



Year 11 Parent Information Evening – Wednesday 6th February 2019

Frequently Asked Questions

How can I best support my child at home with preparation for their GCSEs?

We would suggest regularly checking the 'My child at home' of our school website. This includes personalised exam timetables, notifications and other useful information that year 11 parents should be aware about. Your child has received an orange examination information booklet before the recent trial exams. This contains useful information and can be located on the school website under the 'examinations' tab. In addition, the school VLE has useful subject specific resources to support your child with their revision.

We would encourage you to log into 'Show My Homework' on a daily basis, as revision and homework tasks are available on the website for your child to view. Often teaching staff will upload useful resources and links to websites that can be used to further support classwork.

Which websites are useful for my child and their revision?

Examination board websites are an extremely useful resource and will include past papers, revision tips and subject specific information (including specifications and resources for use). A full list of the examination boards are on the reverse of this document.

Which apps are useful for my child and their revision?

There is a range of apps that your child should be aware of from their lessons at school. Some of our recommended apps for year 11 students include:

Quizlet, Socrative, Kahoot, Edmodo, Educake (science), Memrize, GCSE Bitezize and Thinglink.

Students will be using these in the vast amount of lessons at school and should be able to help navigate them with you.

How often should I be checking my child's revision and homework?

We would recommend daily checking of revision and homework. Students are encouraged to manage their own time and have been provided with resources, such as revision planners and revision planner websites (www.getrevising.co.uk) to help them with this. However having conversations daily about the work they have been doing and any 'gaps' in knowledge is a valuable support mechanism.

How can I support my child with their mental health as they prepare for their GCSE examinations?

An important part of supporting the mental health of your child during what can be an anxious time in their lives is promoting an open dialogue of communication. We realise this can be difficult (sometimes impossible) with teenagers!

What support is available for my child at school?

Every student in year 11 has been allocated (and met with) an academic mentor. In addition, the 6th form pastoral team is offering 1-2-1 6th form 'coaching' for every student in the year group. In additions session 6 support from specific faculties, 1-2-1 adult tutoring, sessions with Mr Van der Spoel and offered to those students needing further support.



Which revision guides should my child be using to support their revision?

Faculties have already shared with students and/or parents the specific revision guides that are required for their subjects. There will be a useful revision guide for each faculty and if you need any further information on this please contact your son/daughter’s teacher to gain further information. These revision guides are extremely useful if used correctly and regularly and retailers such as Amazon, WH Smiths and Waterstones all have good selections to purchase.

What can my child expect during the March trial exams?

Students will be on study leave from 4th-8th March (inclusive). However, there will be compulsory ‘catch up’ sessions for some coursework subjects running during this week and non-attendance at these will be unauthorised absence/truancy. These sessions will take place when students do not have trial exams and the relevant students will be notified.

Please note that there are exams on **Monday 11th March** (8.45am Geography; 11.25am Music and Spanish and 2pm PRE – short and full course) – Year 11s will be expected to attend school as usual on Monday 11th March and will be excused from lessons should they have an exam.

Exam Boards

AQA (www.AQA.org.uk) – Biology, Physics, Chemistry, Computer Science, English, English Literature, Music, Dance, Design Technology, French, Geography and German.

Edexcel – (www.qualification.pearson.com)- Art, Photography, Business Studies, Btec Business, History and Maths.

OCR – (www.ocr.org.uk) – Drama, Economics, Media Studies and Food Technology.

Suggested Revision Guides

The majority of faculties have already recommended revision guides to parents however new ones are frequently released and these include:

PE - My Revision Notes OCR GCSE PE 9-1 2nd edition (Hodder).

Food Technology - OCR GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition (MRN) by Val Fehners.

Music – CGP ‘New GCSE Music Exam Practice Workbook - for the Grade 9-1 Course (with Audio CD & Answers)’.

Drama – CGP ‘GCSE Drama for the Grade 9-1 course’ & CGP ‘Blood Brothers the Play Guide’.

Key Dates

Year 11 Trial Exams 2	Monday 4th March – Friday 8th March 2019
Easter Break Revision Sessions	5th April-22nd April 2019 Please note sign up for these sessions will follow in due course. We encourage students to sign up for as many as they can.
May Half Term Revision Sessions	Week Commencing Monday 27th May 2019

