

February 2022

Dear Parent /Carer/Student

Year 13 Pre-Public Exams – March 2022

I am writing to inform you of some very important Pre-Public Exams (PPEs) that are due to take place for Year 13 students at The Kings of Wessex Academy from 7 to 11 March 2022.

PPEs are internal exams set by subject teachers. The results do not count towards the final grading of qualifications if all exams are undertaken in the summer series. These exams use exam board assessment materials and mark-schemes and give students a very authentic experience of sitting exams, an excellent preparation for the public exams in the summer. These exams provide students and their teachers with valuable information regarding their current level of performance, their strengths and those areas which they still need to develop. Our Sixth Form students, in previous years, have told us receiving feedback from their PPEs was one of the most valuable learning experiences in Year 13. Students in Year 13 sat PPEs in November 2021. The March series will focus on the weaker areas of assessment from November 2021 PPEs and assessment not previously covered. If students spend time systematically revising and putting in their best effort, these exams will be a fantastic opportunity to build confidence and momentum towards success at the end of Year 13.

In 2021 you will be aware that teacher assessed grades (TAGs) were awarded to each A Level student based on the evidence held for the student in each subject. PPEs were included in those evidence portfolios. There are no current plans for TAGs this year but we will, of course, keep you informed in the unlikely event this is changed.

Please find overleaf a timetable indicating when exams in specific subjects will take place. Students will, in due course, be issued with an Individual Candidate Exam Timetable by their tutor, a copy of which will be emailed to their Kings email address. This will indicate exactly which papers they are sitting with details of their start times, venues and seat numbers. During the PPE week, students are not expected to attend their lessons and they should use the week as study leave.

To assist with the revision process, I have asked the relevant Subject Leaders to indicate in the table below which topics Year 13 students will need to focus on in preparing for these important exams.

Art, Photography & Textiles	Students are currently developing and planning final design ideas in sketchbook for their 15 hours of supervised time over three days (exam conditions) to create final outcomes for Component 1 in May 2022. All students have a time plan and check list of both classwork and homework tasks to follow. 13D/Art - 15 hours of supervised time (9th, 16th & 17th May) 13A/Ph - 15 hours of supervised time (11th, 12th & 13th May) 13C/Tex - 15 hours of supervised time (10th, 12th & 13th May)
BTEC Performing Arts	Students will create one scene for their Unit 3: Workshop Performance during their timetabled lessons. The scene must communicate sophisticated ideas in response to a stimulus and use a range of practitioner influenced styles.

	To prepare students should attend extra rehearsals and use exploratory techniques to devise performance material. Students should document the rehearsal process by making notes, that can later be used in their assessed milestone logs.
Biology	The exam will be two hours long. The exam will consist of a mixture of short and long answer questions and a 15 mark comprehension question. The focus for these exams are all the topics studied in Year 13: 5. Energy transfers; 6. Organisms response; 7. Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems; 8. Control of gene expression. For topics 7 and 8 only content covered so far in class before the exams will be featured.
Business Studies	Students will be sitting a two-hour paper based on a Paper 3 structure. The content will cover any topic covered in Year 12 and term one of the Year 13 course. Topic lists will be shared with students to enable them to focus their revision on particular elements of the specification. The paper has an insert which is a lengthy case study about a business. Students are allocated reading and preparation time within the 2 hour period. The structure will be longer mark questions and students will be expected to include as much application from the insert as possible, both in terms of text and data.
Chemistry	Students will need to revise all content covered throughout year 12 and 13 and will sit Paper 1 (Inorganic and Physical Chemistry) and Paper 2 (Organic and Physical Chemistry). Both Papers will be two hours.
Computer Science	There will be 2 papers for the Computer Science PPE: Paper 1 – this exam is two hours and 30 minutes. There will be a series of short questions and write/adapt/extend programs in an Electronic Answer Document. You will use the Preliminary Material, a Skeleton Program, and where appropriate, test data in the exam which has been previous supplied by your teacher. You will sit the exam on a computer. Areas covered include 4.1 Fundamentals of Programming, 4.2 Fundamentals of data structures, 4.3 Fundamentals of algorithms and 4.4 Theory of computation. Paper 2 - This exam is two hours and 30 minutes. There will be a range of short-answer and extended-answer questions taken from the following areas: 4.5 Data Representation, 4.6 Computer Systems, 4.7 Computer Organisation and Architecture, 4.8 Consequences of Uses of Computing, 4.9 Communication and Networking, 4.10 Databases, 4.11 Big Data, and 4.12 Functional Programming.
DT Product Design	The two-hour exam includes a mix of structured and extended writing questions assessing learners' knowledge and understanding of technical principles and designing and making principles, along with their ability to analyse and evaluate wider issues in design and technology. Students should revise the following topics: Manufacturing: different types of adhesives and their uses. Metal joining processes: TIG and MIG. Manufacturing processes to create manufactured boards and natural timber. Injection moulding: process, polymers used, suitability and use, benefits of injection moulding. Joining timber. Joining metals. Materials: Material Classification: timbers, polymers, metals, composites, SMART, modern. Working and physical properties of timbers, polymers and metals. The environmental impact of materials. Properties of Kevlar. Material finishes: timbers, polymers and metals. Maths: calculating mass, total amount of material needed, manufacturing costs. Standards: BSI, CE, The battery directive. Sustainability: conserving energy, materials and components: advances in battery technology, reduction in packaging, miniaturisation of electronic components, design for repair and disassembly, software updates, obsolescence.
Economics	Students need to prepare for 2 papers, 1 Micro paper (Themes 1&3) and 1 Macro paper (Themes 2 & 4). These will be based on a combination of topics from Year 12 and Year 13. Both papers are 2 hours in length. There will be a series of short answer questions, some using diagrams followed by a longer mark question from each area which will refer to extract material. Topic lists will be shared with students to enable them to focus their revision on particular elements of the specification nearer the time.
English Language	Students will sit one paper, a partial Paper 1&2 combined to make 1 paper. (2 hours 30 mins), In Paper 1 they will sit the following sections: Section A - Language under the Microscope – an analysis of one text, focusing on a) lexis and b) sentences Section C: Comparing and Contrasting Texts – A comparison of 2 texts, one written and one spoken. Comparing the ways that these texts use language. In Paper 2 they will sit the following section: Section B – Language in the media. An analysis of one multimodal media text.

