



January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Re: Year 11 vocational exams – January/February 2021 - update

As you may be aware, following my letter on Tuesday 5 January 2021, the Department for Education made an announcement that schools were in a position to choose whether or not to proceed with vocational examinations during the January/February exam series. This was confirmed by Gavin Williamson, the Secretary of State for Education in his statement to Parliament on 6 January 2021.

As a school, we have determined that the best course of action is for the exams in January and February 2021 to go ahead for our students, as preparations were already well underway by students and their teachers for these exams. Furthermore, following Mr Williamson’s statement yesterday, it may be some weeks before schools have an idea of specifically how students will be graded this summer, therefore we feel that it is important that students proceed as normal to give themselves the best chance to doing well this year.

To clarify our procedures for each of the exam days, we have adjusted the process slightly to ensure that no student is on site longer than they need to be. As such, the arrival times for each exam have been amended in the table below

Date	Year group	AM/PM	Exam	Exam Length	Arrival Time	Approximate Departure Time
Monday 11 January 2021	11	AM	Sports Science	1hr	8:45am	10:10am
	11	AM	Sports Studies	1hr	8:45am	10:10am
	10	PM	Creative iMedia	1hr15m	12:45pm	2:25pm
Thursday 4 February 2021	11	AM	BTEC Child Development	2hr	8:45am	11:10am
Friday 5 February 2021	11	PM	BTEC Health and Social Care	2hr	12:45pm	3:10pm

On arrival to the school grounds, students should head straight to the sports/exam hall via the PE gates where they will be directed straight to their seat. Staff will be on hand to direct students also. At the end of each exam, students will be dismissed in a staggered manner and will need to leave site immediately. If you are planning to drop off or pick up your child from school, could I request that you remain with your car and arrange for your child to meet you.

Please reiterate to your child that if they are making their way to school independently they should not be doing so in groups, as per current government guidance, and that when they arrive at school they should be observing social distancing at all times. Blaby District Council also recommend the wearing of masks on the way to school, if possible.



THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

SIAMS outstanding



THE NATIONAL SOCIETY



Diocese of Leicester

As outlined in my previous letter, students are expected to attend school in full uniform and they should have all of their equipment with them on the day. There will be no access to the canteen during these exams, so students should ensure that they have eaten before they arrive at school and should make sure that they bring water with them. Water should be in a clear plastic bottle and all labels must be removed before they enter the exam hall.

I appreciate the patience of all families in this process, particularly in light of rapid, and often very late changes from the Department for Education. If there are any further changes to the exam schedule, I will write to you in due course, but if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact myself or Mrs Warner, the exams officer, at school.

Yours sincerely



Jon Barton
Vice Principal



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

SIAMS outstanding



THE NATIONAL SOCIETY



Diocese of
Leicester