



FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

Determined to Achieve

ARI/MHI

May 2023

Dear Parent

RE: Year 10 Pre-Public Examinations (PPEs)

I am writing to inform you of Year 10 Pre-Public Examinations which take place the week commencing Monday 26 June. After careful consideration, it has been decided that the following subjects only will have examinations based in the Sports Hall:

- Mathematics
- Biology (Separates and Trilogy)
- Chemistry (Separates and Trilogy)
- Physics (Separates and Trilogy)
- Astronomy

The reason for this is that the Summer Term looks certain to be disjointed for several Year 10 students in terms of trips and extra-curricular activities and so it has been decided to rationalise the PPE process. It will suit subject areas to have a shorter period where students are out of lessons on study leave and subject leaders are confident they can accurately measure attainment and progress through classroom-based assessments. It is worth bearing in mind that students will gain experience in the forthcoming Religious Studies examinations and there is a full round of Pre-Public Examinations in Year 11 which is going help prepare them fully for next summer's GCSEs.

The Sports Hall based examinations will finish, therefore, on Wednesday 28 June for most students (Astronomy will take place on the afternoon of Thursday 29 June with the small number of students involved having study leave during the morning). The examinations will take place during Periods 1 and 2 for a morning session and start at the beginning of Period 4 for the afternoon session.

Students will be expected to be in school throughout this period, and when not in examinations will attend their lessons. These lessons, however, will be used for revision and will be supervised by the relevant class teacher. Students will be allowed to leave school at the end of the afternoon examinations that are due to finish mid-way through Period 5.

It is essential that students prepare thoroughly for these examinations and any classroom-based assessments, making the most of the opportunity to see how they are progressing ahead of next summer's GCSEs. We would expect the usual high standards of behaviour during this Pre-Public Examination period. Students are required to wear full school uniform for every examination and must ensure they have a full set of equipment in a transparent pencil case. Students may bring a bottle of water into the examinations, but this must be in a transparent bottle with the label removed. Please read the attached JCQ Information for Candidates fully and ensure you and your child are familiar with requirements.

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Subject specific considerations

Religious Studies

Papers 1 and 2 of the formal GCSE examination will be sat on Monday 15 May at 9:30am and Tuesday 23 May at 1:30pm.

Modern Languages

A speaking task will take place in the first week of June and each student will be given their individual day and time for this. Listening papers will take place in the normal classroom during Spanish lesson time and groups will be informed of a specific day for this by their class teacher.

Time of Examinations

Students must arrive at the examination room 15 minutes before the start of the examination. They must be punctual for their examinations and sanctions may be incurred if students arrive late. For most students, examinations will take place in the Sports Hall. An overview timetable will be issued in advance and every student in Year 10 will receive a personalised timetable with their exam location and seat number before the Pre-Public Examination period. Students will also receive information about where they should store their coats and bags etc. when the examinations are taking place.

Mobile Phones and Other Prohibited Items

Normal school rules apply regarding the use of mobile phones during the school day. When in the examination room, students must ensure that they have no mobile phones, watches of any kind, MP3 players, iPods or revision material with them. To assist with these regulations, students who bring these items to school are able to leave them securely stored with the examinations team. Please note that school cannot accept responsibility for any valuable items. Students found with the items detailed above during an examination, even if switched off, may be awarded zero marks and be expected to repeat the examination after school one evening.

Absences

Please note it is important that you contact the school office before 8:30 am on the day of the examination if your son/daughter is going to be absent.

Wellbeing

I appreciate that examinations of any kind can create increased levels of anxiety for students and our aim is to support both them and you by helping to prevent serious problems developing. If your son/daughter is feeling anxious any of the examinations they are due to sit, I would encourage them to speak with me, their form tutor or a member of the Pastoral Support Team.

Yours sincerely

Mrs A Rimmer
Year 10 Climate for Learning Leader / Business / Economics