

28 Jan 2022

Dear Students,

Last week I emailed all students/parents and guardians with details of your practice exams and I shared with you the exam timetable which can also be found here:

[2022 Jan Practice Exams](#)

Please make sure you know where and when your exam is, and arrive in good time. The full details of your exam timetable will be on My Varndean under the exams tab. These exams are an important step in your journey with us and it is important that they are attended.

I have put together the following FAQ's related to the assessments happening next week.

Do I still need to attend my lessons? All year 1 lessons will be running as normal during the practice exam week. All BTEC and CTEC vocational classes will still run as normal. Year 2 students **will not need** to attend lessons in a subject that they have an exam in and can use the time to revise.

Where can I find details of the room I will be in for my practice exam? Room details will be on My Varndean under the exams tab. Room details for the exams will also be posted onto the exam's noticeboard located outside the main hall every morning.

What if the room details for my exam are not on My Varndean? You will likely be in a separate room - please check the exams noticeboard on the morning of your exam. Room details will be there.

What if I have a clash? This will be identified on My Varndean and you will have an exam moved from the AM or PM session. You will have to incarcerate between the exams. Full details are on My Varndean in the exams tab.

I normally get exam concessions, will I still get these? Yes, you will. All exams concessions including extra time, reader, scribe etc. will be offered to you.

Who are these practice exams aimed at? All year 2 A level students (excluding those doing Art and Design) and those students taking a GCSE this year. All year 1 students will continue to attend lessons as normal next week.

What is the purpose of these exams? The main purpose is to allow you the opportunity to practice in full exam condition in preparation for the final exams in May which the government is still fully expecting to run.

Could my performance in these exams affect my final grade? We have been asked by the Department of Education to run formal assessments throughout the year. The results of these assessments would be used to help the college determine Teacher Assessed Grades (TAG's) in the **unlikely** event that the summer exams do not take place.

Do I need to attend my vocational subject lessons? All BTEC, CTEC lessons will run as normal during the practice exam week

Increase in Study Space

We have now trialled the use of room 27 as a study space and are now pleased to announce that the room will be available to all for quiet study only. There will be Learning Coaches in the room supporting others so please be respectful of these lessons.

Increase in the capacity of the canteen

Now that Covid restrictions have been relaxed I am pleased to announce that the Mezzanine area of the canteen will be open to students once again from Monday. The canteen has been particularly busy over the last few weeks so we are pleased to be able to increase its capacity.

All Previous Letters

Please keep an eye on the updates section of our website which is where you can find all previous correspondence send to parents/guardians and students:
<https://varndean.ac.uk/updates/>

That's all from me, good luck next week to those of you with exams and have a good weekend.

Regards

James Gordon

Deputy Principal

