



10th February 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Examinations Summer 2022

Following information released by Ofqual on Monday I am writing to update you on the current position for the summer exam series. The DfE currently plans for *all* exams to take place in May and June of this year. To support those taking exams Ofqual have announced a number of adaptations to subject specifications to take into account the disruption students have experienced due to the coronavirus pandemic. These are as follows:

1. **Changes to Coursework** – Non-exam assessment and fieldwork requirements have been adjusted with flexibility in some subjects.
2. **Optional Content** – There will be less content or fewer topics for students to learn in some GCSEs.
3. **Grading** – Exams will be graded more generously providing a degree of “safety net” for students who may have scored at former grade borderlines.
4. **Support Materials** - Students will get formulae and equations sheets in some exams and won't have to memorise as much data.
5. **Advance Information*** – Exam boards have provided information on the focus of exams for most subjects to help student revise.

*Advanced Information

On Monday, exams boards released advanced information for most subjects at GCSE and A Level. The information released looks different for each subject because of the way subjects are structured and assessed; but are all aimed at supporting a student's revision and exam preparation.

Over the next few days subject leaders will be digesting the information for their subjects and we will be writing to you again to give you a break down of the headlines for each subject, what this means for your son and daughter and how we intend to use this information as part of a joined-up approach to GCSE and A Levels.

Year 11 and 13 March Internal Exam Period

We are fully expecting all exams to take place but the DfE are still advising schools to be prepared in case there are further disruptions to schools in the coming months. Over the past few months we have put a range of preparatory procedures in place, and as part of this there will be another exam week starting on Monday 21st March. Information regarding this will follow in due course from Mrs Webster, our exams officer.



St Edward's School

Unity - Achievement - Faith

GCSE Pod

I would also *highly recommend* GCSE Pod which is an online platform that we have purchased access to. It is open to all year 11 students, where they can access teaching and revision at home via audio and visual podcast on a range of topics for all subject areas. It is a fantastic resource which I would encourage you to look at with your son or daughter. If you have any questions regarding GCSE Pod please email Mr Henry (ihenry@st-edwards.poole.sch.uk) who will be able to offer any support.

Finally

We will do our best to provide you with accurate and succinct information in the days and weeks ahead, and will always aim to answer your queries promptly. Information via the media in general, and social media in particular, has not always been helpful or accurate; and so please can I ask you to work with us so that together we prepare your child as fully and supportively as possible in the important months ahead.

I would like to again take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and please do contact the school if you have any questions regarding this or any other matter.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Chris Barnett
Deputy Headteacher