	These 3 questions will be presented as one complete paper.
English Literature	Students will sit a full Paper 1. Section A of the exam asks students to write on Twelfth Night. Their class notes and their Twelfth Night wider reading booklet can be used to help prepare for this exam question. Section B requires a comparative response to Oscar Wilde's 'An Ideal Husband' and a selection of Coleridge's poetry. For this section students will have a choice of questions and therefore understanding key themes that are shared between the texts is important. They should use their orange revision booklets and the resources on firefly to prepare for this section of the exam. Students will also sit a full Paper 2 Exam. This is the Gothic paper. There are revision resources for this on Firefly and students should also use their Gothic Anthologies for revision.
Film Studies	Students will sit Paper 1 US and European Film History. They will need to know for Section A 'The Goldrush', 'Double Indemnity' and 'Do the Right Thing'; for Section B the Bunuel surrealist films and 'Metropolis'. Students must also revise narrative theory. There are resources on firefly to support revision of all of these units.
French	<p>Students should prepare for the two hours 30 minutes combined listening, reading and writing skills paper by learning topic specific vocabulary from their vocabulary lists, the memrise.com website, links under each topic area and by practising past papers via the "Revise" link on Firefly. Students can also find exam style questions in their work booklets.</p> <p>The combined skills and translation paper will include synoptic texts from the topics on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aspects of French-speaking society (current trends): The Changing Nature of the Family, The Cyber-Society, The Role of Voluntary Work • Artistic Culture in the French-speaking world: A Culture Proud of its Heritage, Contemporary Francophone Music and Cinema: The 7th Art Form • Aspects of French-speaking Society (social issues): Positive Features of a Diverse Society, Life for the Marginalised and How Criminals are Treated • Aspects of Political Life in the French Speaking World: Teenagers, the Right to Vote and Political Commitment, Demonstrations, Strikes – who holds the power? Politics and Immigration <p>For the written element (two hours) students will be required to write two essays on the film and literary text:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • La Haine • Un sac de billes <p>Students will receive a mini speaking examination based on one of four themes i.e: Aspects of French-speaking Society: Current Trends, Aspects of French-speaking Society: Current Issues, Artistic Culture in the French-speaking World, Aspects of Political Life in the French-speaking World.</p>
German	<p>Students should prepare for the two hours 30 minutes combined listening, reading and writing skills paper by learning topic specific vocabulary from their vocabulary lists, the memrise.com website, links under each topic area and by practising past papers via the "Revise" link on Firefly. Students can also find exam style questions in their topic work booklets.</p> <p>The combined skills and translation paper will include synoptic texts from the topics on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aspects of German-speaking Society: The Changing State of the Family, The Digital World, Youth Culture: Fashion & Trends, Music, Television • Artistic Culture in the German-speaking World: Festivals and Traditions, Art and Architecture, Cultural Life in Berlin, Past and Present. • Multiculturalism in German-speaking Society: Immigration, Integration and Racism. • Aspects of Political Life in the German Speaking World: Germany and the European Union, Politics and Youth, German Reunification and its Consequences <p>For the written element (two hours) students will be required to write two essays on the film and literary text:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Das Leben der Anderen. • Der Vorleser <p>Students will receive a mini speaking examination based on one of four themes ie. Aspects of German-speaking Society or Artistic Culture in the German-speaking World or Multiculturalism in German-speaking Society or Aspects of Political Life in German-speaking Society.</p>
Geography	Students will be sitting a two hour 30 minutes examination to test the three topics they have studied so far in Year 13. The three topics are: 'Population and the environment', 'Global Systems and Governance' and 'The Water and Carbon Cycles'. The exam will be worth 120 marks in total. Questions will vary in marks available from four, six, nine and up to 20 marks. Questions worth four

