

Thursday 23rd October 2025

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Mock exams and their use in determining tier of entry for external examinations this summer

The following subjects have a tier of entry for their examinations (Foundation or Higher): Mathematics, Spanish, French and Science both Separate and Combined). Prior to Christmas in Year 11, these departments review the progress of every student undertaking these courses. This enables us to determine and ensure that each student is entered into a suitable tier for their external examinations at the end of the year. Our goal is to ensure that every student is set up on the most appropriate tier to achieve their full potential in these subjects.

After half term in Year 11 (week commencing 17th November), students will complete mock exams in Mathematics, French, Spanish, Biology, Chemistry, and Physics. The results of these exams will be used to help us decide the most suitable *tier of entry* for each student in Year 11 that undertakes these subjects. This decision will take into account their performance in the November mock exams, their progress in lessons, and their approach to independent learning, ensuring that each student is entered for the tier in which they are most likely to succeed. Their performance in the mock exams plays a large part in our decision regarding this.

The Year 11 mock exams for the subjects affected consist of the following:

Science:

Three past GCSE papers – one each for Biology, Chemistry, and Physics:

- Biology Paper 1: Cell Biology, Organisation, Infection and Response, Bioenergetics
- Chemistry Paper 1: Atomic Structure and the Periodic Table, Bonding, Structure and the Properties of Matter, Quantitative Chemistry, Chemical Changes, Energy Changes
- Physics Paper 1: Energy, Electricity, Particle Model of Matter, Atomic Structure

Maths:

- Paper 1: Non-calculator paper

French and Spanish:

Three mini mocks:

- 1 Writing paper, including a translation and 2 extended pieces of writing (Foundation tier: 50 words and 90 words; Higher tier: 90 words and 150 words)
- 1 Reading Paper, including a translation
- 1 listening Paper, including a transcription

Detailed revision materials and further guidance have been shared with both students and parents as part of the Year 11 revision resources to help them prepare for these papers. Please see the digital revision booklet for further information.

Once the mock exams have been marked and analysed to help inform our decision regarding tiers of entry, individual Heads of Faculty or Heads of Key Stage 4 will contact you again to confirm this decision for your child. In the meantime, if you have any questions or would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact the relevant Head of Faculty via the school's enquiries email: enquiries@kas.cambrianlt.org.





Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'K Saull' with a flourish at the end.

Miss Kirsty Saull

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