St Peter's Catholic High School

A Specialist Visual Arts College

DMA/ABA

6th October 2016

Dear Parent/Carer,

Please find attached a copy of the Year 11 'Planning for your Mock Exams' PowerPoint.

I hope you and son/daughter will find this useful

Yours sincerely,

D. Makin (Mrs)
Head of Year 11

To: Mrs Makin

Student:_____ Form:_____

I/We are in receipt of the Year 11 'Planning for your Mock Exams' PowerPoint.

Signed:_____ Parent/Carer. Date:_____

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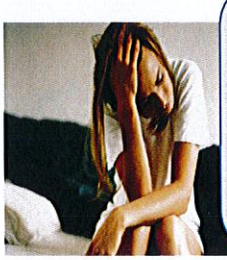
Planning for your Mock exams

START: 7th November 2016 END: 22nd November 2016

MOCK RESULTS DAY: 13th December 2016



Why should I even bother revising for Mock exams? They don't count for anything. They're a waste of time and energy. I'll start working properly after Christmas for the real exams as they matter.

Famous Quotes

- "A goal without a plan is just a wish" Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

- "By failing to prepare, you are preparing to fail" Benjamin Franklin

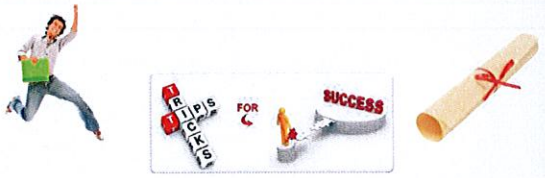
- "Give me six hours to chop down a tree and I will spend the first four sharpening the axe" Abraham Lincoln

Why your Mocks are Important

- They help familiarise you with exam procedures- the real exams do not feel as scary.
- They are an excellent trial run for the Summer.
- If you are ill in the Summer then your final grade may be largely determined by your mock exam result.
- You can experiment with different revision techniques for your mocks and then focus on the styles that work best for you for your real exams.
- The mocks will show you which topics you understand and which areas you need more help with.
- Colleges will want to know not only your predicted grades but also your current level of performance.

Organisation

- The mock exam week will be a very busy week in school for Year 11
- When you have such a busy schedule you cannot rely on last minute cramming the night before the exam- there will be too much content to cover.
- You need to carefully plan your time in the run up to the exam so as to give yourself the best chance of remembering as much information as you can for all of your subjects.



5 steps to achieve Mock success

Step 1: Other Priorities

- Before planning your time on your revision timetable, block out time when you know that you will be busy e.g. gym, band practice, visits to relatives, birthdays, parties. This is a good way to ensure that you don't get 'revisioned-out' and that you have activities to look forward to when you are not revising.
- BUT ensure you do not fill your revision timetable with 3 hours of 'other commitments' every night.

Step 2: Time Budget

- Work out your revision budget- this is a plan for making the best use of the time you have available between now and your mock exams.

1	Count up the number of days you have left between now and the start of your exams.	
2	Decide how many hours you will spend revising on an average day (2-3 hours would be good).	
3	Multiply the number of days by your average number of revision hours.	
4	Add any extra hours that you are prepared to put in during school holidays.	

Step 3: Prioritising your Revision

- Ideally you will divide your revision time equally between each subject.
- You should avoid automatically spending more time revising for subjects that you enjoy- you will probably do well in that subject if you like it!

You may need to dedicate more time to:

- *Exams you need to do especially well in (your chosen subjects for College).*
- *Subjects you find difficult.*
- *Subjects with a larger amount of topics to study.*

Step 3: Prioritising your Revision

- Work out what 70% of your revision time is.
- For our example it is 75 ¼ hours.
- Divide this time up equally by the number of subjects you need to revise for.

THIS IS HOW MUCH TIME YOU SHOULD DEDICATE TO REVISING EACH SUBJECT.

Step 3: Prioritising your Revision

You still have 30% of your revision budget left over.

For our example (107 ½ hours), this is 32 ¼ hours.

This is ADDITIONAL TIME you should add on to your average revision time for your priority subjects.

e.g. If your priority subjects are Geog, Maths and Eng Lang you should have an extra 10 hours each for these subjects to help you to achieve your targets.

e.g. 9 hours RE; 9 hours French etc.

19 hours Geog; 19 hours Maths; 19 hours Eng Lang.

Step 4: Your Timetable

- You are now ready to fill in your revision timetable.
- You should start filling in your revision timetable from the week before your exams, working progressively backwards to the week you are currently in.
- You should aim to study each subject at least every 3 to 4 days; the more you study a topic the more familiar it will become.
- MAKE SURE YOU ALLOCATE SMALL TIME PERIODS ON YOUR PLANNER TO TEST REVISION THAT YOU HAVE CARRIED OUT.

Step 5: Revision Content

- Speak to your class teacher and make sure you know which topics will feature in the mock exam. Make sure that you are spending time on each of these topics during your revision.
- It is always a good idea to *be specific* on your revision planner i.e. give yourself a smaller topic to master each time rather than just say you will spend time on 'Maths.'

How to Revise

- Each revision chunk should last no longer than an hour. At this point you should walk away from your work- make a cup of tea or watch the television for a small break. You don't want to keep revising when you have hit saturation point.

A typical revision hour should look like this:

Suggested Revision Hour

0	10	20	40	50
Drink ready. Phone away. Log out Facebook Gather notes together	Review previous learning e.g. Revision Cards / Mind Map 	Read notes Highlight / Mind Maps / Make notes 	Cover notes and ask questions / Learn	Review Ask someone else to test / Past paper