	<p>marks will be point marked. Levels will be used for all other questions that are six marks and over. Two levels will be used for questions worth six marks; three levels will be used for questions worth nine marks; and four levels will be used for questions worth 20 marks. Students should familiarise themselves with the level criteria, so they know how to achieve the highest marks; this is particularly important for the 20 mark questions – please use the ‘SLAPCC’ help sheet and the writing frame structure. Although no extra marks will be awarded, quality of written communication and legibility will be assessed, particularly in the level marked questions. Students should use their class notes, pages on Firefly, Topic Overviews and their CGP A Level Revision Guide to help them revise. It would also be beneficial to practise questions from the Past Paper Section on Firefly.</p>
History	<p>Students will sit one exam for History. They will sit a 2 hour and 15 minute exam on Paper 3: Rebellion and Disorder under the Tudors, 1485-1603.</p> <p>This will include three essay questions covering the whole period 1485-1603. Question 1 will be a source question, focusing on one of the studied rebellions. Question 2 will be an essay assessing one rebellion in depth, from a choice of questions. Question 3 will be an essay assessing either of the two Breadth Topics and will cover the whole period 1485-1603. Students should revise Breadth Topics 1 and 2, and Depth Topics (rebellions) 1 and 2 in preparation.</p>
Maths	<p>There will be two papers for students studying A-Level Maths:</p> <p>A two-hour Pure Maths Paper – which will cover all Year 1 Pure Maths topics, then from Year 2 Pure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Chapter 1 section 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5 on Algebraic and Partial Fractions ○ Chapter 5, section 5.1, 5.4 and 5.5 on Radians, solving Trig equations and small angle approximations ○ Chapter 6 on Trigonometric functions ○ Chapter 7 on Trigonometry (not section 7.7) ○ Chapter 9 on Differentiation section (9.1, 9.2, 9.3, 9.4, 9.5, 9.6 and 9.8) ○ Chapter 11 on Integration section (11.1, 11.2, 11.3, 11.4, 11.5, 11.6, 11.7, 11.8 and 11.9) ○ Chapter 2 on Functions and graphs ○ Chapter 3 on Sequences ○ Chapter 4 on the Binomial expansion. <p>A 100-minute applied paper. This will cover year 1 and year 2 Mechanics and year 1 statistics.</p>
Further Maths	<p>AS:</p> <p>A 100 minute paper covering Core Pure 1 A 50 minute paper on Decision Mathematics 1 (A2 content excluded) A 50 minute paper on Further Statistics 1 (A2 content excluded)</p> <p>A2:</p> <p>A two hour paper covering Core Pure 1 and Core Pure 2. A 90 minute paper covering Decision Mathematics 1 A 90 minute paper covering Further Statistics 1</p>
Music	<p>Students should use their anthology scores, notes from their exercise books and on Firefly and recordings (available on YouTube) to prepare for the exam. Revision should cover all 13 set works and wider listening.</p> <p>Section A will be short answer listening questions based on the set works and a musical dictation question (50 marks).</p> <p>Section B is two extended writing questions. One unfamiliar, based on one of the areas of study (20 marks), and one of a choice of questions based on one of the set works (30 marks).</p>
Physics	<p>Students will one paper for Physics:</p> <p>Paper 2 is a two hour exam comprising of 60 marks of short and long answer questions and 25 multiple choice questions on the following topics: Further mechanics (including circular motion and simple harmonic motion), gravitational fields, electric fields, magnetic fields, thermal physics and nuclear physics.</p>
Psychology	<p>The Psychology papers will be on all three papers; Paper 1 and Paper 3 will be 2 hours and Paper 2 will only cover Clinical Psychology and will be 1 hour in length.</p> <p>Students will have a lesson on what possible topics could be seen in each paper.</p> <p>Students will need to ensure that they have adequate notes and use these to apply to past papers which are available on firefly and have been emailed to the students directly.</p>

