



St Mark's Academy
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www.stmarksacademy.com
Principal: Ms Hannah Fahey

Dear Parents and Carers,

04 January 2023

Re: Summer Exam Timetable 2023

I am writing to you today to share a **provisional** timetable for the Summer 2022 Exam Series.

This exam series is planned to run from **3rd May 2023 to 28th June 2023**. This includes two contingency days, 8th June and 28th June, that are built into the timetable to account for any disruption due to unplanned events such as COVID. It is possible that any student may need to sit an exam up to 28th June 2023, so it is advised that you do not book any holidays during this time period.

[This link](#) will direct you to the exams page of the school website and this will be updated as and when we get new information from the exam boards.

The colour coding on the exam timetable document are shown below (please note that some exams are yet to have their provisional date released):

Green – iGCSE

Blue – KSQ Exams (not relevant to St Mark's)

Black – KS4

Red – KS5

As students prepare for this incredibly important set of exams, we ask that families support our young people with preparing in advance of the summer term. The school has purchased several textbooks and revision guides to support the students and interventions are in place for most subjects. Please have regular conversations at home to guide students on how to revise effectively, and use the 'top tips' on the next page of this letter to support with this.

Thank you for your continued support, as we transform the lives of the St Mark's community.

With Love, Hope and Trust,

Mrs S Bhadare

Vice Principal – Quality of Education



How to Revise – Top Tips

1. Start revising early — i.e. not the day before the exam.
2. Plan your revision using a timetable so you can fit in all your subjects - try <https://getadapt.co.uk/>
3. Don't spend too long making your notes look pretty - this is just wasting time. For diagrams, include all the details you need to learn, but don't try to produce a work of art.
4. Set up a nice, tidy study space. You'll need somewhere with good lighting, your pens close by, your phone out of sight and your TV unplugged. Try not to revise on your bed as this can make it difficult to focus or to sleep afterwards. **Remember the library is open every day until 5pm.**
5. Try a variety of different revision techniques — answering practice questions, writing down notes from memory, using revision guides, YouTube or group revision. Parents, use the revision guide to test your child.
6. Do lots of practice papers and questions. Research shows this is the most effective way to test your learning and transfer it to long term memory. You'll find it far easier to answer questions in the exam if you've tried similar ones at home beforehand. Have a look at your exam board's website for a selection of sample papers and mark schemes.
7. Keep your phone and other distractions away. Phones are great, but they're a one-stop shop for procrastination. Stick it in a drawer while you're revising and don't spend hours on it before you go to bed.
8. Don't just read your notes. You have to write stuff down, practice it and then practice it again. Parents – quiz the students on key terminology.
9. Sleep and eat properly. Sleep is incredibly important — it helps your brain store all the information you've learned throughout the day. Drinking plenty of water and eating healthy foods will also boost your concentration throughout the day.
10. On exam day (or mock exam day), make sure you arrive in plenty of time, nothing adds extra pressure to exam day like the fear of being late. Just make sure you set off at a little earlier than usual.