



12 May 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

RE: Year 11 Exam Preparation Programme 2023

We would like to take the opportunity to write to you to share some key information regarding the arrangements that have been put in place to support our Year 11s as they head into the official exam period, which starts on Monday 15 May 2023.

Firstly, we would like to acknowledge the hard work that our students have been putting in over the past few weeks to prepare themselves for their final exams. In addition, I would like to thank the teachers, tutors and support staff who have continued to offer their support and expertise by providing numerous opportunities for students to access learning beyond their lessons.

Year 11 Exam Preparation Programme

Whilst the first exam starts on Monday, every opportunity is being taken to continue to support students in order to help them achieve the best possible outcomes. There are two main exam sessions per day; the first with an 8.45am start and the second with a 1.30pm start. Students will generally have 1 or 2 exams per day.

Public examinations commence on **Monday 15 May 2023** and will continue throughout May and into June. Your child has received their individual timetable and the full examination timetable.

All Year 11 students are expected to be in school full-time up to Friday 9 June, as part of the exam preparation programme. When they are not in exams, they should be in normal timetabled lessons. This will allow students to continue to access high quality-first teaching with subject specialists, and to receive the support they deserve.

From **Monday 12 June**, students have the option to continue to prepare for their exams from home, if they have finished their exams for that day. Where a student has an exam, the expectation is that they remain in school. Parents/Carers are expected to complete a consent form (**use this link <https://forms.office.com/e/K0fM6yum5y>**) to inform the school that they are agreeing to allow their child to leave school.

Once students have left school site, they will not be able to return that day. Where parents/carers have not given consent, students will remain on site, where they will be supported by staff in continuing to revise for exams.

From **Monday 19 June**, students will have the opportunity to attend school just for their exams and any exam preparation sessions that are being provided.

We are all aware that the students will often find this period difficult. However, we are very proud of every individual within the Year 11 cohort and believe that with the right preparation and support throughout this exam period, they can and will go onto achieve amazing things!

As a school, we are committed to ensuring we offer as much support to our students as possible. As part of this, we will be providing breakfast for our Year 11 students for every morning exam; this will be available from The Galley, starting from 7:45am. Furthermore, we will be running subject specific warm-up sessions, lunchtime and after school revision sessions throughout the exam



period. We ask for your support in encouraging your child to maintain a high attendance at these sessions throughout the exam preparation programme.

Please note that the exam board are required to add contingency days at the end of the exam period, in case any of the examinations are rescheduled during the examination season. Your child must therefore be available to sit exams until Wednesday 28 June

GCSE results day will be held on **Thursday 24 August 2023**. Further details will follow.

Behaviour and Attitudes Expectations

We wish to take the opportunity to ensure that we clearly communicate our expectations of the Year 11 students during the exam period. Our school behaviour and relationships policy remain applicable to all Year 11 students throughout this period and where there are incidents of minor or serious misbehaviour, we will apply our policies. We expect students to take individual responsibility with adhering to the following expectations:

1. Attend school in the correct uniform and attend all lessons and preparation sessions, arriving on time in order to maximise the support, revision and exam preparation.
2. Attend ALL examinations and arrive with plenty of time. Follow the exam entry protocols and ensure that there is no malpractice.
3. On completion of exams, be respectful of the learning of others by returning to lessons in a timely manner. Staff will support in directing students; in return, students need to follow staff instructions.
4. Engage positively with staff. They are there to support and help.
5. During unstructured times (start of the day, breaks and end of the day) students are to act and behave in a responsible manner, ensuring they are positively contributing the school community.

Where students fall short of meeting our school expectations, it will raise concerns regarding the level of trust by the student and their willingness to take responsibility for their choices. Therefore, we would consider removing the opportunity and the privilege to be part of any of the Year 11 celebration events that are taking place towards the end of June.

Finally, we would like to thank you as parents/carers. This is also a time where we are not always sure how to best support our children. Our advice is to keep encouraging them to give their very best, encouraging them to access the opportunities that have been put in place and reminding them how much we all believe in them - we are proud of them!

We look forward to celebrating the successes of our Year 11 students in August during GCSE results day.

In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact the school.

Kind regards



Mr A Yendell
Headteacher



Mr S Wookey
Head of Year 11

