



# Shavington Academy

'Together we enjoy, aspire, create & achieve'

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**Headteacher:** Mrs E J Casewell B.A (Hons), N.P.Q.H.

6<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

I would like to thank you all for helping your children make a positive start to their final academic year here at Shavington Academy. It has been great to see them all following a more 'normal' timetable and moving freely around the school site after the restrictions of the past 18 months.

Further to the announcements made last week by the government giving some details of how they will run the examination season in the summer of 2022, I wanted to draw all pupils and parents attention to the following summary of changes.

The extract below highlights the different approaches being implemented to support all Year 11 pupils across all subjects in preparation for their final examinations next May and June. In summary, these decisions mean that for summer 2022:

1. There will be optional topics and content in GCSE English Literature, History, Ancient History and Geography. Ofqual will require exam boards to change how they assess these subjects to reflect the expected changes to the way the subject content is assessed, as proposed in the consultation.
2. Centres will be allowed to deliver practical work in GCSE Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Combined Science. We would encourage centres to continue to make available hands-on practical activities for their students wherever possible. This does not require changes to the assessment arrangements that the exam boards have in place for each of these specifications.
3. Students taking GCSE Art and Design will be assessed on their portfolio only.
4. Exam boards will provide advance information about the focus of the content of the exams for **all** GCSE subjects (except GCSE English Literature, History, Ancient History and Geography) for the summer 2022 exams. The advance information will meet the principles set out in the consultation document.
5. The policy intention of providing advance information is that it will support students' revision. Therefore, the DfE has confirmed that advance information will be provided by 7 February 2022 at the latest. This will enable teachers to plan to adapt their teaching in the second half of the spring term if necessary. The DfE has also decided to retain the flexibility for advance information to be deployed at other points ahead of 7 February 2022 if circumstances require. At least a week's notice will be given if it is decided that advance information will be released earlier than 7 February 2022.
6. Students will be given a formulae sheet for GCSE Mathematics in summer 2022. Exam boards will provide copies of the formulae sheet for use in teaching and to ensure that students are familiar with it prior to the exams. Clean copies of the formulae sheet will be provided in the exams.
7. Students will be given a revised equation sheet for GCSE Physics and Combined Science in summer 2022, covering all the equations required in the subject content. Exam boards will provide copies of the equation sheet for use in teaching and to ensure that students are familiar with it prior to the exams. Clean copies of the equation sheet will be provided in the exams.

- Exam boards will not have to include vocabulary that's not on the vocabulary lists for assessments in GCSE MFL. Exam boards will include an extra optional question in the writing assessment to help students to focus on fewer themes in their writing. Teachers and students should prepare for Spoken Language in 2022 to be assessed in the normal way, through formal speaking tests. There will be a contingency of using the published criteria to award an endorsed grade if it's not possible for the formal tests to go ahead as planned.

I have also provided a link below to the full article posted on the Government website:

[Decisions: proposed changes to the assessment of GCSEs, AS and A levels in 2022 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/decisions-proposed-changes-to-the-assessment-of-gcse-as-and-a-levels-in-2022)

The timetable for these examinations next May and June is due to be published shortly and we will endeavour to share this with you as soon as possible.

**We are also hosting a “Year 11 Exams Excellence” evening on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2021 (originally calendared for 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov but we have moved it to enable us to monitor the return to school after half term).**

This is an opportunity for parents/carers and pupils to come along to the Academy and see presentations by our senior staff who will be providing information on how you can help to prepare pupils during this very important time.

We aim to provide practical guidance on the revision techniques that pupils should consider using across the core subjects as well as hints and tips for general revision and preparation in all of their studies. This will help pupils prepare more thoroughly for the Mock Examinations in January and provide a template for their ongoing preparations for the final exams in May and June.

A booking system will be shared in the coming weeks, so we can ensure we cater for those parents/carers and pupils attending.

As always, if you have any further queries, please do contact the Academy.

Kind Regards.



Stuart Donald  
**Deputy Headteacher**