



Smithdon High School
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Ref: SCh/LT

14 January 2026

Dear Parents

Re: Year 11 Booster Sessions/Pre-Public Exams

Please find attached our updated Year 11 booster session timetable. I would like to thank you for your support in encouraging your child to attend these sessions - we have been really pleased by how many students attended them last term.

Students will start their second set of PPEs (Pre-Public Exams) during the week commencing Monday 26 January. They will receive a timetable with their seating arrangements on in the coming days.

As you are aware from my previous letters, it is against exam board regulations to take watches of any kind or electronic devices, such as phones, into the examination room. The probable outcome of a breach of these rules is the loss of the mark for that examination paper. Students are reminded of these expectations at every exam but every year we have had at least one student who has forgotten and their phone has fallen out of their pocket leading to failing that exam paper.

To prevent this type of situation occurring again and to help reinforce this rule, we will be trialling the use of electronic security wands at the forthcoming PPEs. The invigilation teams will walk up and down the pre-examination lines with the wands prior to the start of an exam, thus identifying any phones or watches before a student enters the exam room and enabling them to store items securely without forfeiting the exam paper.

If you have any questions about the examination season, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Mr S Chapman
Assistant Headteacher

