

February 2023

Dear Parent /Carer/Student

Year 13 Pre-Public Exams – March 2023

I am writing to inform you of the important Pre-Public Exams (PPEs) that are due to take place for Year 13 students at The Kings of Wessex Academy from 6 to 14 March 2023.

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 also give students and their teachers some 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 2022. The March series will focus on the weaker areas of assessment from November 2022 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.

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, 6 to 13 March inclusive, students are not expected to attend their lessons and they should use the week as study leave unless they take a vocational subject or subject not listed on PPE schedule (e.g. Art) in which case they must check with their teaching staff.

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 and 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 complete their Component 2 in May 2023. All students have a time plan and check list of both classwork and homework tasks to follow. 13B/Art - 15 hours of supervised time (2, 4 and 5 May) 13B/Ph - 15 hours of supervised time (2, 4 and 5 May) 13C/Tex - 15 hours of supervised time (3, 8 and 9 May)
BTEC Performing Arts	Students will perform five minutes of their Unit 3: Workshop Performance during their timetabled lessons. The performance 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 is 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 two 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 Years 12 and 13 and will sit Paper 1 (Inorganic and Physical Chemistry), Paper 2 (Organic and Physical Chemistry) and Paper 3. All papers will be two hours.
Computer Science	There will be one paper 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 previously 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.
Criminology	Students will complete one paper which will be one hour long. It will be a combination of the work completed to date. It is shorter than the normal Unit 4 paper as we have not covered the whole content of the course. Students will be asked a mixture of questions ranging from one mark to nine marks. Areas to be covered will include: 1.1 How laws are made, 1.2 Organisation of the CJS, 1.3 Models of Criminal Justice, 2.1 Forms of Control, 2.2 Aims of Punishment, 2.3 How forms of Punishment meet the Aims and 3.1 The models of agencies in social control.
Digital Media	The PPE will be based on Unit 6 – Social Media and Globalisation. This is a one hour 30 minutes paper which comprises short answer questions and questions requiring more extended responses. 1. Understand how online and social media products are used 2. Understand the impact of social media and globalisation on media audiences and producers 3. Understand how global industries use social media 4. Know how to plan and manage a social media campaign
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 two papers, one Micro paper (Themes one and three) and one Macro paper (Themes two and four). These will be based on a combination of topics from Year 12 and Year 13. Both papers are two 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 two papers, a complete Paper 1 and 2 (two hours 30 minutes each), 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 B: Topical Language Issues - For which revision sessions are being held on Wednesday evenings after school Section C: Comparing and Contrasting Texts – A comparison of two texts, one written and one spoken. Comparing the ways that these texts use language. In Paper 2 they will sit the following section:

	<p>Section A: Child Language Acquisition</p> <p>Section B – Language in the media. An analysis of one multimodal media text.</p> <p>Section C: Language Change</p>
English Literature	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
Film Studies	<p>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.</p> <p>Students will sit Paper 2 as well: ‘Skyfall’, ‘The Dark Knight Rises’, ‘The Act of Killing’ (and documentary history and theory), ‘Y Tu Mama Tambien’, ‘Elephant’, The Babadook’ – and revisit all of the other theory: genre, representation, spectatorship – as well as key concepts to do with technology, institution and auteurship.</p>
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 and 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

	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.
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: 'Global Systems and Governance', 'The Water and Carbon Cycles' and 'Hazards'. 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 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.
History	Students will sit one exam for History lasting two hours and 15 minutes. The exam will focus on Interpretations of Reagan from Paper 1 and Rebellion and Disorder under the Tudors, 1485-1603 from Paper 3. The paper will include two questions for Tudors and a Reagan interpretations question from the America unit. On the Tudor section Question 1 will be a source question, focusing on one of the studied rebellions. Question 2 will be an essay assessing either of the two Breadth topics and will cover the whole period 1485-1603. Question 3 will be an interpretations essay assessing Reagan. For Tudors, students should revise Breadth Topics 1 and 2, and Depth Topics 1 and 2 in preparation. For Reagan students should revise all four booklets completed in class. A revision schedule has been provided.
Maths	There will be two papers for students studying A-Level Maths: A two-hour Pure Maths Paper – which will cover all Year 1 Pure Maths topics, then from Year 2 Pure: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 1 section 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5 on Algebraic and Partial Fractions • Chapter 2 on Functions and graphs • Chapter 3 on Sequences • Chapter 4 on the Binomial expansion. • Chapter 5 on Radians • Chapter 6 on Trigonometric functions • Chapter 7 on Trigonometry and modelling • 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) A 100-minute applied paper. This will cover Year 1 and Year 2 Mechanics and Year 1 statistics.
Maths AS	A 120 minute paper covering all the pure content and a 75 minute paper covering all the statistics and mechanics content.
Further Maths	A 90 minute 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
Music	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. Section A will be short answer listening questions based on the set works and a musical dictation question (50 marks). 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). Students should also use the LSO Discovery seminar series resources (for example Clara Schumann: Piano Trio in G minor - LSO Discovery A-level Seminar 2016 - YouTube) which give detailed information on the set works alongside performances and interviews.
PE	Students will have three papers taken in two parts. Physiological factors affecting performance is Paper 1 and taken over two hours. The next exam will be Psychological factors affecting performance Paper 2

