

April 2025

Dear Parent/Carer/Student

Year 12 Pre-Public Exams – April 2025

I am writing to inform you of some very important pre-public exams (PPEs) that are due to take place for Year 12 students at The Kings Academy from Monday 28 April to Tuesday 6 May 2025 inclusive.

PPEs are internal examinations set by subject teachers. These exams use exam board assessment materials and mark-schemes, and give students a very authentic experience of sitting examinations and excellent preparation for the public examinations in Year 13. These exams also give students and their teachers some valuable information about 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 that receiving feedback from their PPEs was one of the most valuable learning experiences. 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.

Students will be given a predicted grade for UCAS and future applications. This grade will take into account the PPE grade achieved in Year 12 but this will not be used in isolation for the prediction.

Please find overleaf a timetable which indicates when exams in specific subjects are taking place. Your son/daughter will, in due course, be issued with an Individual Candidate Exam Timetable by their Tutor. A copy will also be emailed to their Kings' email address. This will indicate exactly which papers they are sitting with details of starting times, venues and seat numbers. During the PPE week students will be on study leave unless they have lessons in VTQs (Vocational Technical Qualifications e.g. BTEC). A number of VTQ subjects have external exam units in May 2025.

To assist with the revision process, I have asked the relevant Subject Leaders to indicate in the table below which topics Year 12 students will need to focus on in preparing for these crucial examinations.

Biology	The students will sit two one hour and 30 minutes exams, both of which are on Biological Molecules, Cells, Organisms Exchange Substances with their Environment, and Genetic Information, variation and relationships between Organisms, and any relevant practical skills. Practice past papers can be found on www.physicsandmathstutor.co.uk .
Business Studies	Paper 1 (AS) content: What is Business? Managers, Leadership and Decision-Making, questions covering the four functional areas of Marketing, Operations Management, Finance and Human Resources. A more detailed topic list will be shared with students in lessons.
Chemistry	The two papers will cover all AS content taught during Year 12. Past papers are available on Firefly and at www.aqa.org.uk , with topic examination questions also available.
Computer Science	The exam will cover material taught so far, including Unit 1 Components of a Computer, Unit 2 Systems Software, Unit 3 Software Development, Unit 7 Data Structures, Unit 11 Programming Techniques and Unit 12 Algorithms.
DT Product Design	The three-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: Selecting appropriate materials based on functionality and aesthetics: SMA,

	laminates, PTFE, metal (copper) Processes: Lamination, quality build, Environmental Impact LCA, Consumer Acts legislations (trademarks and copy rights) Maths in DT: percentages, surface area
Economics	Students will be completing two separate papers, one focusing on Micro topics (theme 1) and one focusing on Macro topics (theme 2). Both papers are full AS papers and are 90 minutes in length. Topics lists will be given to guide students towards particular content needed for revision.
English Language	Students will sit a full Paper 1 exam. Question 1: Language Under the Microscope (Lexis and Sentences) Question 2: Topical Language Issue (Writing for a specific purpose and audience on a Topical Language Issue that will have been studied in class) Question 3: Comparing and contrasting texts
English Literature	Students will write one comparative essay on Oscar Wilde's An Ideal Husband and Samuel Taylor Coleridge's selected poetry. There will be a selection of thematic questions to choose from and answer. Resources are available on Firefly for this exam question, and students should also use their orange revision booklets for this unit. Students will also sit the critical appreciation section for the Gothic element. Revision resources are available for this on Firefly and students should also use their Gothic Anthologies for revision. This exam will be two hours 30 minutes.
Film Studies	Students will sit a full Paper 1 exam: US and European Film History. The following areas will be examined: Do the Right Thing, Chaplin, Double Indemnity, Surrealism and Expressionism.
French	Students will sit a full AS paper 1 (Listening, Reading and Writing) covering all the Year 12 topics: Cyber Société, Bénévolat, Musique, Septième Art, Famille and Patrimoine. They will also sit an AS paper 2 (Writing) covering translation and an essay on La Haine (film study).
Further Maths	Students will sit a Core Pure paper covering all year one Core Pure content and a Decision paper covering all the AS and A2 Decision content.
Geography	Students will sit a two and a half hour examination to assess the three topics they have studied in Year 12. The three topics are: Hazards, Coastal Systems and Processes and Changing Places. Students should use their class notes, specification overview and revision tips in their handbooks, and revision guides if purchased to help them revise everything they have studied in each topic. A more detailed overview of key notes to support revision will be sent to students via ClassCharts. It would also be beneficial to practise questions from past papers. This will help them practise the structures they have been taught to use.
History	Students will sit a one hour 30 minute exam paper covering both the units taught this year. For Paper 1: In Search of the American Dream, students should revise the first two topics studied this year: Topic 1: The changing political environment, 1917–80 and Topic 2: The quest for Civil Rights, 1917–80. For South Africa, 1948–94 students should revise all topics covered in class so far including Topic 1: The response to apartheid, c1948–59, Topic 2 Radicalisation of resistance and the consolidation of National Party power, 1960–68 and Topic 3 Redefining resistance and challenges to National Party power.
Maths	Students will sit a Pure paper covering all the year one Pure content and a Statistics paper covering all chapters, apart from chapter 4.
Music Technology	Students will sit an AS paper covering all the year one content.
Physics	The students will sit two one hour and 30 minutes exams, both of which are on Measurements and their Errors, Particles and Radiation, Waves, Mechanics and Materials, and Electricity. Paper 2 focusses more heavily on practical skills and includes 30 multiple choice questions. Practice past papers can be found on www.physicsandmathstutor.co.uk .
Psychology	Students will sit a paper which will include modules taught during Year 12 from Paper 1 and Paper 2. The exam will consist of Approaches, Research Methods, and Psychopathology.
Religious Studies	Students are to sit two assessment papers, which will require students to answer one complete question, both parts a and b (AO1 and AO2) on each of the three components. Paper 1: Judaism (AO1/A02) one hour Examining themes 1: Covenants and Torah as well as all topics covered in theme 2. Paper 2: Philosophy and Ethics (AO1/A02) two hour Philosophy: Examining theme one and two: Proofs for the existence of God and challenges for the existence of God.

