



October 2024

Re: GCSE Mathematics Numeracy External Examinations and PPE Fortnight

Dear parent/ carer,

As you will already be aware, the second half term of the Autumn term is a busy time for our Year 11 students and below is important information regarding both the GCSE Mathematics Numeracy External Examinations and the upcoming PPE fortnight.

GCSE Mathematics Numeracy Examination (Tuesday 5th and Thursday 7th November)

The GCSE Mathematics Numeracy Examinations take place on Tuesday 5th and Thursday 7th November. Both examinations will take place in the **morning**, therefore it is crucial that students are in school and at their exam venue by 8.30am.

Students have already been emailed their examination timetable to their school email addresses. Please take note of seat numbers and students' candidate numbers, which they will need to memorise.

Teachers from the Mathematics Faculty will be available to support students prior to their examinations from 8:00am in the Upper School Canteen on both days, and breakfast will also be available for students.

On Monday 4th November, all students will have extra Maths all day and on Wednesday 6th November, students will have extra Maths during lessons 1, 4 and 5.

The extra lessons will not necessarily take place in a Maths classroom, so please remind your child that room timetables will be placed on the Maths corridors.

Please can you also take the opportunity over the half term week to ensure that your child has all the equipment needed for these papers:

- Black pen (ballpoint or ink, not gel pen or erasable pen) – this is because the papers are scanned at WJEC.
- Pencil and eraser
- Ruler
- Protractor
- Compasses
- Calculator for unit 2 – Scientific is essential for students sitting the Intermediate and Higher Tier paper
- Clear pencil case or bag might be needed to hold this equipment.



These examinations make up 100% of the assessment for the GCSE Mathematics-Numeracy so it is vital that students are fully prepared for both papers. They must sit both papers – if one paper is missed then a full resit of both papers will be needed in the summer.

Lastly, just to remind you of some excellent websites that will help to support with revision over half term:

Video links from Mr Tull:

<https://youtu.be/leQ5Ytlx0ZY> - General tips on getting started (4-5 minutes)

<https://youtu.be/6iaUrVK1wF8> - How to support child with maths (9-10 minutes)

<https://youtu.be/cATED7ZOfaY> - Online maths resources evaluated (8-9 minutes)

Revision websites:

www.mathsdiy.com – past papers, solutions and questions by topic

www.gcsepod.com – 3-5 minutes revision video ‘pods’ on all maths topics, plus questions, quizzes etc

<https://www.drfrostmaths.com/> - exam-style past paper questions, help videos

www.corbettmaths.com – help videos, exam-style practice questions, ‘5 a day’ mixed questions

GCSE Mathematics Examination (Monday 11th November and Wednesday 13th November)

A small number of students are also entered for their GCSE Mathematics examination which takes place on the dates above. Your child will be aware if they have been entered for this qualification; the best pathway for the vast majority of our Year 11 students remains as entry for this qualification in the summer.

PPE Fortnight- Fortnight Commencing Monday 20th November

As you may already be aware, the fortnight commencing Monday 18th November is Year 11’s Pre-Public Examinations (PPE) fortnight, where students will be completing mock examinations in each of their core and options subjects, with the exception of Maths due to the proximity of the external examinations to the PPE fortnight.

PPEs have a crucial role in preparing students for their upcoming GCSE examinations, ensuring students know what to expect and what is expected of them during public examinations, and allowing teaching staff to assess students’ current progress, supporting them further in the final months of their GCSE studies.

All PPEs will be taking place during lessons two and three; the rest of the school day will run as normal and students are expected on site, as always, at 8:40am at the latest, and until 3:00pm during the course of the PPE fortnight. Outside of PPE times, students will attend



their normal timetabled lessons. We would ask that you support with ensuring excellent attendance during this fortnight.

Seating plans will be available around the school and outside of venues, as well as via subject teachers, Please encourage your child to find out where they are sitting in advance of the examination, An overview of which subject PPEs are on which dates is included below.

Where some options subjects have other arrangements for PPEs, for example, practical exams, students have been made aware of this during lessons.

As is the case with the external Mathematics Numeracy examination, we would be grateful if you could support the school and your child by ensuring that all students come prepared with all equipment that they will need for the PPE examinations. Information regarding examinations and how students must prepare is available here: [Exam Information - Whitchurch High School \(whitchurchhs.wales\)](#).

Further information about supporting your child in preparation for their examinations will be available at the Year 11 Parental Engagement Evening, which will take place on Thursday 14th November.

We would like to thank you for your support over the next half term, and also to remind you that should you have any concerns regarding your child and their wellbeing during this period, you are encouraged to contact the Year 11 Progress Team to discuss.

Yours sincerely,

Ms L Sharpe

Assistant Headteacher: Assessment, Progress and Skills



PPE Overall Timetable November 2024

Week A Monday 18th November	Tuesday 19th November	Wednesday 20th November	Thursday 21st November	Friday 22nd November
RVE PPE	Option A PPE Engineering Geography History Psychology Sports and Fitness Sociology		Option B PPE Business Studies Health and Social Care Electronics History Product Design PE Philosophy and Ethics	INSET DAY

Week B Monday 25th November	Tuesday 26th November	Wednesday 27th November	Thursday 28th November	Friday 29th November
English PPE		Welsh Language PPE	Option C PPE Business Studies Engineering Geography Food and Nutrition History Media Studies PE Psychology Hospitality and Catering	Science PPE