



St Damian's RC Science College

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Headteacher

Mr S Logue BA (Hons), M.Ed., NPQH

9th Feb 2022

Dear Parents / Carers,

Examinations: Release of Advance Information

I am writing to update you on the information released this week by Ofqual, the organisation which oversees examinations in relation to the publication of advance information. Advance Information gives guidance on the examination content and is a mitigation that has been put in place due to the disruption to teaching and learning caused by the current pandemic and is intended to assist pupils preparing for exams.

Advance information allows pupils to know the **focus of the content** that will be assessed. This is to help pupils plan and prioritise their revision. The nature of the different specifications mean that different approaches have been taken across different subjects and different exam boards. In some subjects, the advance information will **not** apply to *certain papers or certain parts of papers*.

The information provided by St. Damian's to pupils will be specifically relevant to specifications being delivered to St. Damian's pupils. This may be different to requirements for other exam boards being used by other schools.

There are some exceptions for some subjects:

- There is no advance information for Art & Design as the exam has been removed and pupils will focus solely on completion of the portfolio.
- For English Literature, History and Geography, adaptations have already been made by Ofqual to the content earlier in the course, therefore no advance information has been released. All material currently being taught will need to be revised for the examinations.

Pupils must note that exam papers will still include synoptic questions. Synoptic questions require pupils to draw together different areas of knowledge, skills and/or understanding from across the specification. Pupils will need to have covered all the specification content to ensure they are best placed to demonstrate what they know and can do in synoptic questions.

As advised by Ofqual, the best preparation for pupils' future progression is to cover the full content of the specification and to use advance information to help guide and prioritise their revision.

Year 11 pupils should now be well underway with implementing a revision timetable where they are doing 2-3 hours work each evening. This should include the use of 'active' revision techniques and the completion of past paper questions.

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The advance information documents for each subject can be found on the school website:
<https://www.stdamians.co.uk/exams>

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact school in the usual manner.

Yours sincerely,

M. Henshaw

Mrs M. Henshaw

Deputy Headteacher