these days.
- I therefore remind you that pupils are required to be available up to and including:
 - 24 June (am and pm).
- Please avoid booking any holidays or other engagements which may overlap with this.

You can find out more details about arrangements for this year's examinations by visiting Ofqual's student guide:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ofqual-student-guide-to-exams-and-assessments-in-2026>

Revision During the Exam Period

- All students are expected to attend school as normal during the examination season.
- When not in exams, students will attend revision lessons or drop-down revision sessions to prepare for upcoming exams. The examination and revision timetable can be found below. This will be shared with pupils each week to include rooms and groupings as some longer dropdowns may be separated by class, with other students going to timetabled lessons for half of the block of time.
-  Yr 11 - Dropdown and Examination Timetable - Summer 2026. Pupil version.xls
Any changes to the dropdown timetable will be communicated to pupils.

Sixth Form Induction

- All students who are planning to return to Sixth Form to continue their studies are invited back into school on **Tuesday 7th July 2026** [in the Sixth Form Centre] to continue their preparations for entry into Year 12.
- The aim of this day is to bridge the gap between Year 11 and 12 study and give a greater understanding of the expectations of a Sixth Form student and allow them to make informed subject choices for this September.
- We will cover most aspects of life in the Sixth Form with presentations by current Sixth Form students. During this day there will be the opportunity to discuss course choices with subject leaders.
- All students are expected to attend this induction event if they plan to return [or are considering returning]. If a student is unable to attend, then please contact Mrs Brown via the Sixth Form email address provided at the end of this letter.



- Students are expected to attend in full school uniform.

GCSE Results

- Results will be available from the Sixth Form Centre [accessed via the rear of the school - across the metal bridge in the back car park] after **0900 on Thursday 20th August 2026**.
- Please note that results cannot be given out over the telephone or via e-mail.
- If students wish to have results posted, a 1st class, stamped addressed envelope [marked GCSE Year 11 in the top left-hand corner] needs to be given to the exams office no later than **Monday 13th July 2026**.
- If there are any exceptional circumstances where a pupil is unable to collect their results in person, and they have not provided a stamped addressed envelope in advance, please inform the school via the House emails as soon as possible.

Registration for Sixth Form Courses

- If pupils have met all of the entry requirements for their desired courses of study, they should register for the Sixth Form on results day [**Thursday 20th August 2026**]. This should be done using a Google Form that will be shared.
- If they require an appointment, Sixth Form registration will take place on **Friday 21st August 2026** in the Sixth Form Centre.
- Students will have the opportunity to discuss their options with a member of the Sixth Form team / senior staff on results day and on the registration day, where required.
- If your child is unable to attend then please contact Mrs Brown via the Sixth Form email address provided at the end of this letter.

I would like to reiterate that we are here to support you and your child. If you have any questions or require any additional support then please get in touch via the House email addresses.

St Bernadette	St Catherine Labouré	St John Fisher	St Therese	Sixth Form
STM-StBQueries@stm.bwcet.com	STM-StCLQueries@stm.bwcet.com	STM-stjfqueries@stm.bwcet.com	STM-sttqueries@stm.bwcet.com	STM-sixthformqueries@stm.bwcet.com

Thank you very much for all of your support. I would like to wish all Year 11 students the very best of luck in their final preparations and examinations.

Yours sincerely,



Mr S Tait

Assistant Head Teacher

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