

Our ref: DSH/AKE

Wednesday 11th May 2022

Dear parent/carer,

Year 11 Exam Season

As I am sure you're aware, the Summer exam season will commence for our Year 11 students from **Friday 13th May 2022**. While students may understandably feel nervous, a feeling shared by many parents, I can share that students have been excellent in their exam preparation and can go into these exams feeling confident and extremely well prepared.

Whilst the majority of exams take place from Friday 13th May, some assessments have already taken place, and are on-going this week. Again, students have performed extremely well and their conduct towards these assessments has been exemplary.

Students should have now received their personal exam timetables and seating plans, and further copies can be made available for parents/carers if you would like them. Students receive a personalised version, as not all students sit all qualifications, but we included an overview below of all exam dates for your guidance:

Throughout the year, we have implemented a range of interventions and support mechanisms around the usual timetable to support learning, wellbeing and maximising performance. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all families who encouraged their children to attend our recent revision event.

As we go into the exam season, we have a number of initiatives that we encourage students to take full advantage of. These include:

Booster timetable

We have devised a modified Y11 timetable that provides extra exam booster lessons for the subject that they're about to be examined in, directly before each exam. This enables working with their subject teachers on the content that will be covered in the exam, right up until walking into the exam rooms.

The timetable has been devised from Friday 13th May for preparation for the Computer Science exam, through until the English exam on the Tuesday 28th June. Students must attend every day through the exam season. We will share further details of students' final days in the Academy as they complete their final exams in the near future. We will also share further information about the students leaving and celebration events.

Lunch arrangements

A few weeks ago we modified the Y11 lunch time, bringing their lunch forwards to 12:00pm. This is to support afternoon exam start times.

Pre exam breakfast boosters

For morning exams students can access breakfast booster sessions from 7:45am. This is an opportunity for final support and preparation with their subject teachers, with a breakfast provided.

After school activities

Students can access revision sessions from 2:30-3:30pm almost every day with their subject teachers. Sessions are promoted in lessons and all students are welcome to attend.

Additionally, we encourage our students to attend PE enrichment activities, as exercise has many benefits, and can act as a stress buster. Our PE department have a great range of sporting enrichment classes which are open to students from all year groups. Please ask your child to speak to the PE department if they're interested in attending:

- Monday: Tennis
- Tuesday: Table Tennis
- Wednesday: Rounders and Softball
- Thursday: Cricket , Volleyball and Athletics
- Friday: Netball

Revision spaces

We understand that often students wish to revise independently with friends in a quiet and focussed environment, at the end of the day. Our Academy library is accessible at the end of every day.

Our Year 11 students are in a fantastic position at this stage, and we look forward to working with them and yourselves in ensuring that they reach their full potential. As I am sure you understand, attendance to the Academy is vital at this point and throughout the exam season.

We would like to kindly remind our students of the importance of ensuring they get enough sleep, rest and relaxation. We understand that exam season can be a stressful time and we urge that our students take breaks from studying to relax and unwind, as it is highly important they do so, for their mental and physical health.

Please contact us if you have any concerns or questions over the coming weeks. While all staff at the Academy can be approached for support, the key contacts for Y11 students over these final weeks are:

- Mrs Sheehan – Principal
- Mr Lovett – Y11 Learning Manager
- Mr Campbell – Assistant Principal

Prom Reminder

We would like to take the opportunity to remind you of the criteria for attending the Y11 Prom. The prom will take place on **Wednesday 29th June 2022 at Van Dykes By Wildes. Students are asked to arrive between 18:00 and 19:00.**

Due to the disruption our young people have faced over the last year, we understand that the required 95% attendance as previously stated has been difficult to achieve due to Covid and self-isolation restrictions. With this in mind, we have outlined new criteria for attending our Year 11 Prom 2022. The criteria for attending the prom are:

- Behaviour in line with Academy expectations (our Behaviour Policy can be found on the Academy website)
- No suspensions
- If sanctions are incurred, these must be attended and completed successfully
- Good punctuality and attendance, including attendance at identified after school intervention

Thank you for your ongoing support, and we look forward to working with you and your children and celebrating their achievements later in the Summer.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs D Sheehan
Principal