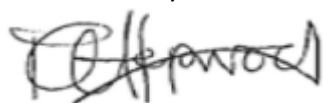
	will be one hour and taken at the same time as Socio-cultural issues in physical activity and sport Paper 3 which is also one hour. The three papers will be based on the whole course which has been taught over the past two years. Class teachers can direct to extra resources to aid in revision.
Physics	Students will complete one paper for Physics: 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. The paper will be modified to ensure only content completed is included. Guidance will be issued on this closer to the time.
Psychology	The Psychology papers will consist of two papers. The first paper will be made up of topics from Paper 1 and Paper 2 and will include Social Influence, Biopsychology, Memory and Attachment. Students will be asked a mixture of questions including multiple choice, short answers and 16 mark questions. The second paper will be one hour long and will just focus on the research methods section of the course. Students will be asked to bring a calculator to the exam. Students should prepare for any question from the specification to be included in this paper.
Religious Studies	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. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Judaism: Topics studied to date in Themes 1, 3, and 4. • Philosophy: Topics studied to date in Themes 1, 2, and 3. • Ethics: Topics studied to date in Themes 1, 2, 3, and 4.
Sociology	Students will complete a two hour 15 minutes exam. The paper will be split into two parts and they will be examined on: Section A will be on Youth and Youth Subcultures and Section B will be on Education. Students have a vast amount of resources to revise from including a Specification List, structures and model answers from course handbooks. Students are aware of the Studies to learn and past papers are on Firefly to practice.

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 February 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 2023.

If 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 PRE PUBLIC EXAMS – MARCH 2023

	MORNING		AFTERNOON	
MONDAY 6 MARCH	Economics - Macro	9.00 – 11.00	History	12.45 – 3.00
	English Language – Paper 2	9.00 – 11.30	Physics A Level	12.45 – 2.45
	English Literature – Paper 1	9.00 – 11.30	Physics AS Level	12.45 – 2.15
	German A Level – Combined Skills	9.00 – 11.30		
TUESDAY 7 MARCH	Core Maths (year 12 & 13) – Paper 1	9.00 – 10.30	French - Combined Skills	12.30 – 3.00
	Further Maths – Core Pure	9.00 – 11.00	Chemistry – Paper 1	12.45 – 2.15
	Geography	9.00 – 11.30	RE – Judaism	12.45 – 2.45
WEDNESDAY 8 MARCH	Digital Media – Paper 1	9.00 – 10.30	Computer Science	12.30 – 3.00
	DT Product Design	9.00 – 11.00	Biology	12.30 – 2.30
	Further Maths – Decision	9.00 – 10.30	Sociology	12.30 – 2.45
	Psychology – Paper 1	9.00 – 11.00		
THURSDAY 9 MARCH	Film Studies	9.00 – 11.00	Business	1.00 – 3.00
	Maths – Pure (A Level & AS)	9.00 – 11.00	English Literature – Paper 2	1.00 – 3.30
	PE – Paper 1	9.00 – 11.00	German A Level – Essay	1.00 – 3.00
	RE – Ethics	9.00 – 11.00		
FRIDAY 10 MARCH	Chemistry – Paper 2	9.00 – 11.00	French - Essay	1.00 – 3.00
	RE – Philosophy	9.00 – 11.00	Maths – Applied (A Level & AS)	1.00 – 2.40
			PE – Paper 2 + Paper 3	1.00 – 3.00
MONDAY 13 MARCH	Core Maths (year 12 & 13) – Paper 2	9.00 – 10.30	Criminology - Diploma	1.00 – 2.00
	Psychology – Paper 2	9.00 – 10.00	Chemistry – Paper 3	1.00 – 3.00
	Further Maths - Statistics	9.00 – 10.30	Film Studies – Paper 2	1.00 – 3.00
	Music	9.00 – 11.10		
TUESDAY 14 MARCH	Economics - Micro	9.00 – 11.00		
	English Language – Paper 2	9.00 – 11.30		