

By email- Year 11 Parents & Guardians

21<sup>st</sup> September 2026

Dear Parent/Guardian

### Year 11 Exams – Annual Plan

I am writing to you to outline Hamilton's Annual Plan for examinations for your child over the coming year and provide you with some key dates in the academic calendar.

During this coming year, your child *may* be entered for any of the following qualifications and assessments:

| Qualification                 | Possible Subjects                                  |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| Entry Level Functional Skills | English, Maths                                     |
| BTEC First Awards             | Home Cooking Skills, Sport, Applied Science, Music |
| GCSEs                         | English Language, Maths, Biology, Art              |

With successful results, each of these examinations and assessments can provide your child with valuable qualifications which will help them reach their potential in the next stage of their educational journey.

Entry into these subjects, however, will be dependent on your child attending school and attending the relevant subject lessons, demonstrating focus and ability relevant to each subject. Your child's tutor, will be having discussions with you regarding these entries over the coming weeks.

Examination/assessment periods for these subjects are during the following weeks:

| Qualification                 | Assessment Period                                 |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Entry Level Functional Skills | Spring Term 2027                                  |
| BTEC Online Assessment        | TBC – January 2027                                |
| GCSE Exams                    | 10 <sup>th</sup> May – 18 <sup>th</sup> June 2027 |



In addition to the above, which lead directly to qualifications, Hamilton School will be running two sets of Mock Exams during the year, to help your child prepare for their final GCSEs. The dates for these will be as follows:

| Mock Exam Series        | Assessment Period                                |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Mock Exams – First Set  | 23 <sup>rd</sup> – 27 <sup>h</sup> November 2026 |
| Mock Exams – Second Set | Spring Term - Date TBC                           |

It is imperative that students are encouraged to take all assessments and exams seriously, and students will be expected to follow all rules and expectations put in place for the running of examinations. **Please share the below with your child at the earliest opportunity so they understand the rules and procedures for all exams. Not following these rules can lead to disqualification.**

**The rules** in the [video](#) refer to sections of The JCQs document [JCQ Information for Candidates](#)

Nearer the time of each assessment period, you will be advised of the qualifications and subjects your child has been entered for, along with a timetable and examination specific information. You will also be provided with information regarding how you can support your child.

It is worth noting at this stage that we do consider all students for Access Arrangements: pre-examination adjustments for candidates based on evidence of need and normal way of working. Access Arrangements allow candidates with special educational needs, disabilities or temporary injuries to access the assessment without changing the demands of the assessment. Examples include readers, scribes and movement breaks. Your child's teachers and tutor will be consulted by Mr Versace, SENCo, in the coming weeks and they will also be discussed at Annual Review meetings.

If you have specific concerns or worries about any of the assessments we will be running, or feel that there is something specific we can do to support your child in achieving success in these, please do get in touch and we will do our best to support as we are able.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Debbie Crouch  
Examinations Officer