	Students must ensure that they have adequate knowledge of research methods as this is worth 35% of their total grade.
Religious Studies	<p>There will be three two-hour papers: Judaism, Philosophy and Ethics. Each exam paper will require students to answer two complete questions, including both part A (20 marks) and B (30 marks), making each A Level Paper 100 marks in total. Revision resources will include textbooks and class notes. Class teachers will direct students to relevant websites and online resources. It is important to note that subject material studied in Year 12 and in Year 13 can be examined.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Judaism: Theme 3 , 4 and topics studied in Theme 2. • Philosophy: Theme 1, 2 and topics studied in Theme 3. • Ethics: Theme 1, 4 and topics studied in Theme 2.
Sociology	Students will complete section B of component 3. The assessment will last 1 hour and 15 minutes. The assessment will comprise a 10 mark, 20 mark and 40 mark question on the Education topic. Revision lists, writing structures, markschemes and model answers are all available in the course handbook.

I hope you find this information useful in providing specific details on what students should be revising between now and the March PPE exams. It is essential that Year 13 students are now setting aside a significant amount of time (in the evenings, on the weekends and over the holidays) to prepare for these exams. Students will need to strike the right balance over the holidays in having time to rest and relax as well as setting aside sufficient time for revision. This will not necessarily be easy but if students put the hard work in now, use the half-term break wisely, and then come back in November ready to do their best, they can be confident about receiving encouraging PPE results.

Formal feedback on performance in these exams will be given in the Year 13 Reports which will be available online in April 2022.

Should you have any further questions regarding these exams, please do not hesitate to contact the relevant Subject Leader(s) in the first instance.

Yours sincerely



Rachel Hopwood
Deputy Headteacher

Timetable for Year 13 PPEs – March 2022

TIMETABLE FOR YEAR 13 PRE PUBLIC EXAMS – MARCH 2022

	MORNING		AFTERNOON	
MONDAY 7 MARCH	Maths – Pure (A-Level & AS)	9.00 – 11.00	Computer Science – Paper 1	12.30 – 3.00
	History – Paper 1	9.00 – 11.15	Economics - Macro	1.00 – 3.00
	English Language	9.00 – 11.30	Chemistry – Paper 1	1.00 – 3.00
	Core Maths (Year 12) – Paper 1	9.00 – 10.30	RPE – Judaism	1.00 – 3.00
			DT Product Design	1.00 – 3.00
TUESDAY 8 MARCH	Computer Science – Paper 2	9.00 – 11.30	French – Combined Skills	12.30 – 3.00
	English Literature – Paper 1	9.00 – 11.30	Sociology	1.30 – 2.45
	Psychology – Paper 1	9.00 – 11.00	Further Maths – Decision	1.30 – 3.00
			AS Further Maths - Decision	1.30 – 2.20
WEDNESDAY 9 MARCH	English Literature – Paper 2	9.00 – 11.30	Chemistry - Paper 2	1.00 – 3.00
	Further Maths – Core Pure (A-Level & AS)	9.00 – 10.30	Economics - Micro	1.00 – 3.00
	Business	9.00 – 11.00	RPE – Ethics	1.00 – 3.00
	Music	9.00 – 11.00		
	Psychology – Paper 2	11.15 – 12.15		
THURSDAY 10 MARCH	Physics – Paper 1	9.00 – 11.00	Biology	1.00 – 3.00
	Geography	9.00 – 11.30	Film Studies	1.00 – 3.00
	German – Combined Skills	9.00 – 11.30	RPE – Philosophy	1.00 – 3.00
FRIDAY 11 MARCH	Further Maths – Stats	9.00 – 10.30	Maths – Applied (A-Level & AS)	1.15 – 2.55
	AS Further Maths - Stats	9.00 – 09.50	Core Maths (Year 12) – Paper 2	1.15 – 2.45
	German – Essay	9.00 – 11.00		
	French – Essay	9.00 – 11.00		
	Psychology – Paper 3	9.00 – 11.00		