



23rd April 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

RE: Year 11 Summer Examinations 2025

Please find essential information below regarding the forthcoming GCSE and Level 2 Applied external examinations. Any correspondence you might have regarding examinations should be emailed to Exams@tbcs.nor.olicatschools.org

The examination series

- The summer series for GCSE and Level 2 Applied examinations will run from **8th May until 18th June 2025**. A contingency has also been put in place in case of local or national emergencies until the **25th June**. All pupils need to be available within this window.
- During this examination window, please do not book holidays. Your child will receive an X for any missed paper(s), which may result in a U grade.
- Failure to attend exams will incur the cost of the paper entry. Entry costs for GCSE and Level 2 Applied exams range between £50 and £75 per subject.

Attendance and Equipment

- To support students in their final preparations, they are expected to attend school as normal, attending all lessons to ensure that they receive ongoing teaching, feedback and advice.
- Students need to ensure that they are on the school site by 8:30 at the latest for any morning exams, where breakfast and snacks will be available.
- It is an expectation that students will adhere to the school dress code for the entirety of the exam period when in school and in examinations.
- Students must ensure that they are fully equipped for each of their examinations with a transparent case containing a minimum of: 2 black pens, pencil, ruler, rubber, highlighter. Specific equipment for specialist subjects such as calculators, compass, protractors need to be provided by the student.
- During the exam period, all students who have afternoon examinations will have an early lunch at 12.30pm instead of the usual 1.15pm as afternoon exams will commence at 1pm.
- Following the May Half Term Holiday, we anticipate many students will be in the position of having formed good study habits and may wish to manage their own time. Our intent is to always support our students in the best way possible so from June 2nd we will be moving to a more personalised





approach. Timetabled lessons will be staffed, and registers will be taken. Those students who would prefer the chance to work with their teachers between exams will be able to do so. Those students who would rather manage their own time and engage in their revision independently can, if they have a morning exam, leave after it has been completed and if they have an afternoon exam they can arrive 20 minutes before the scheduled exam start time.

- To be clear, we will need to know exactly who is on site and who is not; so, students remaining on site must attend their timetabled lesson, in which they will be registered. All other students will need to sign out if leaving and will be marked as being on exam leave so must return home.

Celebrations

- There will be a special Mass on Friday 2nd May, celebrated by Father Brendan Killeen. This will enable the Year 11 students some time to reflect and offer the opportunity for a few moments of calm before the examinations and to feel the strength, the peace and the grace of the prayers and support around them as students at Thomas Becket Catholic School.
- A final leavers' assembly and celebration will take place on Friday 23rd May. This day marks an important milestone and proffers the chance to celebrate achievements, share and make more special memories and say important goodbyes to staff and peers alike.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Kind regards

Miss V Donovan
RSL for Year 11

