

15th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

RE: Year 11 Access Arrangements Assessments

As we begin preparations for GCSE examinations, some Year 11 students will be invited to complete **Access Arrangements assessments**.

Access Arrangements are intended to support students who may have additional learning needs or difficulties, helping to ensure they can access examinations fairly and demonstrate their abilities without disadvantage.

Students selected for assessment will meet with a member of our SEND/Access Arrangements team and may complete activities that assess areas such as **reading, writing, processing speed and working memory**.

Following the assessment, the results will be considered alongside evidence of the student's normal way of working in lessons and assessments. Where appropriate, applications for Access Arrangements will be made in line with examination regulations.

Possible arrangements may include:

- Extra time
- Use of a reader
- Use of a computer/laptop
- A smaller or separate exam room
- A scribe
- Supervised rest breaks

Please note that **an assessment does not automatically result in an Access Arrangement being granted**. Any arrangement must meet the relevant examination criteria and be supported by appropriate evidence.

We would like to reassure students that there is nothing to worry about. The purpose of the assessment is simply to help us understand how they work best and to ensure that any appropriate support is in place well before their GCSE examinations.

What happens next?

Students selected for assessment will receive further information about the date and time of their assessment. We ask that they attend promptly and take the process seriously, as the outcomes may help determine the support available to them in exams.

If you have any relevant information about your child's learning needs, previous assessments or existing support, please contact the school so this can be taken into consideration.

Our priority is to ensure that every Year 11 student has the opportunity to reach their full potential in their GCSE examinations.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours Faithfully,
Ms Rochelle Burton

Head of Year 11

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