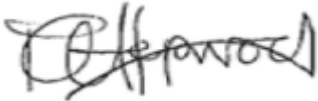
	Ethics: Examining theme one and two; Virtue Ethics, Aquinas Natural Moral Law and its application of the theory.
Sociology	Students will be sitting a full Component 1 Paper. This will cover Section A: Culture, Socialisation and Identity and Section B: Family. The full specification and a range of revision materials are in the course handbook and on Firefly.

I hope that you have found this information useful in providing specific details on the topics your son or daughter should be revising between now and the PPE exams. It is essential that Year 12 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 break wisely and then come back 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 12 Reports which will be available online in June 2025.

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 12 PRE PUBLIC EXAMS – APRIL 2025



	MORNING	Times	AFTERNOON	Times
MONDAY 28 APRIL	DT	9.00 – 12.00	Further Maths – Decision	1.00 – 2.30
	Computer Science	9.00 – 11.30	Economics – Paper 1	1.00 – 2.30
	Chemistry Paper 1	9.00 – 10.30	Sociology	1.00 – 2.30
			French - Paper 1	1.00 – 2.45
TUESDAY 29 APRIL	Film Studies	9.00 – 11.00	Physics – Paper 1	1.00 – 2.30
	Maths - Pure	9.00 – 11.00	Psychology	1.00 – 3.00
	RPE – Philosophy & Ethics	9.00 – 11.00		
WEDNESDAY 30 APRIL	Geography	9.00 – 11.30	Chemistry – Paper 2	1.00 – 2.30
	Further Maths – Core Pure	9.00 – 10.40	Criminology	1.00 – 2.30
	History	9.00 – 10.30		
THURSDAY 1 MAY	Biology Paper 1	9.00 – 10.30	Business	1.00 – 2.30
	English Literature	9.00 – 11.30	French – Paper 2	1.00 – 2.30
			Physics – Paper 2	1.00 – 2.30
FRIDAY 2 MAY	Music Tech	9.00 – 10.55	Maths – Statistics	1.00 – 1.40
	Economics – Paper 2	9.00 – 10.30	RE - Judaism	1.00 – 2.00
TUESDAY 6 MAY	Biology – Paper 2	9.00 – 10.30		
	English Language	9.00 – 11.30		

Public exams for Year 12

Exam	Date
BTEC Business - Unit 2 Developing a Marketing Campaign	Part A – Thursday 8 May PM, Part B – Friday 9 May AM
BTEC Business - Unit 3 Personal and Business Finance	Thursday 15 May PM
BTEC Law - Unit 1 Dispute Solving in Civil Law	Thursday 1 May AM
BTEC Sport - Unit 1 Anatomy and Physiology	Wednesday 14 May PM
Core Maths	Paper 1 – Wednesday 14 May AM, Paper 2 – Thursday 22 May AM
Criminology - Unit 2 Criminological Theories Paper	Thursday 15 May PM
Digital Media – Unit 1	Wednesday 14 May PM
Digital Media - Unit 6 Social Media and Globalisation	Friday 23 May AM
GCSE Maths	Paper 1 - Thursday 15 May AM, Paper 2 – Wednesday 4 June AM, Paper 3 – Wednesday 11 June AM
GCSE English Language	Paper 1 – Friday 23 May AM, Paper 2 – Friday 6 June AM