

PARENT EVENT

**'Supporting your Year 11 Child
throughout the Exam Season'**



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“At the end of the day, the most overwhelming key to a child’s success is the positive involvement of parents.”

(Jane D. Hull)



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Key dates

- Thursday 01 February 2024 - Year 11 Virtual Parents' Evening, 4:15-7:00 pm
- Monday 26 February 2024 – Tuesday 12 March 2024 - Mock exams
- Wednesday 17 April 2024 - Assessment Point 3 (AP3) progress reports to parents.
- Thursday 9 May 2024 – Wednesday 26 June 2024 – GCSE exam season
- Thursday 22 August 2024 – GCSE Results Day



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Equipment



We recommend your child packs their bag the night before, so they are fully prepared for learning.

- Stationery
- Exercise books
- Texts e.g. Macbeth
- Organiser

Exam equipment – calculator, correct stationery e.g. ruler, pencil, protractor, compass.



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Exam malpractice

Being in possession of a mobile phone, ipod, MP3/4 player, watch or any device with data storage/digital facilities is considered malpractice.

If they are found to be in possession of an unauthorised item during an exam, even if they have not looked at it or used it, the Exams Officer will have to report this to the Exam Board, and they may be disqualified from their exams.



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Maximising Achievement Programme

During the exam season, students follow a carefully designed programme that targets curriculum content in which they are less secure.

Evidence shows this results in higher academic outcomes than staying at home to revise independently.



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<u>Maximising achievement sessions</u> (if you are not involved in the revision session or exam you should attend lessons as normal or unless told otherwise)				Exam (please check your exam timetable)
Y or G week	Time	Subject		
Monday 15 th May	8.00-8.40 Period 3	Engineering revision in Best Bite Compulsory Drama revision session in Best Bite	Drama students must register with period 3 teacher before going to Best Bite.	AM: ENGINEERING (Design specs) PM: DRAMA
Monday 15 th May	3.15-4.15	BIOLOGY revision session: food provided in Best Bite		
Tuesday 16 th May	8.00-8.40 Period 3	Biology revision in Best Bite Compulsory German and Media revision session in Best Bite	German and Media students must register with period 3 teacher before going to Best Bite.	AM: BIOLOGY paper 1 (triple/dual) PM: GERMAN (Listening/Reading) MEDIA
Tuesday 16 th May	3.15-4.15	ENGLISH LITERATURE revision session: food provided in Best Bite		
Wednesday 17 th May	8.00-8.40	English Literature revision in Best Bite		AM: ENGLISH LITERATURE Paper 1



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Attendance

- Students who attend school regularly have been shown to achieve at higher levels than students who do not have regular attendance.
- 90% of pupils with attendance rates lower than 85% fail to achieve five or more good GCSE grades and around a third achieve no GCSEs at all.



Attendance during one school year	Equals days of absence	Which is approximately weeks absent	Which means this number of lessons missed	Absence over 5 years
95%	9 days	2 weeks	50 lessons	$\frac{1}{4}$ year
90%	19 days	4 weeks	100 lessons	$\frac{1}{2}$ year
80%	38 days	8 weeks	200 lessons	1 year
70%	59 days	12 weeks	300 lessons	1 $\frac{1}{5}$ years
60%	80 days	16 weeks	400 lessons	2 years
50%	100 days	20 weeks	500 lessons	2 $\frac{1}{5}$ years



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Punctuality

- 8 for late
- Starter – retrieval activity; work from Y10 e.g MFL 10 minutes on practising answers for the speaking exam



Entrance Requirements



Encourage your child to stay focused on the entrance requirements for their next steps *e.g. to study A Levels at Sixth Form = 5 Grade 9-4s plus specific grade requirements for each subject.*

If your child does not pass English and Maths, they will be required to resit, whatever their plans next year.



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Frequently Asked Questions



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What additional revision sessions are on offer?

- Currently, period 6 sessions are by invite only for a period of three weeks.
- English Mastery Lectures – Tuesdays Sixth Form area.

As we move closer to the exam season, more optional sessions, as well as holiday and Saturday sessions, become available.



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Why has my child not been invited to period 6?

- Period 6 is a last resort.
- Not all pupils need a period 6.
- Period 6 sessions focus on very specific elements of the exam.
- If your child is not working hard enough in lessons, they will not be invited to period 6.



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What should revision look like?

- Regular 15-20 minute sessions, targeting specific gaps in knowledge or underperformance, and revisiting what they know to ensure retention.
- Implementing a variety of revision strategies e.g. mind maps, Cornell notes, 100-word summary.
- Using a variety of platforms e.g. GCSEpod, revision guides, exercise books.
- No distractions.



GCSEpod - example



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When should they start revising?

Now!

1 Grade improvement = 10 hours revision

It's a marathon not a sprint.



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How much revision should they be doing?

- Homework + Revision
- Homework will vary, depending on when the course content is completed BUT all homework will contribute to what pupils need to know for the exams
- In addition to 'homework', pupils should be doing between 60-90 minutes of revision in the week and about 4hours over the weekend.



How can I support my child?

- “Imagine you’re a teenager again by verbally abusing someone and then twenty minutes later asking them for a lift somewhere.” (J.Lad, Stoke)



How can I support my child?

- Be patient. Listen to them when they are grumbling.
- Provide an area for them to work.
- Have food in.
- Talk to them about a revision timetable – put it together with them
- Test them on their revision – cue cards with a question on one side and the answers on the other
- Have incentives



Should they carry on with their extracurricular activities?

- Yes. In moderation.
- Remember how much revision they should be doing and any homework set is a must to finish.
- Reduce training sessions and be mindful at weekends that the whole weekend is not given over to matches.



How much free time should they have?

- A tough one.
- Extracurricular clubs will count as freetime.
- Avoid hanging round the streets.
- Avoid partying
- There is plenty of time post exams for your child to 'have fun'.



Does it matter what they do when they aren't revising?

- Yes.
- When pupils are at home relaxing in a safe place, their brains and bodies have time to unwind and for key information that they have revised to become embedded.
- Children who are more focused on socialising will take longer to 'switch off'. The excitement of what went on at the weekend takes over.



What do the grades equate to?

- 9/8 – A*/A
- 7 – A
- 6 – B
- 5/6 – C/B (*considered a 'Strong pass'*)
- 4 – C
- 3- D
- 2 – E
- 1- F



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Communication

- Stay in touch

Wednesday February 14th 8:00-9:15

Tea, Toast and Talk



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