



OUR REF : .....

TRN : 104153998000003

Tuesday, 05 May 2026

**UPDATED 08 MAY 2026**

## **To: Parents of students in Years 1-10 and 12 FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

Dear Parents,

Greetings from St. Mary's. Firstly, we would like to extend our sincere gratitude for your patience and support regarding the impact of the current situation on the students' examinations. We also understand that like us, you too are completely focused on your child's safety as a top priority, and we are certain that these decisions are solely made keeping their safety as the singular focal point.

We have tried to put together a set of questions as guidance for the next few days.

### **1) Why have some examinations been rescheduled but some continuing online?**

We have looked at the accessibility for children with regard to some subjects, particularly younger children who might need additional assistance with scanning and uploading scanned answer scripts to Google Classroom.

### **2) If the government also stipulates next week as remote operations, will exams continue online?**

Yes, we are fully committed to supporting children who have been preparing for these exams, and we do not want to disrupt the schedule as far as will be possible.

### **3) What is the most vital thing I have to teach my child with regard to online examinations?**

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY** would be the singular value to begin with while preparing a child / student to take examinations online. Please read our school's Academic Integrity document with your child and stress this as a key value for life-long preservation.

### **4) Why does my child need to have two devices while doing an online examination?**

The great emphasis on Academic Integrity also means that as a school we have to ensure that students are maintaining a high level of Academic integrity and the only way we can ensure that is with a **FULL** view and coverage of the candidate and their workspace/ answer script etc.

**We absolutely understand that this might not be possible. Please understand that the only reason we had required this was to maintain the integrity of the exams. However, as long as you can position the webcam to give us the maximum view of the student and their writing space, this will be fair to ensuring the authenticity of the process.**

### **5) I have more than one child, how will I manage this?**

We are doing our best to have staggered windows / time frames for different cohorts to support this requirement as well as to enable older siblings to assist younger siblings with the technology before the start of an exam.

### **6) What happens if the camera / webcam is not working?**

We will not be able to consider that exam as justifiable and we will use the first term exam attainment to work out a weighted average. This is why we strongly recommend ensuring that ALL devices and functions are working before commencement of examinations.

### **7) What other materials must my child have besides the digital devices?**

Students must have ample supply of **A4 SIZED RULED REFILL PAD PAPER**, black ball point pens, pencils, geometry equipment, calculators (only where allowed), pencil erasers.

### **8) What are the types of assessments that will be used?**

We will be using Google Forms for some subjects for primary. All other assessments will be in written form.

### **9) Can my child login to a live session using my email ID?**

This will not be possible because we used a domain-based Zoom platform and only SMG users are permitted. Children must join with their school email ID only.

### **10) If the current restrictions are lifted, will final examinations continue on-site?**

Yes, we will continue exams on-site if we are officially permitted to return to in-person learning. **We will also conduct examinations online for those opting for a hybrid mode. However, children coming on-site will be required to carry a fully charged device.**

### **11) What if I still want to keep my child at home and continue online?**

The online option will continue for those children whose parents choose to keep them on remote learning.

### **12) Will the Contingency Amendment to the Predicted Grade policy be in place for Year 12 students?**

If all students are online due to government stipulations, we will review this. However, if students are permitted to return to in-person exams, the Contingency Amendment will stay in place.

### **13) What technological processes might I need to teach younger children or a relative or carer at home?**

It would be extremely essential to teach them how to use a **CAM SCANNER** to scan their answer scripts and save it as one single PDF file. Older siblings can teach this to younger siblings.

### **14) What if there is an alert during an examination?**

Our teachers will pause the examination and allow children to pause for calm and once a safe signal has been received, they will continue with the exam.

### **15) How do I ensure Academic Integrity as a parent?**

It is important that we ourselves as adults constantly model integrity for our children. Children are constantly watching us, and they pick up on these cues. Talk to them about

the importance of being honest even when nobody is watching. Additionally, if you are working from home or there is another adult carer in the house, have them supervise the child for the duration of the exam.

### **16) Does my child still need to do the Science Project?**

This is a booster for their assessment portfolio. In case you are travelling for the Eid holidays, do try and submit it latest by the 8<sup>th</sup> of June.

### **17) Will my child be given extra time to complete the paper?**

Examinations have been modified to the current situation and children will have enough time to complete these. The time for scanning will be after the exam has been completed.

### **18) What if the Wi-Fi glitches?**

We also understand that despite our best efforts, the Internet / Wi-Fi can often let us down. We would like to reassure both parents and students that our teachers have been given sufficient guidance to re-admit students and carry on with the exam. However, in the event of a complete loss of connectivity beyond a reasonable time frame, we will reschedule the exam for that child to another day.

### **19) Will my child be able to use the washroom during an exam?**

As far as possible, children will be reminded to use the washroom before the start of an exam, in very urgent cases, the invigilator will use their professional judgement to allot a time frame for this. It would be helpful for parents to remind children to use the washroom before an exam.

### **20) Can my child eat and drink water during an examination?**

Examinations have to be treated with the same respect and authenticity as on-site examinations. Children may not eat during an exam. They may drink water that is readily accessible and visible in their workspace.

### **21) Will the teacher be able to help if my child cannot read a particular question?**

All examinations are accessible for students. Invigilators are not allowed to provide any additional help except for clarification.

