

7th January 2021

Cambridge National Exams Information

Dear Parents and Carers,

This letter concerns those students who are due to sit an exam next week. This exam will either be the Year 10 Sports Studies exam, the Year 11 Sports Studies exam resit, the Year 11 Engineering exam or Year 11 iMedia exam.

Apologies for not being able to give you more notice but we have been trying to work out what is the best way forward for our students. It has been difficult to find definitive information from either the exam board (OCR), OFQUAL or the DfE. We know that we have been allowed to run the exams but we have been trying to work out if it is in the best interests of our students to do so.

We are aware that many students have put a huge amount of time into revising for these exams. At the same time, we are aware that we are in a national lockdown. After various discussions, we have decided that the exams will take place for those students who wish to take the exam and are fully prepared. Our one remaining concern is that we still have no clarification over what part the result of these exams will play in altering any grade we submit to the DfE. In other words, if a student does not do as well in the exam as they would have hoped, they could end up with a lower overall grade than what we would have decided to give them. The matter is made complex, because they are not GCSE exams, and so their grade will not be decided by a teacher assessment alone but will take into account coursework marks. There may also be the possibility that the exam board offers further opportunities to take these exams later on this term or early the summer term.

If your child chooses to take the exam, I can assure you we are prepared for this. We would expect students to arrive no earlier than 15 minutes before the exam and they should go around the school and line up outside the hall as usual. The exam is socially distanced and there will be a maximum of 50 students in a hall that can hold 113 for exams. After the exam, students should leave the site straight away, they should not re-enter the school and will not be able to use the toilet facilities post exam. Students should wear appropriate college uniform and the usual exam rules will apply concerning equipment and mobile phones.

The exam times are as follows:

Monday 11th January

8.45am arrival for 9.00am Sports Studies exam (Years 10 and 11)

12.45pm arrival for 1.00pm iMedia exam (Year 11 only)

Tuesday 12th January

12.45pm arrival for 1.00pm Engineering exam (Year 11 only)



Headteacher: Mr A Chipping

Applemore College, Roman Road, Dibden Purlieu, Southampton SO45 4RQ

023 8084 8804 www.applemore.hants.sch.uk

Please discuss this information with your child.

Then please contact us to confirm either way whether you wish your child to continue to take the exam or not. Please contact Mrs Chawdhery by email on b.chawdhery@applemore.hants.sch.uk by 12pm on Friday 8th January (tomorrow). This will give us time to check entries in preparation for the exams next week. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact the college, the class teacher or me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alan Chipping', with a horizontal line underneath.

Mr Alan Chipping
Headteacher