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Ysgol Rhiwabon

Pennaeth - Melanie Ferron-Evans B.A.(Joint Hons) MSc. N.P.Q.H - Headteacher

23rd October 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian

Information about the Mathematics Numeracy and the Mathematics GCSE - November 2020

Following the Welsh Government's announcement that Year 11 return to school on November 9th, I wanted to reassure you about the arrangements to continue support and guidance for your child in the final days leading up to the Mathematics examinations.

You will be well aware that your child has been entered for one of the Mathematics GCSEs. Every child has their own individual examination timetable and they know which examination they are entered for. They have been preparing for these papers since September as well as through the work completed in the previous year and during the lock down period from March. The examination timetable is published on our school website and the details are set out below:

Tuesday 3rd November
9.00 am start

Mathematics Numeracy
Foundation Tier
Intermediate Tier
Higher Tier

Non calculator
1 hour 30 mins
1 hour 45 mins
1 hour 45 mins

Thursday 5th November
9.00 am start

Mathematics Numeracy
Foundation Tier
Intermediate Tier
Higher Tier

Calculator
1 hour 30 mins
1 hour 45 mins
1 hour 45 mins

OR

Monday 9th November
9.00 am start

Mathematics Non Calculator
Intermediate

1 hour 45 mins

Wednesday 11th November
9.00 am start

Mathematics Calculator
Intermediate

1 hour 45 mins

The Government has opened secondary schools from November 2nd - 9th to Years 7, 8 and for the external Year 11 examinations. After this, on November 9th, all year groups return to school.

If your child is sitting the Numeracy examination they will be required to come into school on the **morning of the examination only** and 15 minutes before its start. **School uniform for the Numeracy Examination will not be required.** Students, however, are **not** allowed to wear any jumpers with hoods. The examinations will be held in the Upper School Gym and the School Library. All Year 11 students need to report to the school canteen at 8.45am, ready to take their seats in the examination areas. We will ensure that all desks are over 2m apart and the desks and chairs will have been sanitised before the examination. **School uniform is required from 9th November onwards.**

The Mathematics examinations will be held in the same venues and on the morning of November 9th all students need to report to the school canteen at 8.45 am ready for the 9.00 am start. Once this exam is complete normal lessons will continue.

Support in place for your child:

- Lessons will take place online during half term week and the week commencing 2nd November
- All students should download Google Classroom app on their phone so they do not miss notifications
- A Schedule will be posted on Google classrooms with all instructions on how to log on using Microsoft teams
- All past papers and mark schemes have been posted on the student's Google classroom and paper copies have been sent home.
- "Aiming for Grade Booklets" have been posted on Google Classroom and paper copies given to students.
- MathsWatch assignments will continue to be set for students in the run up to the examinations

How you can support your child at home:

- Check your child is absolutely clear about the examination entry and the dates of the examination
- As all students are restricted due to the lockdown rules in place they can focus on the Maths revision
- Ensure that they have regular breaks from their revision
- Remind them about the need to avoid mixing with their friends in person during this period to ensure that they are keeping themselves and others safe and healthy
- Check they are organised and able to access all the materials they have been given
- Ensure that they have all the Maths equipment needed on the day of the exams, especially their own calculator for the second paper.
- Contact the Maths department via their Facebook group or school via the Mailbox email if you have any questions
- Encourage the use of Maths Watch for any topics which are still unclear as the tutorials and practice questions are designed to help

The Mathematics staff have been working tirelessly to support our students in the lead up to these examinations and I know they are very pleased with the positive attitude shown by the students and the support from our families. We wish Year 11 the very best of luck and we are sure their hard work will pay off.

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely



M Ferron Evans
Headteacher

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