



# VERULAM SCHOOL

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7<sup>th</sup> November 2007

Dear Parents/Guardians,

## Year 11 Trial Examinations

We are writing to draw your attention to the Year 11 trial examinations which begin on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> November. These examinations are extremely important as they give you and your son an accurate snap shot of his current GCSE performance. The exams will also indicate areas of strength and weakness and give vital examination practice. You will find a copy of the Examination Timetable overleaf.

We would particularly like to draw your attention to the following points:

- 1) Study Leave takes place for the period of Thursday the 29<sup>th</sup> of November through to Tuesday the 11<sup>th</sup> of December inclusive. During this time, if you son does not have an exam, he will not be expected to be in school. Normal lessons will re-start on Wednesday the 12<sup>th</sup> of December.
- 2) The start times for exams (unless stated on the timetable) will be 9.00, 11.30 and 1.45. Boys should arrive at least 15 minutes prior to the start time and are required to meet on the back basketball court for registration
- 3) Pupils must take great care to be equipped for each examination, eg a calculator for maths and the correct books for English.
- 4) Revision is vital for these examinations. Your son should start by making a revision timetable now. He should write out what he needs to revise and when. It is important that breaks and other activities are built into this. Revision should also be as active as possible – re-reading notes is not fruitful! Guidance on revision can be found on the following websites: [www.gcse.com](http://www.gcse.com), [www.revisioncentre.co.uk](http://www.revisioncentre.co.uk) and [www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize)
- 5) If you have any queries regarding individual exams, please contact the Head of Faculty/ Department. If there is a planned absence during this period please could you inform Mr Toley as early as possible.

Finally, we would ask you to encourage your son as much as possible over the coming weeks. Most importantly please remind him to revise actively and thoroughly. We will also be talking to your son about revision techniques and planning in school. Our experience proves that pupils who prepare well for the trial examinations succeed in the summer!

Yours sincerely,



**M.J. Toley**  
Year 11 Learning Manager

**P.A. Ramsey**  
Deputy Headteacher

Headteacher: **D Kellaway MA**



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