

June 2024



UXBRIDGE
HIGH SCHOOL

Dear parent/carer

Year 10 Pre-Public Exams (PPE) – Monday 17th June to Friday 28th June 2024

We hope you and your family have enjoyed the half-term break. We are writing to inform you of your child's final Pre-Public Examinations (PPEs), starting on Monday, 17th June.

School will continue to run as normal during the exam period, with full attendance required every day. Students will attend lessons when they do not have an exam and if there are any days when students don't have an exam, they **must** attend lessons as normal. Afternoon exams will start at 1.40pm and the exam timetable shows how long the exams last for. Please note that on some days students will leave school after 3pm, depending on the length of their afternoon exam. Students who do not have an exam in the afternoon will attend lessons as normal and finish at the usual time.

On Friday 21st June, there will be special arrangements where students sitting exams in Engineering, Design and Technology (DT), Health and Social Care and Psychology are required to arrive at the normal school start time of 8.20 am. If students do not have an exam during this time, they need to arrive at the later time of 10.40am for the science exam at 11am. Following the completion of this exam, all Year 10 students will be dismissed from school at approximately 1pm. **This arrangement is only for this particular day.**

These exams provide an opportunity to work on exam preparation and technique in preparation for external exams in Year 11. Students will have been set specific learning or practice questions in some subjects, and this should form part of their revision time.

You can support your child at home by ensuring that they have a quiet place to study and only have access to the device that they need for working. Students should also have access to index cards, flashcards or post-it notes, as summarising the most important information and terminology and referring to it regularly significantly aids retention and understanding. Some students like to place post-it notes on certain parts of the house (such as on the fridge, on their bedroom wall or on the back of the bathroom door). If this is the case in your home, we would definitely encourage it!

In addition, here is a list of key websites to support your child as they prepare for their exams:

- BBC Bitesize: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>
- Revision World (All past papers): <https://revisionworld.com/>
- Quizlet (make your own flashcards): <https://quizlet.com/en-gb>
- Seneca (an excellent online revision tool which assesses students as they answer questions and redirects their learning): <https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/>

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I would advise everyone to remember these FIVE key points when preparing for exams:

1. Revise in small manageable chunks to avoid cognitive overload. If revising for a two-hour period, spending half an hour on four different subjects is much more effective than sticking to the same subject for two hours.
2. Do not just read your notes and highlight – it won't work!
3. Retrieval practice is key – practice, test yourself and ask someone to test you!
4. Dig deeper – aim to seek a full understanding of the areas you are less sure of. If you can answer the “how?” and “why?” questions, you will have a much better understanding!
5. Ask for help – you may well need this to help with the point above. Who are you going to ask? Whatever you do, ask someone!

If you would like any further information, please do not hesitate to contact us at the school via email to parents@uhs.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

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