



Dronfield Henry Fanshawe School

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Success with Care

Headteacher: Mr M. J. Cooper

Ref: SGI

November 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

Y11 GCSE Trial Examinations 2026

As we approach the time of year when trial examinations are undertaken, I would like to take this opportunity to wish your child well in their forthcoming trial examinations. Trial examinations represent an opportunity for students to practice answering questions on topics studied in Y10 and Y11 under strict examination conditions. There is a very strong correlation between students who take the trial examinations seriously and those who perform well in the summer.

The examination dates for this year's Y11 GCSE Trial Examinations are as follows:

Photography Examinations – Thursday 4th December to Friday 5th December 2025

Art Examinations – Monday 8th December to Thursday 11th December 2025

Written Examinations - Monday 12th January to Friday 30th January 2026

Your child will receive a personalised examination timetable together with an information booklet which has useful information, please ensure that they read this. Information will also be available on the school website.

All students must wear full uniform and attend normal lessons throughout the whole trial examination period, except to attend their examinations. Students must return to timetabled lessons after their morning examinations but will be allowed to leave site after their afternoon examinations. Students must leave via the gates at the side of the sports hall. This will be monitored by Examinations Officer and the House Teams.

It is expected that examinations and formal assessments will go ahead as planned in summer 2026. Students should be aware that any assessment evidence collected and retained from these trial examinations could be used to determine grades in the unlikely situation that examinations and formal assessment could not go ahead.

May I take this opportunity to remind all parents and students that mobile phones, MP3/4 players, iPods, AirPods, earbuds/earphones and watches of any kind are strictly forbidden in any examination room and, therefore, should either be left at home or switched off and placed in



their bag on examination days. Contravention of these rules could result in disqualification. Please also note that the school does not accept responsibility for any such items brought on site at any time.

So as not to be disruptive to other students, the expectation is that all students should visit the toilet before their examination. Toilet breaks will not be allowed unless your child has a medical reason or toilet pass.

Some afternoon examinations may run over the 3.30pm finish. Students should be aware that the school policy states that **ALL** students must stay until the end of the examination. Alternative travel arrangements need to be made where this occurs.

Many students experience stress at this time with the extra work of revision. The school website has links to sources of help for students with revision and examination techniques [Dronfield Henry Fanshawe School – Examination Information \(dhfs.uk\)](http://www.dhfs.uk/examination-information)

Please do not hesitate to contact the examinations office should you have any queries.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Gill'.

Mrs S Gill
Examinations Officer
sgill@dhfs.uk